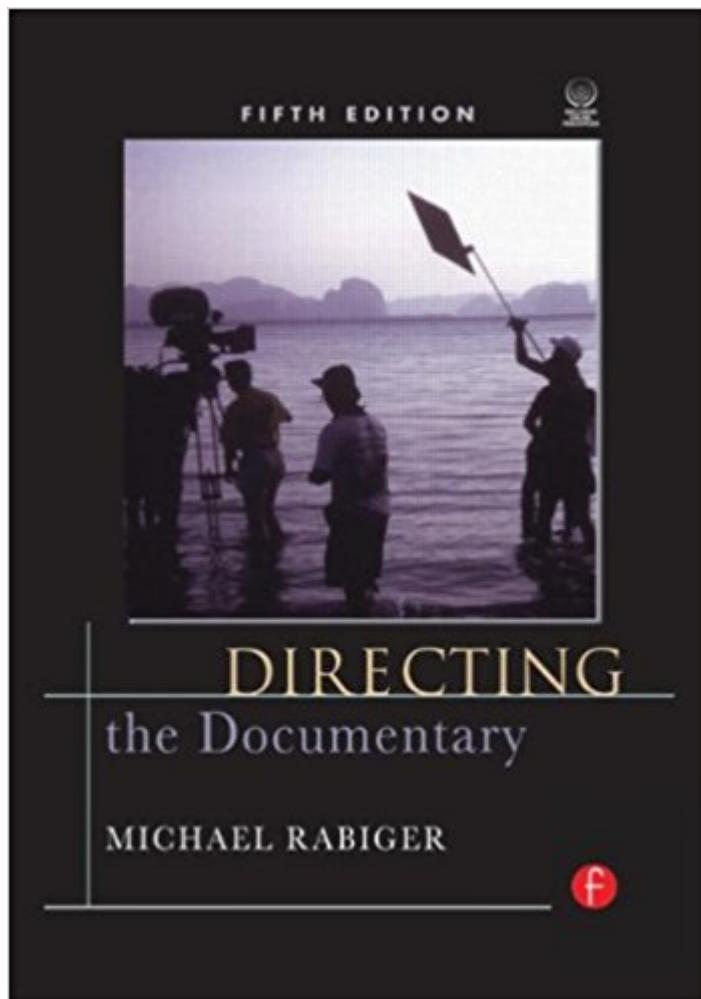


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# Directing The Documentary



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## **Synopsis**

Directing the Documentary is a comprehensive manual that has inspired over 100,000 readers worldwide. If you are interested in making documentary films, everything you need technically and conceptually is here. Filled with practical advice on every stage of production, this is the book you will return to throughout your career. Directing the Documentary covers the methods, technologies, thought processes, and judgments that a director must use throughout the fascinating process of making a film. It emphasizes low-cost digital technology, which allows cutting-edge creativity and professionalism on shoestring budgets. And, recognizing that you learn best by doing, the book includes dozens of practical hands-on projects and activities to help you master technical and conceptual skills. Just as important as surmounting technological hurdles is the conceptual and authorial side of filmmaking. This book offers eminently practical tools and exercises to help you develop credible and compelling stories. It shows you how to surpass mere technical proficiency and become a storyteller with a distinctive voice and style. Please visit:

[www.directingthedocumentary.com](http://www.directingthedocumentary.com) for the book's companion website.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"While there are many books about the technical basics of documentary film production, none of them integrate so thoroughly the artistic intention at the heart of great direction with the means of realization in pre-production, the field and the editing room...Great directing is equally a matter of heart and soul as much as technical knowledge. This idea is prevalent throughout Rabiger's book." - Ray Zone, International Documentary Magazine "What makes this book so valuable is that the

author consistently searches for the philosophical underpinnings of his art and never gets lost in the technical processes of filmmaking." - Jonathan Luskin, Flying Moose Pictures, San Francisco "The book's greatest strength is the emphasis on documentary filmmaking as a creative, storytelling process....It supplies more in the way of an ethical foundation for the young filmmaker than any other title on the market." - Phil Hopper, Director, Theatre and Media Arts Program, Marymount College of Fordham University "Intelligent and artfully written, Directing the Documentary should enjoy a place of prominence in the library of every documentary videomaker." - Videomaker magazine "...what really makes this book so valuable is that the author is just so inspiring. Rabiger writes with such enthusiasm that even the most nervous would-be documentary maker is encouraged. But this is not the extent of his audience as this text is also highly relevant and impassioned to the seasoned pro...This text is inspirational, accessible, filled with useful filmic references and snippets of advice...This updated 4th edition really is a must for anyone with an interest in documentary filmmaking." - POV2 Journal "Skim and scan this one? Nope! Read it cover to cover? Absolutely! Not since I read Dan Brown's The Da Vinci Code has a book been the cause of forcing me to rethink things as much as this one. For those either making documentaries or thinking about it, this is the book to get." - Steve Douglas, underwater videographer and writer for kenstone.net "I read Michael Rabiger's Directing the Documentary which contains a list of not-to-miss American documentaries and Thin Blue Line is among them, as well as other films that depict wrongful incarcerations, such as Murder on a Sunday Morning."--PBS.com's blog "Doc Soup"

Directing the Documentary is the definitive and comprehensive book on the form, offering timeless principles that will improve your work. Ideal for documentary courses as well as aspiring and current directors, Directing the Documentary covers all phases of preproduction and production. The emphasis is on the hands-on work needed to make your concept a reality, and to that end dozens of projects, exercises, and idea-provoking questionnaires are included. Covering both the fundamental basics and advanced issues in documentary production, the book includes researching and honing a documentary idea, developing a crew, directing the team, and maintaining control throughout shooting.\* Comprehensive manual on the creative, technical, and artistic aspects of directing--become an inspired director!\* Includes dozens of practical exercises that demystify the complex process of making a documentary and make it achievable\* Realistic advice and encouragement from a highly regarded filmmaker, mentor, and teacher to help you on your path\* Companion website features handy production checklists and forms, videos for some of the films discussed in the book, and a master bibliography:<http://directingthedocumentary.com>[Please refer

to the access code inside the back cover of the book to obtain access to the companion site

A invaluable resource for any first time directors. It truly covers every aspect of documentary filmmaking. You will learn how to craft a narrative, articulate your vision to others, maximize your potential, and cover ALL of your bases when it comes to legal aspects of documentary filmmaking. If you read this, cover to cover, you are about as ready as you can be to start filming a potentially legitimate documentary. The only thing that I wish there was more of is information on maximizing DSLRs in particular in the field. But Rabiger's no-nonsense attitude and plain-as-day advice more than makes up for that.

I can't say enough about this book. This is a great collection of wisdom from the field. It covers every angle of making documentary films and really conveys the essence of the medium. I have always wanted to make a documentary and this book will lead the way.

Good book for someone with no experience in film making, I had to do some research. But, I shot a feature documentary that released in 2013 and was distributed on VoD world wide. As a matter of fact, you can find it on .

Excellent product and seller.

Ordered through Prime and the book arrived in excellent condition, fast. This book sometimes reads like a self help book but is really great with advice on documentary film making in particular but I see it as applicable in fiction film to an extent too. Also full of helpful tips for shooting, planning, pitching, and the like.

This is an outstanding work that has provided many times the value of its acquisition cost. There are very real-world observations and methodology given. It is far more than a book about directing but does cover that specific subject in a masterful way.

This book is perfect as a teaching vehicle. The detail is wonderful, but it never gets bogged down. The focus on practical tasks is excellent, but there's also plenty of insight and analysis. Not only that, but using the code printed at the back of the book, you can get into a web site full of templates and checklists. I'm going to be teaching a documentary subject to university students later

this year - this book has done all the work for me!

This is a great book for anyone wanting to make a documentary film, but also useful for those just wishing to learn more about filmmaking in general. The book opens you up to lots of different considerations to complete the filmmaking process.

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