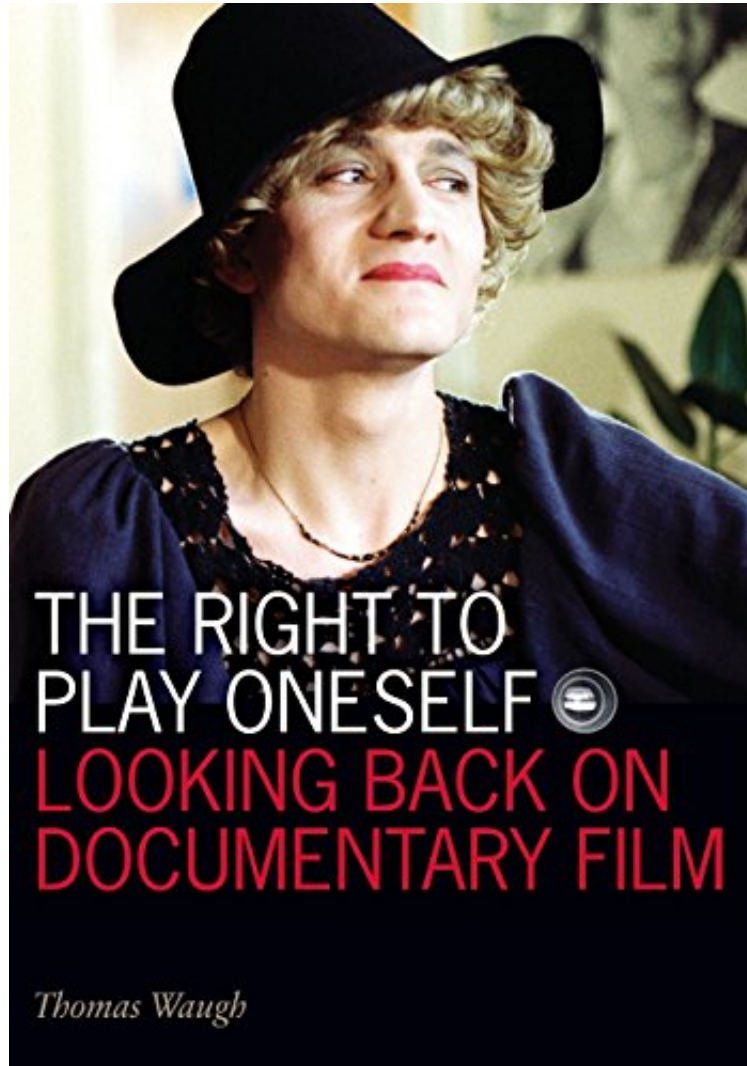


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The Right to Play Oneself: Looking Back on Documentary Film (Visible Evidence)

Thomas Waugh

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The Right to Play Oneself collects for the first time Thomas Waugh's essays on the politics, history, and aesthetics of documentary film, written between 1974 and 2008. The title, inspired by Walter Benjamins and Joris Ivens

manifestos of committed documentary from the 19 0s, reflects the books theme of the political potential of documentary for representing the democratic performance of citizens and artists.

"For decades now, Thomas Waugh has worked at the forefront of documentary media studies. This collection of his essays on documentary shows his international range, rigorous historical analysis, commitment to media as an active force for political enlightenment and change, and hallmark wit in full force. Waugh provides a crucial foundation for discerning whats at stake in the evolving world of documentary media." Chuck Kleinhans, coeditor of JUMP CUT: A of Contemporary Media