

(Free download) The Vision of Robert Flaherty: The Artist As Myth and Filmmaker

The Vision of Robert Flaherty: The Artist As Myth and Filmmaker

Richard Barsam

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Richard Barsam : The Vision of Robert Flaherty: The Artist As Myth and Filmmaker before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Vision of Robert Flaherty: The Artist As Myth and Filmmaker:

From Publishers Weekly
In this critique of Flaherty's films, from *Nanook of the North* (1922) to *Louisiana Story* (1948), cinema studies professor Barsam sees Flaherty as a "mystic in the modern age," one who habitually transformed reality in ways that defy classification in traditional nonfiction film genres. He writes, "The world as Flaherty found it did not often agree with the world as he imagined and wanted it to be, so he invented narrative and characters ('told lies,' as Plato has it) or took liberties with facts." Yet Flaherty has a "controversial place," as Barsam sees it, in the development of nonfiction film realism because he was unwilling to plan ahead and took little interest in the possibilities of editing and realistic sound recording until the last decade of his career. In examining Flaherty's approach, working methods and achievements, Barsam provides a fresh and illuminating critical assessment of this influential filmmaker. Barsam is the author of *Nonfiction Film: A Critical History*. Photos. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc.