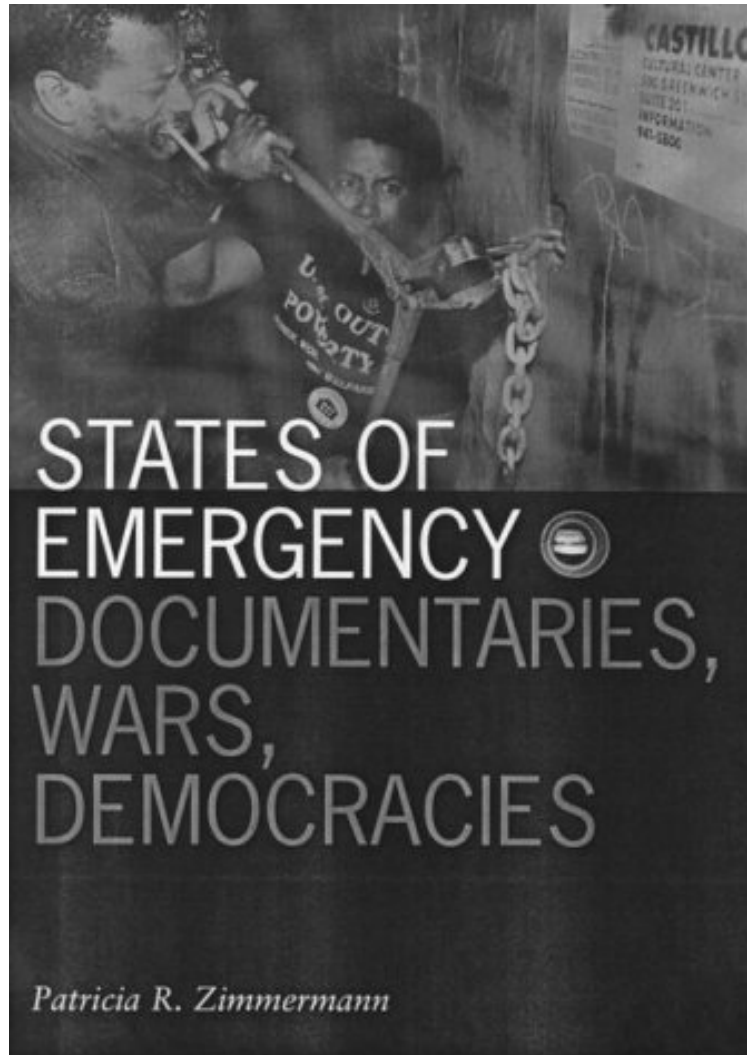


(Download free ebook) States of Emergency: Documentaries, Wars, Democracy

States of Emergency: Documentaries, Wars, Democracy

Patricia R. Zimmermann

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Patricia R. Zimmermann : States of Emergency: Documentaries, Wars, Democracy before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised States of Emergency: Documentaries, Wars, Democracy:

2 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The War on DifferenceBy A CustomerWe urgently need a new world image order!(If that's not a call to arms, I don't know what is!)So begins Patricia Zimmermann's wonderfully, powerful new expose on the current state of the world. Right from the start I was amazed at how she was able to capture an incredible amount of energy and emotion in such a simple way. The introduction absolutely blew me away. The urgency she created is unlike anything I have ever read before ... honestly. I felt like she was sitting right there in

front of me, trying to drill it into my brain. AWESOME. You have to realize, that this kind of power and urgency does NOT exist anywhere outside of academia (that I can think of). It doesn't happen in the workplace, it doesn't happen on the news, and it's doesn't happen on Oprah. It's AMAZING. And, hello, women aren't supposed to talk like this. Especially moms that wear fashionable clothes that need to be dry-cleaned. She is taking on transnational corporations, nation states, and rich white dudes ... if I were her publisher, I would be fitting her for a bullet-proof vest right now. Hello! Do not be fooled by any attempt at categorizing this book, they do no justice here. Zimmermann covers nearly 20 areas of studies, from film to finance from politics to health care. Think about it, how can one talk about issues in the world today without overlapping these areas of study? They are all intertwined! Zimmermann exposes the seams of the simple cause and effect relationship and why it has NEVER existed. Be ready, it will rock your world. You know what's really incredible, Zimmermann has recorded the history of the public space in the later part of the twentieth century. She did it, it's right there! What other document has done this? Do you know how incredible that is? Do you know how many people don't want the public to know what happened? It is now impossible for them to try to re-write history. She snuck in the backdoor. There is no need to theorize about what happened, she just wrote it all down for future generations to see. That's amazing. 1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Important and powerful

By Randolph Lewis One of the most important books in documentary studies in the past few years, "States of Emergency" is well-written, profound, and disturbing. Zimmermann is opening a whole new angle on the field.

Randolph Lewis (author of *Emile de Antonio: Radical Filmmaker in Cold War America*)

Today's political, technological, and aesthetic landscapes are rife with landmines. In this embattled milieu, leftist filmmakers and conservatives struggle for control of the national imaginary. Amid unprecedented mergers and consolidations, political conservatives have launched major attacks against the National Endowment for the Arts, the Public Broadcasting System, state arts councils, and other sponsors of oppositional programming. Meanwhile, developing technologies like satellites and the Internet have not only altered and globalized communication but also offer untapped possibilities for reconstructing democracies. All of these events signal a radical transformation in how we will view the world in the decades to come.

In *States of Emergency*, Patricia R. Zimmermann describes the shifting terrains socially engaged documentary artists and experimental filmmakers encounter in the aftermath of these changes. Public space has been chiseled away and politically conscious documentaries forced to go underground. Viewing an array of subjects (including the wars in Bosnia, Chiapas, and the Persian Gulf; Japanese internment during World War II; homelessness; race; and reproductive rights) through technologies ranging from high-end video, camcorders, cable access, digital imaging systems, and media piracy, Zimmermann creates an explosive montage of colliding ideas and events. In combative terms, she charts the intricately layered relationships between independent documentary, power, money, and culture, and also analyzes how media artists use new technologies and radical media practices to undermine cuts in support and conservative backlash.

States of Emergency anchors documentary into asocial and historical context that shows the complex connections among audiences, filmmakers, funders, and subjects in the fascinating and fraught milieu in which they coexist. Zimmermann passionately and convincingly argues that the survival of democracies and public spaces is inextricably fueled by the robust endurance of documentary and other insurgent forms of communication.