

Documentarity

History and Foundations of Information Science

Edited by Michael Buckland, Jonathan Furner, and Markus Krajewski

Human Information Retrieval by Julian Warner

Good Faith Collaboration: The Culture of Wikipedia by Joseph Michael Reagle Jr.

Paper Machines: About Cards & Catalogs, 1548–1929 by Markus Krajewski, translated by Peter Krapp

Information and Intrigue: From Index Cards to Dewey Decimals to Alger Hiss by Colin B. Burke

Indexing it All: The Subject in the Age of Documentation, Information, and Data by Ronald E. Day

Bibliometrics and Research Evaluation: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly by Yves Gingras

Search Foundations: Toward a Science of Technology-Mediated Experience by Sachi Arafat and Elham Ashoori

The Information Manifold: A New Perspective on Algorithmic Bias, Fake News, and the False Hope That Computers Can Solve These Problems by Antonio Badia

Documentarity: Evidence, Ontology, and Inscription by Ronald E. Day

Documentarity

Evidence, Ontology, and Inscription

Ronald E. Day

The MIT Press
Cambridge, Massachusetts
London, England

© 2019 Massachusetts Institute of Technology

This work is subject to a Creative Commons CC BY-NC-ND license. Subject to such license, all rights are reserved.



Publication of this open monograph was the result of Indiana University's participation in TOME (Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem), a collaboration of the Association of American Universities, the Association of University Presses, and the Association of Research Libraries. TOME aims to expand the reach of long-form humanities and social science scholarship including digital scholarship. Additionally, the program looks to ensure the sustainability of university press monograph publishing by supporting the highest quality scholarship and promoting a new ecology of scholarly publishing in which authors' institutions bear the publication costs.

Funding from Indiana University made it possible to open this publication to the world.

This book was set in Stone Serif and Stone Sans by Jen Jackowitz. Printed and bound in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is available.

ISBN: 978-0-262-04320-5

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Of would be a difficult person to like.

—Carla Harryman, 1992

There are no fungibles in nature.

—Rom Harré, 2018

Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	1
1 The Philosophical Perspective	11
2 Documentarity in the Works of Paul Otlet and Georges Bataille: Two Competing Notions of “Document” and Evidence	37
3 Figuring Documentarity	51
4 Documentarity and the Modern Genre of “Literature”	65
5 Displaced Reference for Information: Jokes, Trauma, and Fables	99
6 Rights of Expression	111
7 Post-Documentation Technologies	137
Conclusion	151
Notes	153
References	161
Index	169

This is a section of [doi:10.7551/mitpress/11719.001.0001](https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/11719.001.0001)

Documentarity

Evidence, Ontology, and Inscription

By: Ronald E. Day

Citation:

Documentarity: Evidence, Ontology, and Inscription

By: Ronald E. Day

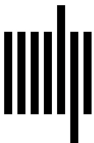
DOI: [10.7551/mitpress/11719.001.0001](https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/11719.001.0001)

ISBN (electronic): 9780262356022

Publisher: The MIT Press

Published: 2019

Publication of this open monograph was the result of Indiana University's participation in TOME (Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem), a collaboration of the Association of American Universities, the Association of University Presses, and the Association of Research Libraries. TOME aims to expand the reach of long-form humanities and social science scholarship including digital scholarship. Additionally, the program looks to ensure the sustainability of university press monograph publishing by supporting the highest quality scholarship and promoting a new ecology of scholarly publishing in which authors' institutions bear



The MIT Press

© 2019 Massachusetts Institute of Technology

This work is subject to a Creative Commons CC BY-NC-ND license. Subject to such license, all rights are reserved.



Publication of this open monograph was the result of Indiana University's participation in TOME (Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem), a collaboration of the Association of American Universities, the Association of University Presses, and the Association of Research Libraries. TOME aims to expand the reach of long-form humanities and social science scholarship including digital scholarship. Additionally, the program looks to ensure the sustainability of university press monograph publishing by supporting the highest quality scholarship and promoting a new ecology of scholarly publishing in which authors' institutions bear the publication costs.

Funding from Indiana University made it possible to open this publication to the world.

This book was set in Stone Serif and Stone Sans by Jen Jackowitz. Printed and bound in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is available.

ISBN: 978-0-262-04320-5

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1