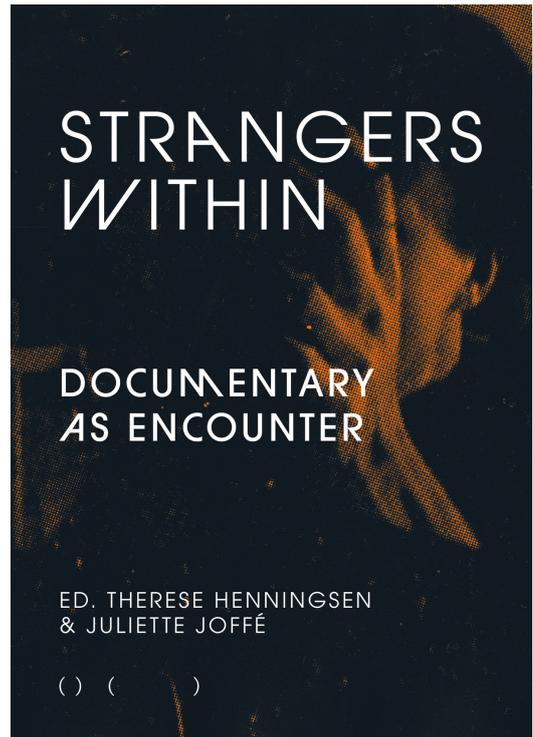


# STRANGERS WITHIN

## DOCUMENTARY AS ENCOUNTER

ED. THERESE HENNINGSEN  
& JULIETTE JOFFÉ



*The foreigner is within me, hence we're all foreigners. If I am a foreigner, there are no foreigners.* – Julia Kristeva

*with* Khalik Allah, Ruth Beckermann, Jon Bang Carlsen, Adam Christensen, Annie Ernaux, Gareth Evans, Jane Fawcett, Xialou Guo, Umama Hamido, Therese Henningsen, Marc Isaacs, Mary Jimenez, Juliette Joffé, Andrew & Eden Kotting, David MacDougall, Toni Morrison, Trinh T. Minh-ha, Bruno de Wachter, Andrea Luka Zimmerman

*Strangers Within* is an anthology exploring the idea of documentary as encounter through essays, stories, interviews and other creative responses by filmmakers, artists and writers. The texts engage with the risks of encounter, unsettling assumptions about the distinctions between host and guest; stranger and friend; self and other; documentarian and protagonist. Opening up a series of questions about the mystery of another person, whose difference and unknowability is already a part of one's self, the anthology offers a multidisciplinary approach to understanding the convergences between encounter, hospitality and autobiography.

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## Praise for *Strangers Within*

'*Strangers Within* is a wonderful gathering, a beautifully cadenced set of essays in which a stellar cast of free-spirited independent filmmakers discuss the art, philosophy and politics of representing other people in documentary practice. Happily they show how the very idea of 'other people' is absurd: the subjects of documentaries, like their makers, are elusive, mysterious, changing, full of contradictions. What emerges is a vision of non-fiction cinema as a contact zone, a travelling space of fertile estrangement and entanglement, a commitment to deep and experimental listening.'

– Sukhdev Sandhu

Director of the Colloquium for Unpopular Culture, New York University

'Sifting through the pages of this precious book is like walking on the beaches of Agnès Varda: we gather a myriad of lustrous images, of encounters, memories, films. We stumble upon correspondences, connect the dots of the unvoiced dialogue among its authors – touching on identity and strangeness, method and poetics, documentary and auto/biography. What *Strangers Within* so admirably advocates is the absolute necessity of a cinema of the first-person. Its greatest achievement is to redefine this as a cinema of risk-taking, open to the stranger, a generator of the encounter: as a truly hospitable cinema.'

– Professor Laura Rascaroli

University College Cork

## About Prototype

Prototype, established in 2019, is committed to creating new possibilities in the publishing of fiction and poetry through a flexible, interdisciplinary approach. Through the discovery of high-quality work across genres, Prototype strives to increase audiences for free-form contemporary literature. House Sparrow Press and Test Centre (2011-2018) are imprints of Prototype.

Recent titles include Yuri Felsen's lost modernist novel *Deceit*, in its first English translation by Bryan Karetnyk, Lucie Elven's acclaimed debut novel *The Weak Spot*, and *The Boiled in Between*, the debut novel by Turner Prize-winning artist Helen Marten. Lucy Mercer's debut collection *Emblem* is The Poetry Book Society's Summer Choice for 2022, and Lila Matsumoto's *Two Twin Pipes Sprout Water* was a Poetry Book Society Recommendation for Winter 2021. Prototype was awarded a PEN Translates award by English PEN for *Island mountain glacier* by Anne Vegter (translated by Astrid Alben), published in March 2022.