

**Winner: Pooja Rangan, Amherst**

**TITLE:** *Immediations: the Humanitarian Impulse in Documentary.* (Duke, 2017)

**CITATION:**

Pooja Rangan's *Immediations* is an original and timely book. It delineates a new corpus of documentary sources in an innovative way. Rangan re-deploys a trite and over-used idea (giving a voice to the voiceless) and demonstrates beautifully how problematic and troubling (but perhaps indispensable) it is, and does so in a way that ought to trouble all future documentarians, and all of those who tend to assume that documentary “truths” speak for themselves. Rangan is a bold book, elegantly written, comparative in nature, but also goes beyond more traditional fields in the comparative literature crowded book-production. She creates the main concept --the humanitarian-- from the study of the documentary corpus. By doing so, she establishes a dialogue with both “the human” and the “humanitarian crisis.”