

THE PERSISTENCE OF HISTORY

**CINEMA, TELEVISION,
AND THE MODERN EVENT**



EDITED BY

VIVIAN SOBCHACK



AFI
FILM
READERS

contents

acknowledgments ix

introduction: history happens 1

vivian sobchack

part one: the historical event

1. the modernist event 17

hayden white

2. cinematic shots: the narration of violence 39

janet staiger

3. historical consciousness and the viewer: 55

who killed vincent chin?

bill nichoh

4. "i'll see it when i believe it": 69

rodney king and the prison-house of video

frank p. tomasulo

part two: historical representation and national identity

5. antimodernism as historical representation 91

in a consumer culture:

cecil b. demille's *the ten commandments*, 1923, 1956, 1993

sumiko higashi

6. modernism and the narrative of nation in *jfk* 113

robert burgoyne

1- *andrei rublev*: the medieval epic as post-utopian history 127

denne j. youngblood

8. subject positions, speaking positions: from *holocaust*, 145

our hitler, and *heimat* to *shoah* and *schindler's list*

thomas ehaesser

part three: the end(s) of history

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 9. | historical <i>ennui</i> , feminist boredom
<i>patrice petro</i> | 187 |
| 10. | the future of the past: film and the beginnings of
postmodern history
<i>robert a. rosenstone</i> | 201 |
| 11. | interrotroning history: errol morris and the
documentary of the future
<i>shawn rosenheim</i> | 219 |
| 12. | the professors of history
<i>dana polan</i> | 235 |
| | contributors | 257 |
| | index | 259 |