



**READING THE FIGURAL,
OR, PHILOSOPHY
AFTER THE NEW MEDIA**

D. N. RODOWICK

CONTENTS

Preface / ix

Acknowledgments / xvii

One Presenting the Figural / 1

The Idea of the Figural / 1

Liotard's Leap into the Void:

The Aesthetic before the New Media / 4

Paradoxes of the Visual, or

Philosophy after the New Media / 30

Two Reading the Figural / 45

Rehearsing the Figural / 46

Foucault through Deleuze, or

The Diagrammatics of Power / 49

Reading the Figural / 54

The End of Modernism / 64

Three The Figure and the Text / 76

Film and the Scene of Writing / 76

"With dreams displaced into a forest of script" / 80

Hieroglyphics, Montage, Enunciation / 89

Four The Ends of the Aesthetic / 107

Five The Historical Image / 141

A Plea for the Dead / 141

Social Hieroglyphs and the Optics of History / 145

The Antinomic Character of Time / 153

Anteroom Thinking, or

"The Last Things before the Last" / 162

Six A Genealogy of Time / 170

Two Stories of 1968 / 170

Two Audiovisual Regimes:

The Movement-Image and Time-Image / 171

The Ends of the Dialectic and the Return

of History: Hegel and Nietzsche / 177

Genealogy, Counter-memory, Event / 186

Seven An Uncertain Utopia—Digital Culture / 203

An Image of Technological Abundance / 203

A Digression on Postmodernism / 206

Three Questions concerning Digital Culture / 210

An Impossible Ideal of Power / 227

Notes / 235

Bibliography / 259

Index / 269