

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-58130-1 - Cinema, Theory, and Political Responsibility in Contemporary Culture

Patrick McGee

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	page xi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xiv
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xv
1 Redeeming contradictions: from critical theory to cultural studies	
Adorno, culture, and film	1
Analyzing <i>It's a Wonderful Life</i>	7
<i>Aesthetic Theory</i> and political responsibility	15
The method of cultural studies	20
Lacan, sublimation, and <i>The Age of Innocence</i>	26
Derrida and the responsibility of interpretation	33
2 Art as the absolute commodity: the inter-subjectivity of mimesis in Adorno's <i>Aesthetic Theory</i>	
<i>Aesthetic Theory</i>	38
The aesthetic thing	38
Instrumental and communicative reason	43
Mimesis	51
Dialectical reason	59
Appearance, apparition, and history	66
Art's negative truth	70
3 Sexual nations: history and the division of hope in <i>The Crying Game</i>	
The culture industry	79
The symptom	84
Cinematic sutures	89
Context and contradiction	94
Aesthetic politics	101
Misogyny, racism, and the death drive	112

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-58130-1 - Cinema, Theory, and Political Responsibility in Contemporary Culture

Patrick McGee

Table of Contents

[More information](#)*Contents*

Nature, nation, and mimetic identification	118
Subjectivity and narrative displacement	126
The gaze, the mirror, and the masquerade	132
Deconstructing the sexual difference	137
Sexual nations	149
Desire and hope	155
4 Deconstruction and responsibility: the question of freedom in the place of the undecidable	161
Derrida and his critics	163
Deconstructive politics and the university	199
<i>Bibliography</i>	224
<i>Index</i>	232