CONTENTS

Introduction 1
Almut-Barbara Renger and Jon Solomon

HISTORICAL ANCIENTS

Ben-Hur and *Gladiator*: Manifest Destiny and the Contradictions of American Empire 17
Jon Solomon

Muscles and Morals: Spartacus, Ancient Hero of Modern Times
Thomas Späth and Margrit Tröhler 41

With Your Shield or On It: The Gender of Heroism in Zack Snyder's *300* and Rudoph Maté's *The 300 Spartans* 65
Thorsten Beigel

"This is Sparta!": Discourse, Gender, and the Orient in Zack Snyder's *300* 79
Jeroen Lauwers, Marieke Dhont and Xanne Huybrecht

"Everybody Loves a Muscle Boi": Homos, Heroes, and Foes in Post-9/11 Spoofs of the 300 Spartans 95
Ralph J. Poole

The Womanizing of Mark Antony: Virile Ruthlessness and Redemptive Cross-Dressing in *Rome, Season Two* 123
Margaret M. Toscano

Cleopatra's Venus 137
Elisabeth Bronfen

digitalisiert durch:
IDS Basel Bern

MYTHOLOGICAL ANCIENTS

Over His Dead Body: Male Friendship in Homer's *Iliad* and Wolfgang Petersen's *Troy* (2004) 153
Andreas Krass

Models of Masculinities in *Troy*: Achilles, Hector and Their Female Partners 175
Celina Proch and Michael Kleu

"Include me out" – Odysseus on the Margins of European Genre Cinema: *Le Mépris, Ulisse, L'Odissea* 195
Christian Pischel

Between Mythical and Rational Worlds: *Medea* by Pier Paolo Pasolini 213
Lada Stevanović

"Universal's Religious Bigotry Against Hinduism": Gender Norms and Hindu Authority in the Global Media Debate on Representing the Hindu God Krishna in *Xena: Warrior Princess* 229
Xenia Zeiler

MYTHOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL THEMATICS

Ancient Women's Cults and Rituals in Grand Narratives on Screen: From Walt Disney's *Snow White* to Olga Malea's *Doughnuts with Honey* 249
Svetlana Slapšak

Pandora-Eve-Ava: Albert Lewin's Making of a "Secret Goddess" 271
Almut-Barbara Renger

Phryne Paves the Way for the *Wirtschaftswunder*: Visions of Guilt and "Purity" Fed by Ancient Greece, Christian Narrative, and Contemporary History 299
Barbara Schrödl

The New Israeli Film *Beruriah*: Between Rashi and Talmud, between Antiquity and Modernity, between Feminism and Religion 309
Tal Ilan

Index 325