

Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	xii
1. Surveying the Epic Tradition in Literature and Film	1
2. Homer on the Silver Screen	37
3. The Cinematic <i>Argonautica</i>	93
4. The Dynamics of the Epic Tradition in <i>The Fall of the Roman Empire</i> and <i>Gladiator</i>	133
5. <i>Spartacus</i> : Identifying a Cinematic Epic Hero	175
6. 'The Biggest Epic Yet': Spectacle and <i>Ben-Hur</i>	213
7. Epic Audiences	251
8. 'Makes Ben-Hur Look Like an Epic': Cinematic Parody and the Classical Epic Tradition	285
<i>Bibliography</i>	307
<i>Index</i>	331