Contents

Acknowledgments  ix
Introduction: Haunted Eyes  1

PART 1: IMPERIALIST NOSTALGIA
1. Getting in Touch with Our Inner Savage:  
   The Horsemen  11
2. Butch and Sundance in Afghanistan:  
   The Man Who Would Be King  22
3. The New Great Game: Rambo III, The Beast, 
   and Charlie Wilson’s War  36

PART 2: THE BURQA FILMS
4. Land without Images: Kandahar  59
5. Afghan Gothic: Osama  85

PART 3: BORDER CROSSINGS
6. The West Unveiled: In This World  113
7. The Poetry of Silence: Ellipsis  130
8. A Way to Feel Good Again: The Kite Runner  146
Conclusion: Ending Charlie Wilson's War 165
Notes 169
Bibliography 181
Index 193