

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments vii

Introduction: Classical Hollywood Cinema
and Film Studies 1

1. The Early Thirties: Modernity, New Women,
and the Aesthetic of Attractions 21
2. Normative Desires and Visual Sobriety: Apogee
of the Classical Model 43
3. The Male Subject of Noir and the Modern Gaze 72
4. (Dis)Adventures of Female Desire in the 1940s
Woman's Film 99
5. Excess, Spectacle, Sensation: Family Melodrama
in the 1950s 128
6. Performative Bodies and Non-referential Images:
Excesses of the Musical 153

Notes 181

Works Cited 201

Index 219