



Medicine's Moving Pictures: Medicine, Health, and Bodies in American Film and Television (Rochester Studies in Medical History)

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This groundbreaking book argues that health and medical media, with their unique goals and production values, constitute a rich cultural and historical archive and deserve greater scholarly attention. Original essays by leading media scholars and historians of medicine demonstrate that Americans throughout the twentieth century have learned about health, disease, medicine, and the human body from movies. Heroic doctors and patients fighting dread diseases have thrilled and moved audiences everywhere; amid changing media formats, medicine's moving pictures continue to educate, entertain, and help us understand the body's journey through life. Perennially popular, health and medical media are also complex texts reflecting many interests and constituencies including, notably, the U.S. medical profession, which has often sought, if not always successfully, to influence content, circulation, and meaning. *Medicine's Moving Pictures* makes clear that health and medical media representations are "more than illustrations," shows their power to shape health perceptions, practices, and policies, and identifies their social, cultural, and historical contexts.

Contributors: Lisa Cartwright, Vanessa Northington Gamble, Rachel Gans-Boriskin, Valerie Hartouni, Susan E. Lederer, John Parascandola, Martin S. Pernick, Leslie J. Reagan, Naomi Rogers, Nancy Tomes, Paula A. Treichler, Joseph Turow.

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Editorial Review

Review

This collection will be indispensable to scholars. --Film & History

While these essays are focused as stand-alone pieces that individually make a significant contribution to our understanding of representational work in selected media forms, they also point to the need for a more comprehensive view of what still remains essentially uncharted territory in the available histories. --
Technology and Culture

Medicine's Moving Pictures is a welcome contribution in exploring how visual culture has shaped and responded to the changing practice, politics, and promotion of medicine in America. . . [This book] offers a glimpse into the rich and creative scholarship that awaits American historians who venture into the relatively untapped collections of health-related films and television shows produced over a century of America's changing visual and medical culture. --The Journal of American History

About the Author

Leslie J. Reagan is an Associate Professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; Nancy Tomes is a Professor at Stony Brook University; Paula A. Treichler is a Professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

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