



PAOLO PILLITTERI

IT'S NOT TRUE BUT I BELIEVE IT
Images, Simulacra, Deceptions

NON È VERO MA CI CREDO

Immagini, simulacri, inganni

(FORTHCOMING), PAGES 300 WITH 43 COLOUR
AND B/W ILLUSTRATIONS

How the media has become a powerful tool
of political and ideological propaganda

"I saw it in a film", "They said so on TV". Recurring expressions like these reveal a common but fallacious belief that still or moving images captured on camera are indisputable evidence of real events. Yet, as the author points out in this book, history itself teaches us that what is seen on screen is often "staged" or "rigged". An original investigation, reported in a narrative style, that traces the numerous cases of historical falsification, illustrating how the media has become a powerful tool of political and ideological propaganda. Initially through the use of edited or fake photos, then also through film and the new mass media, fiction gradually merged with reality, yesterday, like today. A highly relevant book offering a different perspective on current events, such as the terrorist videos of Al Qaeda, the case of the young Iranian, Neda, the mystery of the photographic negative of the Turin Shroud, and many others.

Paolo Pillitteri is a Milanese writer, film journalist and former politician (he has been both a councillor and Mayor of Milan). He taught History of the Cinema at the IULM University in Milan from 1984 to 1992. He has written a number of works, including: *Maestri autori eventi*, Franco Angeli 1985; *Anna Kuliscioff*, Marsilio 1986; *Un cuore grande così: Edmondo De Amicis*, SugarCo 1989; *Fra suspense e psicanalisi. Il cinema di Alfred Hitchcock*, Arcipelago 1991; *Cinema come politica*, Franco Angeli 1992; *Io li conoscevo bene*, Newton & Compton 1994 and *La baracca di Fellini*, Franco Angeli 1995.



BY THE SAME AUTHOR, ALSO PUBLISHED BY SPIRALI:

Il cinema tra fiction e falsità. Simili, facsimili, quasi falsi, falsi storici (Fiction and Falsehood in the Cinema. Similes, Facsimiles, Quasi False, Historical Falsehoods), non-fiction, 2000.