

CONTENTS

1	Introduction: The Changing Landscape of Television Science	1
	<i>The 'Rotting Carcass of Science TV'?</i>	1
	<i>A Brief History of Science Documentary on Television</i>	3
	<i>The Aims and Structure of the Book</i>	15
	<i>References</i>	21
2	Analytical Frameworks: Science, Documentary and Factual Entertainment	27
	<i>Introduction</i>	27
	<i>Science and Documentary: Discourses of Sobriety?</i>	28
	<i>Impossible Pictures: CGI and Subjunctive Documentary</i>	36
	<i>Animation and Documentary</i>	38
	<i>Conclusion: From the Subjunctive to the Sublime?</i>	51
	<i>References</i>	60
3	Space Sciences: Wonders of the Cosmos	63
	<i>Introduction</i>	63
	<i>Visualising Space: Diffraction Spikes, Lens Flares and Candy Apple Neon</i>	67
	<i>The Magisterial Gaze and the Grand Tour</i>	74
	<i>Technological Sublime: Scientists, Probes and Robots</i>	80
	<i>Conclusion: Imagining Aliens in the Subjunctive Sublime</i>	87
	<i>References</i>	92

4	Palaeontology: Monsters from Lost Worlds	95
	<i>Introduction</i>	95
	<i>Extinct Animal Shows: Categories and Criticisms</i>	99
	<i>Palaeoimagery Frames: From the Subjunctive to the Sublime?</i>	113
	<i>Conclusion: From Extinct Animals to Human Prehistory</i>	120
	<i>References</i>	122
5	Archaeology: Ancient Secrets and Treasures	125
	<i>Introduction</i>	125
	<i>The Archaeological Gaze and Subjunctive Documentary</i>	131
	<i>Reenactments and the Dynamic Sublime</i>	144
	<i>Conclusion: Bringing Out the Dead</i>	148
	<i>References</i>	152
6	Earth and Atmospheric Sciences: Extreme Weather and Natural Disasters	155
	<i>Introduction</i>	155
	<i>Weather Porn</i>	159
	<i>People and Politics: Experts and Eyewitnesses</i>	169
	<i>Agency and Risk</i>	174
	<i>Conclusion: 'Natural' Disasters and the Apocalyptic Sublime</i>	178
	<i>References</i>	182
7	Pseudoscience and Popular Beliefs	185
	<i>Introduction</i>	185
	<i>Pseudoscience and Popular Beliefs</i>	191
	<i>The Trappings and Rhetoric of Science</i>	194
	<i>Encounters of the Subjunctive Kind</i>	197
	<i>Chasing Aliens, Hunting Ghosts and Questing for Monsters</i>	205
	<i>Conclusion: Resurrecting the 'Corpse' of Science Television?</i>	212
	<i>References</i>	213
	Bibliography	217
	Index	219