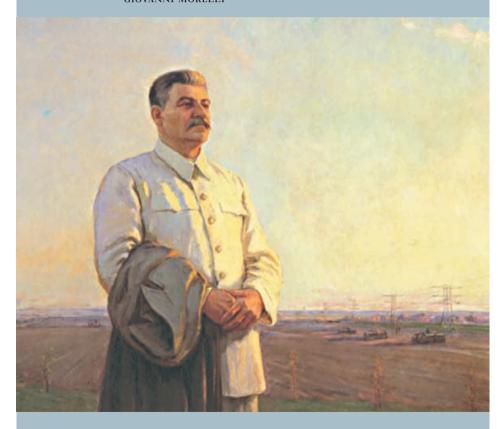
# Eyewitnessing

The Uses of Images as Historical Evidence

Peter Burke

'If you would like to understand . . . history . . . you should look carefully at portraits. In people's faces there is always something of the history of their time to be read, if one knows how to read it.'

GIOVANNI MORELLI



### Eyewitnessing



#### PICTURING HISTORY

Series Editors

Peter Burke, Sander L. Gilman, Ludmilla Jordanova, Roy Porter, †Bob Scribner (1995–8)

In the same series

Health and Illness

Images of Difference
SANDER L. GILMAN

Reading Iconotexts

From Swift to the French Revolution
PETER WAGNER

Men in Black JOHN HARVEY

Dismembering the Male

Men's Bodies, Britain and the Great War

JOANNA BOURKE

Eves of Love

The Gaze in English and French Painting and Novels 1840–1900

STEPHEN KERN

The Destruction of Art

Iconoclasm and Vandalism since the French

Revolution

DARIO GAMBONI

The Feminine Ideal
MARIANNE THESANDER

Maps and Politics JEREMY BLACK

Trading Territories

Mapping the Early Modern World

JERRY BROTTON

Picturing Empire

Photography and the Visualization of the British Empire

JAMES RYAN

Pictures and Visuality in Early

Modern China CRAIG CLUNAS Mirror in Parchment

The Luttrell Psalter and the Making of

Medieval England
MICHAEL CAMILLE

Landscape and Englishness

DAVID MATLESS

The Thief, the Cross and the Wheel Pain and the Spectacle of Punishment in Medieval and Renaissance Europe

MITCHELL B. MERBACK

'Down with the Crown'

British Anti-monarchism and Debates about

Royalty since 1790

ANTONY TAYLOR

The Jewish Self-Image
American and British Perspectives

1881–1939

MICHAEL BERKOWITZ

Global Interests

Renaissance Art between East and West
LISA JARDINE AND JERRY BROTTON

Picturing Tropical Nature NANCY LEYS STEPAN

Representing the Republic

Mapping the United States 1600-1900

JOHN RENNIE SHORT

**Bodies Politic** 

Disease, Death and Doctors in Britain,

1650–1900 ROY PORTER

## Eyewitnessing

The Uses of Images as Historical Evidence

Peter Burke



REAKTION BOOKS

### In memory of Bob Scribner

Published by Reaktion Books Ltd 79 Farringdon Road, London ECIM 3JU, UK

www.reaktionbooks.co.uk

First published 2001

Copyright © Peter Burke 2001

All rights reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher.

Series design by Humphrey Stone Printed and bound in Great Britain by Biddles Ltd, Guildford and King's Lynn

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

Burke, Peter, 1937-

Eyewitnessing: the uses of images as historical evidence. - (Picturing history)

1. World history – Pictorial works 2. History – Sources – Pictorial works 3. Photography in historiography

I. Title

ISBN 1 86189 092 3

### Contents

- Preface and Acknowledgements 7 Introduction 9
- 1 Photographs and Portraits 21
- 2 Iconography and Iconology 34
- 3 The Sacred and the Supernatural 46
- 4 Power and Protest 59
- 5 Material Culture through Images 81
- 6 Views of Society 103
- 7 Stereotypes of Others 123
- 8 Visual Narratives 140
- 9 From Witness to Historian 157
- 10 Beyond Iconography? 169
- 11 The Cultural History of Images 178

References 191

Select Bibliography 205

Photographic Acknowledgements 215

Index 217