Contents

	List of Credits	ix
	Acknowledgments	xiii
	Preface	χV
Introduction	Shifting Hollywood Terrain: The Iconic	
	Status of Boyz N the Hood	xix
PART I		
Prologue	"I Am an Invisible Man": Boyz and the Literary and	
	Cinematic Imagination	3
	Boyz Getting Behind Language: Invisibility and the	
	Literary and Cinematic Imagination	8
	Ellison's Invisible Man (1952): Mediating Self-Knowledge	
	Through Messianic Language	12
	Van Peebles's Sweetback (1971): Invisible Man's	
	Cinematic Appearance	21
	Boyz in Context: The Streets of the Southland	
	and Invisibility	30

viii | Boyz N the Hood: Shifting Hollywood Terrain

1	Singleton's Cinematic Voice	41
2	Boyz N the Hood: Shifting the Terrain of Urban Cinema	59
3	A "Soulful" Director: An Interview with John Singleton	81
4	Launching Singleton's Career: An Interview with	
	Steve Nicolaides, Producer	105
5	Principal Cast and Crew: Reflective Perspectives on <i>Boyz</i> Featured Interviews	145
	An Actor's Actor: Close up on Boyz with Tyra Ferrell	
	Spotlight on Laurence Fishburne: The Treatment with Elvis Mitchell	
PART II		
6	Original Boyz Press Kit	187
7	Original Screenplay: Boyz N the Hood by John Singleton	205
PART III		
8	Critical Perspectives on Boyz N the Hood	359
	Between Apocalypse and Redemption: John Singleto	on's
	Boyz N the Hood, by Michael Eric Dyson	
	Mapping the Hood: The Genealogy of City Space	
	in "Boyz N the Hood" and "Menace II Society," by	
	Paula J. Massood	
	Boyz N the Hood: A Colonial Analysis, by James Nadell Two Takes on Boyz N the Hood, by Thomas Doherty and Jacquie Jones	
	"A Gritty 'Boyz N the Hood' Ushers in a New Phase of Cinema," by Kenneth Turan	
	"A Chance to Confound Fate," by Janet Maslin	
	"Boyz N the Hood' (R)," by Desson Howe	
	"Boyz N the Hood' (R)," by Rita Kempley	
Epilogue	Boyz and the Blues: A Legacy of Resistance and Hope	423
	Index	429