

Danny Gronmaier

The US Sports Film: A Genre of American Dream Time

Cinepoetics



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“Very soon the crowd is no crowd at all but a community, a small town of people sharing neither work nor pain nor deprivation nor anger but the common experience of being released to enjoy the moment, even those moments of intense disappointment or defeat, moments made better, after all, precisely because our fan is part of a large family of those similarly affected, part of a city of grievors.”
(Giamatti 1989, 32)

“The imagination is defined here as a contractile power [...]. This is by no means a memory, nor indeed an operation of the understanding: contraction is not a matter of reflection. Properly speaking, it forms a synthesis of time. A succession of instants does not constitute time any more than it causes it to disappear; it indicates only its constantly aborted moment of birth. Time is constituted only in the originary synthesis which operates on the repetition of instants. This synthesis contracts the successive independent instants into one another, thereby constituting the lived, or living, present. It is in this present that time is deployed. To it belongs both the past and the future: the past in so far as the preceding instants are retained in the contraction; the future because its expectation is anticipated in this same contraction.”
(Deleuze 2014 [1968], 94)

“One cannot criticize the American dream for being only a dream: this is what it wants to be, drawing all its power from the fact that it is a dream.”
(Deleuze 2013a [1983], 152)

