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Memoria e testimonianza nella rappresentazione storica e documentaristica: i “passi” di Paul Ricoeur in... Valzer con Bashir

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The problematic of the representation of the past is posed in its radicality as early as the investigation of the object-side of memory: it's a case of the enigma of image that offers itself as the presence of an absent thing stamped with the seal of the anterior. This enigma crosses through the phenomenology of memory, the epistemology of testimony – the unavoidable beginning of historiography –, and finally the scriptural representation of events. Following Ricoeur's analysis of these themes I trace the homologies between the historical representation and the documentary about past events: common to both of them is to be “art” and “evidence” at the same time. On this point I hold the animated documentary *Waltz with Bashir* (Israel, 2008) up as a paradoxical and paradigmatic case.