

Asia/Pacific Cinemas: A Spectral Surface (Positions East Asia Cultures Critique, Vol 9, Number 2 Fall 2001) PDF



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Asia/Pacific Cinemas: A Spectral Surface (Positions East Asia Cultures Critique, Vol 9, Number 2 Fall 2001) by Esther C. M. Yau ISBN 0822365200

This special issue of *positions* is a collection of thought-provoking essays that challenges the ways in which the West has traditionally experienced Asia/Pacific film. Focusing on film texts from Hong Kong, South Korea, Japan, and the Philippines, the articles explore the powerful emotions of frustration and alienation that cinema can express in the face of modernization and globalization. Contributors examine how specific films—including *Haplos* (1982), *Chilsu and Mansu* (1988), *Fresh Kill* (1994), and *Princess Mononoke* (1997)—rework folktales, literary sources, popular memory, lived experience, and history. Some of the films examined here incorporate supernatural

elements and/or gay and lesbian narratives that provide an escape from the sexism, racism, homophobia, environmental destruction, and urban alienation that the filmmakers see as the defining characteristics of the postcolonial world.

Asia/Pacific Cinema posits that film, with its ability to play with memory, fate, and linear time, creates a space in which to consider alternatives to the dominant cultural, economic, and social norms.

Contributors. Jonathan Beller, Joan Kee, Kyung Hyun Kim, Helen Hok-sze Leung, Bliss Cau Lim, Gina Marchetti, Susan Napier, Esther C. M. Yau

Asia/Pacific Cinemas: A Spectral Surface (Positions East Asia Cultures Critique, Vol 9, Number 2 Fall 2001) Review

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