

Loti

Contemporary Sino-French Cinemas The Marriage of Loti, Etc Michelle E. Bloom Pierre Loti

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transnational cinemas are eclipsing national cinemas in the contemporary world and sino french films exemplify this phenomenon through the cinematic coupling of the sinophone and the francophone linking france not just with the chinese mainland but also with the rest of the chinese speaking world sinophone directors most often reach out to french cinema by referencing and adapting it they set their films in paris and metropolitan france cast french actors and sometimes use french dialogue even when the directors themselves don't understand it they tend to view france as mysterious sexy and sophisticated just as the french see china and taiwan as exotic as michelle e bloom makes clear many films move past a simplistic opposition between east and west and beyond orientalist and occidentalist cross cultural interplay bloom focuses on films that have appeared since 2000 such as tsai ming liang's *What Time Is It There* hou hsiao hsien's *Flight of the Red Balloon* and dai sijie's *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress* she views the work of these well known directors through a sino french optic applying the tropes of métissage or biraciality intertextuality adaptation and remake translation and imitation to shed new light on their work she also calls attention to important lesser studied films taiwanese director cheng yu chieh's *Yang Yang* which depicts the up and coming taiwanese star sandrine pinna as a mixed race beauty and emily tang xiaobai's debut film *Conjugation* which contrasts paris and post tiananmen square beijing the one an incarnation of liberty the other a place of entrapment bloom's insightful analysis also probes what such films reveal about their taiwanese and chinese creators scholars have long studied sino french literature but this inaugural full length work on sino french cinema maps uncharted territory offering a paradigm for understanding other cross cultural interminglings and tools to study transnational cinema and

world cinema the sino french rich and multifaceted linguistically culturally and ethnically constitutes an important part of film studies francophone studies sinophone studies and myriad other fields this is a must read for students scholars and lovers of film

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