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Time Frames: Japanese Cinema and the Unfolding of History

By Scott Nygren

University of Minnesota Press, United States, 2007. Paperback. Book Condition: New. annotated edition. 239 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Until 1951, when Kurosawa's *Rashomon* won the Golden Lion award for best film at the Venice Film Festival, Japanese cinema was isolated from world distribution and the international discourse on film. After this historic event, however, Japanese cinema could no longer be ignored. In *Time Frames*, Scott Nygren explores how Japanese film criticism and history has been written both within and beyond Japan, before and after *Rashomon*. He takes up the central question of which, and whose, Japan do critics and historians mean when reviewing the country's cinema an issue complicated by assumptions about cultural purity, Japan's appropriation of Western ideas and technologies, and the very existence of a West and an Orientalist non-West. Deftly moving backward and forward from the pivotal 1951 festival, Nygren traces the invention of Japanese film history as a disciplinary mode of knowledge. His analysis includes such topics as the reconfiguration of prewar films in light of postwar recognition, the application of psychoanalytic theory to Japanese art and culture, and the intersection of kanji and cinema. He considers the historical inscription...



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