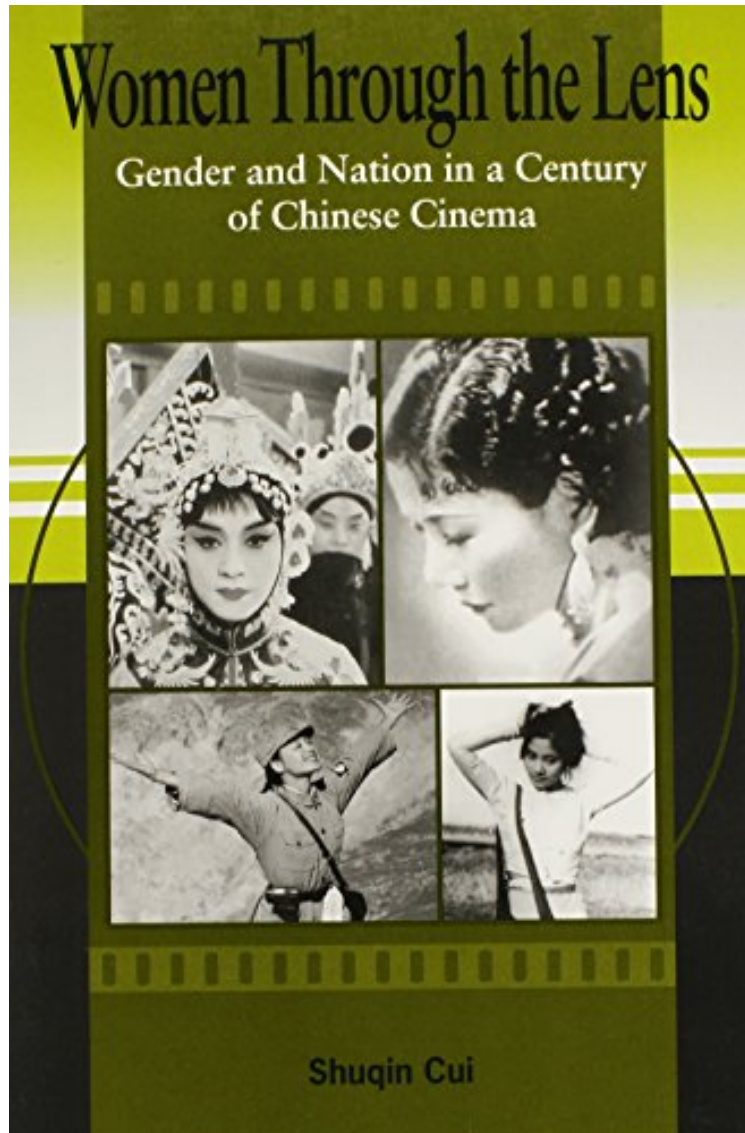


Women Through the Lens: Gender and Nation in a Century of Chinese Cinema

Shuqin Cui

*DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#3430908 in Books University of Hawaii Press 2008-03-19 2008-03-19 Original language: English PDF # 1
8.95 x .83 x 6.151, 1.18 #File Name: 0824832965336 pages | File size: 16.Mb

Shuqin Cui : Women Through the Lens: Gender and Nation in a Century of Chinese Cinema before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women Through the Lens: Gender and Nation in a Century of Chinese Cinema:

Women Through the Lens raises the question of how gender, especially the image of woman, acts as a visual and discursive sign in the creation of the nation-state in twentieth-century China. Tracing the history of Chinese cinema through the last hundred years from the perspective of transnational feminism, Shuqin Cui reveals how women have been granted a "privileged visibility" on screen while being denied discursive positions as subjects. In addition, her careful attention to the visual language system of cinema shows how "woman" has served as the site for the narration of nation in the context of China's changing social and political climate. Placing gender and nation in a historical framework, the book first shows how early productions had their roots in shadow plays, a popular form of public entertainment. In examining the "Red Classics" of socialist cinema as a mass cultural form, the book shows how the utopian vision of emancipating the entire proletariat, women included, produced a collective ideology that declared an end to gender difference. Cui then documents and discusses the cinematic spectacle of woman as essential to such widely popular films as Chen Kaige's "Farewell My Concubine" and Zhang Yimou's "Ju Do." Finally, the author brings a feminist perspective to the issues of gender and nation by turning her attention to women directors and their self-representations.

"Stands out for its ambition and breadth. ... Women Through the Lens not only lays a foundation and road map for other scholars but it should be used as a reference book by anyone interested in Chinese film." "A very fine introduction to Chinese film for students approaching the topic in a feminist film criticism course or in a course in which grounding in film theory cannot be assumed but is absolutely necessary for the students." "Women Through the Lens is a theoretically engaged work supported by illuminating textual analysis. Cui's systematic and insightful analysis of the female image and women's films in modern China not only contributes to the growing corpus of Chinese film studies but also provides critical evidence to buttress the concept of a transnational feminism recognizing geopolitical and national differences in the discourses of gender." About the Author Shuqin Cui is professor of Asian studies and cinema studies at Bowdoin College.