

EROTIC GROTESQUE NONSENSE: THE MASS CULTURE OF JAPANESE MODERN TIMES

This history of Japanese mass culture during the decades preceding Pearl Harbor argues that the new gestures, relationship, and humor of ero-guro-nansensu (erotic grotesque nonsense) expressed a self-consciously modern ethos that challenged state ideology and expansionism. Miriam Silverberg uses sources such as movie magazines, ethnographies of the homeless, and the most famous photographs from this era to capture the spirit, textures, and language of a time when the media reached all classes, connecting the rural...



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Erotic Grotesque Nonsense: The Mass Culture of Japanese Modern Times

Author	Miriam Silverberg
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Reader's Opinions

It is a tragedy that Professor Silverberg was battling illness while finishing this book; her attempt to match the form of her subject and create a montage-like prose style doesn't quite cohere. Her section on "Modern Girl as Militant," however, makes for an outstanding stand-alone piece.