

The Kazan Journey Into An Emerging Land

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a study of how films from the late 1930s to the early 60s portrayed the american ideal

in 1999 elia kazan 1909 2003 received an honorary oscar for lifetime achievement it was a controversial award for in 1952 he had given testimony to the huac committee for which he was ostracized by many that oscar also acknowledged kazan s remarkable contribution to american and world cinema making such films as on the waterfront and a streetcar named desire kazan s life in

the cinema is due a reassessment one that is presented expertly and gracefully by brian neve in this book drawing on previously neglected and some hitherto untapped sources focussing in particular on the producer director's post on the waterfront new york based independent work and on his key artistic collaborations including those with tennessee williams john steinbeck and budd schulberg neve gives a fascinating reassessment of kasan's famed technique with such actors as marlon brando and james dean and his lifetime concern to provoke and photograph authentic behaviour he reveals a pattern through the films of personally resonant themes relating for example to ethnicity and the american immigrant myth he reviews kasan's style from the colour and wide screen of east of eden to the creative use of location in his american south films including baby doll he debates the reception of kasan's work and the controversy which dogged his career of his 1952 congressional testimony these elements and more make this a very readable and memorable fresh portrayal of the film career of this ever fascinating director working with an impressively wide variety of archival material including kasan's personal papers and notebooks brian neve here offers a solidly researched insightful and historically grounded portrait of elia kasan his working methods his 19 feature films from *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* 1945 to *The Last Tycoon* 1976 and his place in the cinematic and social world of his age chuck maland professor of cinema studies american studies university of tennessee

largely ignored hitherto by western scholars plutschow's edo period travel provides the first in depth study of the subject which is centred on fifteen of the period's most notable travellers some of whom are well known in other fields as intellectuals artists poets folklorists and natural scientists for example but rarely if at all as travellers the first traveller put in the spotlight is the celebrated intellectual and botanist kaibara ekiken 1630-1714 and the last is the explorer of ezo now hokkaido and government official matsuura takeshiro 1818-88 such was the thirst for knowledge in the edo period that some travel accounts estimated to number over 2000 became best sellers in their day not least for their voyeuristic appeal including those of kaibara ekiken and tachibana nankei which are included in this volume this important research on how the japanese discovered their own country and cultural identity has considerable interdisciplinary appeal of particular interest also is the author's discussion on the nature of this new travel writing and the self-centred observation and seeing that developed in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries he calls the japanese enlightenment

victor meignan's *From Paris to Peking Over Siberian Snows* is an evocative journey through the heart of 19th century eurasian landscapes as much a travelogue as it is a time capsule of a bygone era meignan chronicles his travels from the cultural crucibles of paris st petersburg and moscow to the harsh yet majestic beauty of siberia his writing is a blend of keen observation and lush description inviting readers into the depths of both well trodden and obscure sites amid the backdrop of the tsar's realm meignan's account unfolds in an era of burgeoning rail travel providing a literary context that juxtaposes the romance of exploration against the industrializing world victor meignan a frenchman enthralled by the allure of the unknown penned his account during a period where travel was transitioning from arduous expedition to accessible adventure his wanderlust and curiosity about the world's expanse likely spurred the creation of this book meignan's personal insights and

experiences breathe authenticity into his narrative granting a trusted voice to readers seeking to understand the eurasian landscape of the 19th century for enthusiasts of historical travel writing from paris to pekin over siberian snows offers an enchanting escape into the exploratory spirit of yesteryear meignan s vivid details and articulate prose make this book an essential read for armchair travelers and history buffs alike his journey is not merely geographic but also a passage through time resonating with those who find intrigue in the crossroads of culture history and the indomitable human quest to discover

a fascinating story of spiritual survival the cultural and national reawakening that has accompanied the resurgence of islam in russia has contributed to the revival and renewal of islamic thought throughout the muslim world the author explores how islam vis a vis russian orthodox christianity shaped national political and cultural developments in the vast region of european russia and siberia this volume thus presents an analysis of the history development and future prospects for islam in russia based on exhaustive research of the primary and secondary sources as well as the author s own personal experience

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Introduction

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