



Under Foreign Eyes

By James King

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This book is about the perception of Japan in the sixty films set there by *gaijin* (foreigners) —outsiders who almost always do not speak or read Japanese. My area of attention is directed to films depicting post World War II Japan and the Japanese, and, in many cases, films showing how foreigners in the same time frame respond to Japan. Why have a substantial number of films been set there by strangers? As a body of work, what do they tell us about contemporary Japan and about cinema? These films certainly provide a new cultural history of the West's *reaction* to Japan, but, even more, they are constructions that demonstrate how the West gazes at Japan. As such, more information can often be derived about the onlookers as on those looked-upon.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

James King, Distinguished University Professor at McMaster University, is the author of twenty books including eight biographies and five novels.

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