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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- 1 The Imperial-Time-Order: The Eternal Return of the Chinese Empire -- 2 Suspended Time: Grounding the Present in the Late Qing -- 3 Split Time: Enlightenment and its Discontent -- 4 Continuous Time: Heroes in the "Protracted War" -- 5 Transitional Time: Defining "the People" and the "Nation" in Mao's China -- 6 Resurgent Time: The Return of "Empire" in Post-Socialist Representation -- 7 Love or Hate: The First Emperor on the Cinematic Screen -- 8 The Fascinating Empire: Emperors in Contemporary Novels -- 9 Tianxia Revisited: Empire and Family on the Television Screen -- 10 Becoming-Minority: Chinese Characteristics in Minority Historical Fiction -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.

## Sommario/riassunto

Imperial-Time-Order is an engagingly written critical study on a persistent historical way of thinking in modern China. Defined as normalization of unification and moralization of time, Qian suggests, the imperial-time-order signifies a temporal structure of empire that has continued to shape the way modern China developed itself conceptually. Weaving together intellectual debates with literary and media representations of imperial history since the late Qing period, ranging from novels, stage plays, films, to television series, Qian traces the different temporalities of each period and takes “time” as the analytical node by which issues of empire, nation, family, morality, individual and collective subjectivity are constructed and contested.

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