1. Record Nr. UNINA9910778491403321 Autore Silverberg Miriam Rom <1951-2008.> Titolo Erotic grotesque nonsense [[electronic resource]]: the mass culture of Japanese modern times / / Miriam Silverberg Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2006 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-35596-1 9786612355967 0-520-92462-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (423 p.) Collana Asia Pacific modern;;1 Disciplina 306.0952/09041 Popular culture - Japan - History - 20th century Soggetti Japan Civilization 1912-1926 Japan Civilization 1926-1945 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali "A Philip E. Lilienthal book in Asian studies"--Jacket. Includes bibliographical references (p. 327-343) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Japanese modern times -- Japanese modern within modernity --Japanese modern sites -- The modern girl as militant (movement on the streets) -- The cafe waitress sang the blues -- Friends of the movies (from Ero to empire) -- The household becomes modern life --Asakusa--honky-tonk tempo -- Asakusa eroticism -- Down-and-out grotesquerie -- Modern nonsense. Sommario/riassunto 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 selfconsciously 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

social order to urban mores. Employing the concept of montage as a metaphor that informed the organization of Japanese mass culture during the 1920's and 1930's, Silverberg challenges the erasure of Japanese colonialism and its legacies. She evokes vivid images from daily life during the 1920's and 1930's, including details about food,

housing, fashion, modes of popular entertainment, and attitudes toward sexuality. Her innovative study demonstrates how new public spaces, new relationships within the family, and an ironic sensibility expressed the attitude of Japanese consumers who identified with the modern as providing a cosmopolitan break from tradition at the same time that they mobilized for war.