Record Nr. UNINA9910783601703321 Autore Yen Yuehping <1969, > Titolo Calligraphy and power in contemporary Chinese society / / Yuehping Yen London;; New York:,: RoutledgeCurzon,, 2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-134-37061-X 0-203-34884-2 1-134-37062-8 1-280-05904-4 0-203-59060-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (232 p.) Anthropology of Asia Collana Disciplina 745.6/19951 Soggetti Calligraphy, Chinese - Social aspects Personality and culture - China China Civilization 1976-2002 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. Nota di contenuto Cover; Calligraphy and Power in Contemporary Chinese Society; Title Page; Copyright Page; Table of Contents; List of figures; Acknowledgements; Brief chronology of Chinese history; Introduction: the abode of calligraphic inscriptions; First encounter with social calligraphy; Modern technology spells the end of Chinese writing?; Writing and calligraphy - an anthropological lack; The ambiguity of Chinese calligraphy - where function meets aesthetics; Some methodological considerations; 1 Dances with power: Public calligraphy and its social effects; Public calligraphy Art or not: a matter of social manipulationThe power brush; 2 Becoming a person through wen; Mingong: anything that city people are not; The notion of wenhua; Ascending the tower of deep knowledge; 3 Handwriting and personhood; Fascination with handwriting; Handwriting and personhood; Calligraphy or handwriting as the extension of the body-person; 4 Body-person engineering through ink and brush: Brush techniques and calligraphic composition;

Anthropological literature on personhood and embodiment; Brush

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Sommario/riassunto

This unusual and interesting book is a fascinating account of the world of Chinese writing. It examines Chinese space and the political and social use of writing as propaganda, a publicity booster and as a ladder for social climbing.