Record Nr. UNINA9910811344003321 Autore Miller Laura <1953-> Titolo Beauty up: exploring contemporary Japanese body aesthetics / / Laura Miller Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2006 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9786612771859 0-520-93884-4 1-282-77185-X 1-60129-397-6 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xiv, 256 pages): illustrations Disciplina 306.4/0952 Soggetti Human body - Social aspects - Japan Beauty, Personal - Japan Beauty culture - Japan Body image - Japan Philosophy, Japanese Japan Social life and customs Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Tables -- Preliminaries --Acknowledgments -- Introduction. Approaches To Body Aesthetics And The Beauty System -- 1. Changing Beauty Ideology -- 2. Aesthetic Salons -- 3. Mammary Mania -- 4. Body Fashion And Beauty Etiquette -- 5. Male Beauty Work -- 6. The Well-Behaved Appetite -- 7. The Language Of Esute -- 8. Esute Power -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto This engaging introduction to Japan's burgeoning beauty culture investigates a wide range of phenomenon-aesthetic salons, dieting products, male beauty activities, and beauty language-to find out why Japanese women and men are paying so much attention to their bodies. Laura Miller uses social science and popular culture sources to connect breast enhancements, eyelid surgery, body hair removal, nipple

bleaching, and other beauty work to larger issues of gender ideology,

the culturally-constructed nature of beauty ideals, and the

globalization of beauty technologies and standards. Her sophisticated treatment of this timely topic suggests that new body aesthetics are not forms of "deracializiation" but rather innovative experimentation with identity management. While recognizing that these beauty activities are potentially a form of resistance, Miller also considers the commodification of beauty, exploring how new ideals and technologies are tying consumers even more firmly to an ever-expanding beauty industry. By considering beauty in a Japanese context, Miller challenges widespread assumptions about the universality and naturalness of beauty standards.