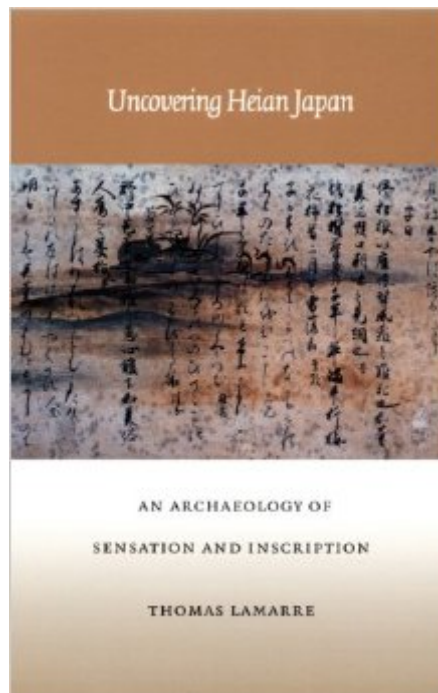


The book was found

# Uncovering Heian Japan: An Archaeology Of Sensation And Inscription (Asia-Pacific: Culture, Politics, And Society)



## Synopsis

The poetry of the Heian court of Japan has typically been linked with the emergence of a distinct Japanese language and culture. This concept of a linguistically homogeneous and ethnically pure "Japaneseness" has been integral to the construction of a modern Japanese nation, especially during periods of western colonial expansion and cultural encroachment. But Thomas LaMarre argues in *Uncovering Heian Japan* that this need for a cultural unity "a singular Japanese identity" has resulted in an overemphasis of a relatively minor aspect of Heian poetry, obscuring not only its other significant elements but also the porousness of Heian society and the politics of poetic expression. Combining a pathbreaking visual analysis of the calligraphy with which this poetry was transcribed, a more traditional textual analysis, and a review of the politics of the period, LaMarre presents a dramatically new view of Heian poetry and culture. He challenges the assumption of a cohesive "national imagination," seeing instead an early Japan that is ethnically diverse, territorially porous, and indifferent to linguistic boundaries. Working through the problems posed by institutionalized notions of nationalism, nativism, and modernism, LaMarre rethinks the theories of scholars such as Suzuki Hideo, Yoshimoto Takaaki, and Komatsu Shigemi, in conjunction with theorists such as Derrida, Karatani, Foucault, and Deleuze. Contesting the notion that speech is central to the formation of community, *Uncovering Heian Japan* focuses instead on the potential centrality of the more figural operations of poetic practice. Specialists in Japanese history and culture as well as scholars working in other areas of cultural criticism will find that this book enriches their understanding of an early Japan that has exerted so much influence on later concepts of what it means to be Japanese.

## Book Information

Series: Asia-Pacific: Culture, Politics, and Society

Paperback: 248 pages

Publisher: Duke University Press Books; First Edition edition (March 20, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0822325187

ISBN-13: 978-0822325185

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,564,958 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #169 in [Books > Literature &](#)

Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > Asian > Japanese #735 in Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Asian American #2041 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Poetry

## Customer Reviews

This book is a revelation. It helps explain a puzzling feature of Japanese art of this period. The people in the byōbu or Japanese screens show a cosmopolitan world of Koreans, musicians, warriors, nobility, angels, demons, gods and dragons. Art and aesthetics seem to level society. To make a case that before the advent of nationalism all world cultures share this feature is just breathtaking.

A vivid reading of Heian court poetry that removes the interpretive screen later imposed in the name of national identity and modernity to reveal a richly expressive world. Here calligraphy, composition, and community combine in a 'song machine' that links poetics and politics and seeks, quite literally, to calibrate the cosmos. After this book the poetry of 'old Japan' will never be the same.

I am interested in Heian Japan, but this book is way over my head. I've tried 3 times to start the book, but put it down when I go through the notes on pronunciation and translation.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Uncovering Heian Japan: An Archaeology of Sensation and Inscription (Asia-Pacific: Culture, Politics, and Society) Text and the City: Essays on Japanese Modernity (Asia-Pacific: Culture, Politics, and Society) The Remasculinization of Korean Cinema (Asia-Pacific: Culture, Politics, and Society) Breakfast Meals Made Simple Cookbooks: 100 Sensation Breakfast Recipes - Healthy food (Breakfast, Meals Made Simple, Breakfast cookbooks, Breakfast recipes, Breakfast ... : 100 Sensation Breakfast Recipes) Pacific Crucible: War at Sea in the Pacific, 1941-1942: War at Sea in the Pacific, 1941-1942 Japan's Total Empire: Manchuria and the Culture of Wartime Imperialism (Twentieth Century Japan: The Emergence of a World Power) Sugar Cane Capitalism and Environmental Transformation: An Archaeology of Colonial Nevis, West Indies (Caribbean Archaeology and Ethnohistory) Central American and West Indian Archaeology: Being an Introduction to the Archaeology of the States of Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and the West Indies (Classic Reprint) Aztec Archaeology and Ethnohistory (Cambridge World Archaeology) Eldorado!: The Archaeology of Gold Mining in the Far North (Historical Archaeology of the American West) Capitalist Development and Economism in East Asia: The Rise of Hong Kong, Singapore,

Taiwan and South Korea (Routledge Studies in the Growth Economies of Asia) Islam Translated: Literature, Conversion, and the Arabic Cosmopolis of South and Southeast Asia (South Asia Across the Disciplines) China Forever: The Shaw Brothers and Diasporic Cinema (Pop Culture and Politics Asia PA) Marshall Islands Archaeology (Pacific Anthropological Records) Asia Shock: Horror and Dark Cinema from Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, and Thailand Political Systems of East Asia: China, Korea, and Japan The Great Kanto Earthquake and the Chimera of National Reconstruction in Japan (Contemporary Asia in the World) Fighting Ships of the Far East (2): Japan and Korea AD 612-1639: Japan and Korea AD 612-1639 v. 2 (New Vanguard) The Ancient Maya and Their City of Tulum: Uncovering the Mysteries of an Ancient Civilization and Their City of Grandeur Guilty as Sin: Uncovering New Evidence of Corruption and How Hillary Clinton and the Democrats Derailed the FBI Investigation

[Dmca](#)