

Thomas Burke's Dark *Chinoiserie*

Limehouse Nights and the Queer Spell of Chinatown

ANNE VERONICA WITCHARD



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Thomas Burke's Dark Chinoiserie Anne Veronica Witchard, 2009 Focusing on Thomas Burke's bestselling collection of short stories Limehouse Nights 1916 Anne Witchard's interdisciplinary book contextualises the burgeoning cult of Chinatown in turn of the century London Witchard shows that Burke's immensely popular Chinatown stories destabilize social orthodoxies in highly complex ways forcing us to rethink his influence on both sides of the Atlantic She shows that China and chinoiserie served as mirrors that reveal the disquietudes of western art and culture The Dark Chinoiserie of Thomas Burke and the Perversity of Limehouse, 2003 British Modernism and Chinoiserie Anne Witchard, 2015-03-01 This volume examines the ways in which an intellectual voque for a mythic China was a constituent element of British modernism

Thomas Burke's Dark Chinoiserie Anne Veronica Witchard, 2017-03-02 Focusing on Thomas Burke's bestselling collection of short stories Limehouse Nights 1916 this book contextualises the burgeoning cult of Chinatown in turn of the century London London's Chinese Quarter owed its notoriety to the Yellow Perilism that circulated in Britain at the fin de si cle a demonology of race and vice masked by outward concerns about degenerative metropolitan blight and imperial decline Anne Witchard's interdisciplinary approach enables her to displace the boundaries that have marked Chinese studies literary studies critiques of Orientalism and empire gender studies and diasporic research as she reassesses this critical moment in London's history In doing so she brings attention to Burke's hold on popular and critical audiences on both sides of the Atlantic A much admired and successful author in his time Burke in his Chinatown stories destabilizes social orthodoxies in highly complex and contradictory ways For example his writing was formative in establishing the queer spell that the very mention of Limehouse would exert on the public imagination and circulating libraries responded to Burke's portrayal of a hybrid East End where young Cockney girls eat Chow Mein with chopsticks in the local caf s and blithely gamble their housekeeping money at Fan Tan by banning Limehouse Nights Witchard's book forces us to rethink Burke's influence and shows that China and chinoiserie served as mirrors that reveal the cultural disquietudes of western art and culture China from the Ruins of Athens and Rome Chris Murray, 2020-08-06 Fascinated and often baffled by China Anglophone writers turned to classics for answers In poetry essays and travel narratives ancient Greece and Rome lent interpretative paradigms and narrative shape to Britain's information on the Middle Kingdom While memoirists of the diplomatic missions in 1793 and 1816 used classical ideas to introduce Chinese concepts Roman history held ominous precedents for Sino British relations according to Edward Gibbon and Samuel Taylor Coleridge John Keats illuminated how peculiar such contemporary processes of Orientalist knowledge formation were In Britain popular opinion on Chinese culture wavered during the nineteenth century as Charles Lamb and Joanna Baillie demonstrated in ekphrastic responses to chinoiserie A former reverence for China yielded gradually to hostility and the classical inheritance informed a national identity crisis over whether Britain s treatment of China was civilized or barbaric Amidst this uncertainty the melancholy conclusion to Virgil's Aeneid became the

master text for discussion of British conduct at the Summer Palace in 1860 Yet if Rome was to be the model for the British Empire Tennyson Sara Coleridge and Thomas de Quincey found closer analogues for the Opium Wars in Greek tragedy and Homeric epic Meanwhile Sinology advanced considerably during the Victorian age Britain broadened its horizons by interrogating the cultural past anew as it turned to Asia Anglophone readers were cosmopolitans in time as well as space aggregating knowledge of Periclean Athens imperial Rome and many other polities in their encounters with Qing Dynasty Forging Romantic China Peter J. Kitson, 2013-11-21 The first major study to focus on British and Chinese cultural relations in the Romantic period Literary Tourism and the British Isles LuAnn McCracken Fletcher, 2018-12-10 An interdisciplinary exploration of literary tourism's role in shaping how locations in the British and Irish Isles have been seen narrated and valued Tourism Fictions, Simulacra and Virtualities Maria Gravari-Barbas, Nelson Graburn, Jean-Francois Staszak, 2019-08-28 Tourism Fictions Simulacra and Virtualities offers a new understanding of tourism's interaction with space questioning the ways in which fictions simulacra and virtualities express tourism in the built environment and vice versa Since its beginnings tourism has inspired themed built environments that have a constitutive and sometimes problematic relationship with the real world and its architectural references This volume questions and rethinks the different environments constructed or adapted both for and by tourism exploring the relationship between the real and the unreal within the tourist bubble and the ways in which the real world inspires simulacra for tourism use Adopting an interdisciplinary approach this book touches on a wide range of geographical areas eras and subjects such as post socialist tourism in Poland the Hawaiian imaginary in Las Vegas Rio de Janeiro s Little Africa as well as multiple instances of virtual reality in tourism This timely and innovative volume will be of great interest to upper level students researchers and academics in tourism architecture cultural studies geography and heritage studies The Yellow Peril: Dr. Fu Manchu and the Rise of Chinaphobia Christopher Frayling, 2014-10-14 An entirely new perspective on current scaremongering about China's global ambitions and on the Western media's ignorance of Chinese culture A hundred years ago a character who was to enter the bloodstream of 20th century popular culture made his first appearance in the world of literature In his day he became as well known as Count Dracula or Sherlock Holmes he was the evil genius called Dr Fu Manchu described at the beginning of the first story in which he appeared as the yellow peril incarnate in one man Why did the idea that the Chinese were a threat to Western civilization develop at precisely the time when China was in chaos divided against itself the victim of successive famines and utterly incapable of being a peril to anyone even if it had wanted to be Even the author of the Dr Fu Manchu novels Sax Rohmer acknowledged that China as a nation possess that elusive thing poise And what do the Chinese themselves make of all this Is it any wonder that they remember what we have carelessly forgotten the opium wars the unfair treaties that ceded Hong Kong and the New Territories and the stereotyping of Chinese people in allegedly factual studies Here cultural historian Christopher Frayling takes us to the heart of popular culture in the music hall pulp literature

and the mass market press and shows how film amplifies our assumptions Representations of China in British Children's Fiction, 1851-1911 Shih-Wen Chen, 2016-04-08 In her extensively researched exploration of China in British children's literature Shih Wen Chen provides a sustained critique of the reductive dichotomies that have limited insight into the cultural and educative role these fictions played in disseminating ideas and knowledge about China Chen considers a range of different genres and types of publication travelogue storybooks historical novels adventure stories and periodicals to demonstrate the diversity of images of China in the Victorian and Edwardian imagination Turning a critical eye on popular and prolific writers such as Anne Bowman William Dalton Edwin Harcourt Burrage Bessie Marchant G A Henty and Charles Gilson Chen shows how Sino British relations were influential in the representation of China in children's literature challenges the notion that nineteenth century children's literature simply parroted the dominant ideologies of the age and offers insights into how attitudes towards children's relationship with knowledge changed over the course of the century Her book provides a fresh context for understanding how China was constructed in the period from 1851 to 1911 and sheds light on British cultural history and the history and uses of children's literature

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