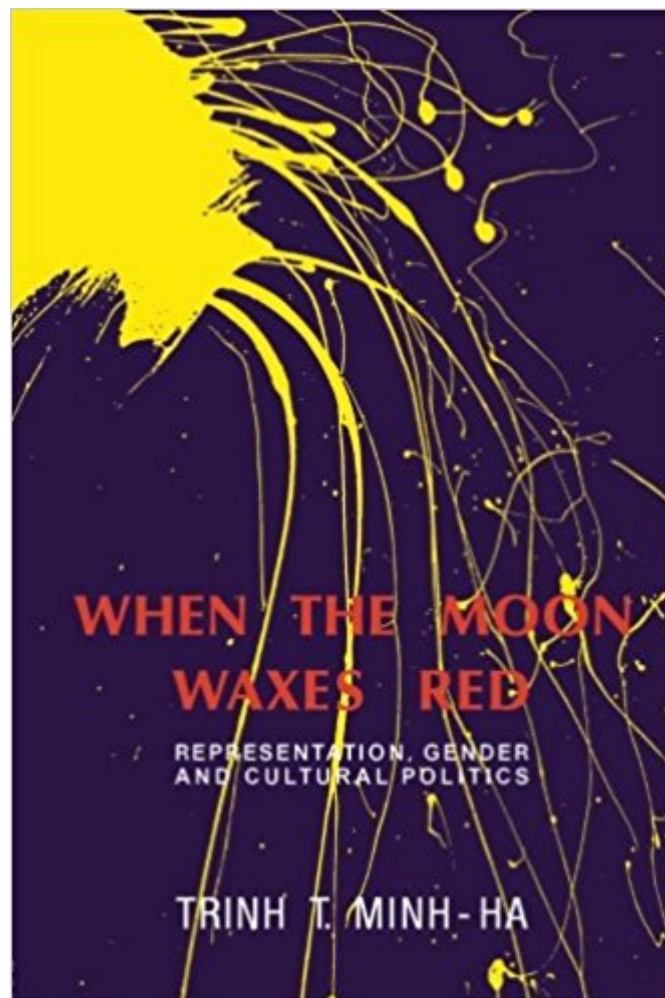


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When The Moon Waxes Red: Representation, Gender And Cultural Politics



Synopsis

In this new collection of her provocative essays on Third World art and culture, Trinh Minh-ha offers new challenges to Western regimes of knowledge. Bringing to her subjects an acute sense of the many meanings of the marginal, she examines topics such as Asian and African texts, the theories of Barthes, questions of spectatorship, the enigmas of art, and the perils of anthropology. When the Moon Waxes Red is an extended argument against reductive analyses, even those that appear politically adroit. The multiply-hyphenated peoples of color are not simply placed in a duality between two cultural heritages; throughout, Trinh describes the predicament of having to live "a difference that has no name and too many names already." She argues for multicultural revision of knowledge so that a new politics can transform reality rather than merely ideologize it. By rewriting the always emerging, already distorted place of struggle, such work seeks to "beat the master at his own game."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this collection of 14 essays, Trinh, a writer, feminist, and filmmaker, explores unconventional documentary filmmaking and literary techniques. Typically, documentary styles have kept a distance between subject and viewer, creating a sense of mastery in the viewer. By stressing form rather than content, boundaries of the acceptable in artform are transgressed, resulting in a nonlinear movement that leads the viewer into a profound experience that does not have to make sense. In this well-documented book, Trinh explores semiotic ideas of Michel Foucault and Roland Barthes,

along with the works of Zora Neale Hurston and Helene Cixous, among others. Illustrated with footage from her films, the form of Trinh's book plays a major role in the presentation of its content. A wonderful volume, this is recommended for academic libraries, especially those that support programs in film and women's studies. - Paula N. Arnold, Norwich Univ. Lib., Northfield, Vt. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Regardless of the structure in which she is writing, Trinh's language has the beauty and precision of poetry, her criticisms the clarity and focus of a well-directed film. But it is her methodology that is most unusual and innovative. As she works with theorizations of displacement and representation to develop and explain her own theses about difference and marginalization, she displaces her critical view so that it may simultaneously examine the assumptions underlying and informing those theorizations."-"L'Esprit Createur "A wonderful book. . ."-Library Journal

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