



Race and Role

The Mixed-Race Asian Experience in American Drama

by Rena M. Heinrich

DESCRIPTION

Mixed-race Asian American plays are often overlooked for their failure to fit smoothly into static racial categories, rendering mixed-race drama inconsequential in conversations about race and performance. Since the nineteenth century, however, these plays have long advocated for the social significance of multiracial Asian people.

Race and Role: The Mixed-Race Experience in American Drama traces the shifting identities of multiracial Asian figures in theater from the late-nineteenth century to the present day and explores the ways that mixed-race Asian identity transforms our understanding of race. Mixed-Asian playwrights harness theater's generative power to enact performances of "double liminality" and expose the absurd tenacity with which society clings to a tenuous racial scaffolding.

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