



Consuming Bodies: Sex and Contemporary Japanese Art

By Fran Lloyd



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Consuming Bodies explores the themes of sex and consumerism in contemporary Japanese art and how they connect with the wider historical, social and political conditions in Japanese culture. Essays by writers, historians, curators and artists, plus diary extracts of a sex worker, engage with a range of artistic practices, including performance, digital media, painting, sculpture and installation. Together the contributors examine the contradictions and ambivalences embedded in the Japanese experience of modernity, and the effects of commodification on the individual and the nation state.

Sex and consumerism in art are inextricably linked to issues of power, gender, class and race, and move beyond the gallery into private and public realms, where the complex relationships surrounding sexuality and commerce are directly encountered in both the fast-changing marketplace and in the dominant ideologies within Japanese society.

With over 150 intriguing illustrations, *Consuming Bodies* provides a wide-ranging perspective on an under-researched area of contemporary Japanese art practice and the critical issues it uncovers.



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Review

a beautifully produced book The Guardian To sum up this provocative and fascinating book in a short review is virtually impossible ... a considerable contribution to our understanding of a complex and important new world of art. Contemporary Asian Culture

About the Author

Fran Lloyd is the Head of Department of Art and Design History at Kingston University, Surrey. She is editor of *Deconstructing Madonna* (1993), *Contemporary Arab Women's Art* (1999) and *Displacement and Difference* (2001).

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