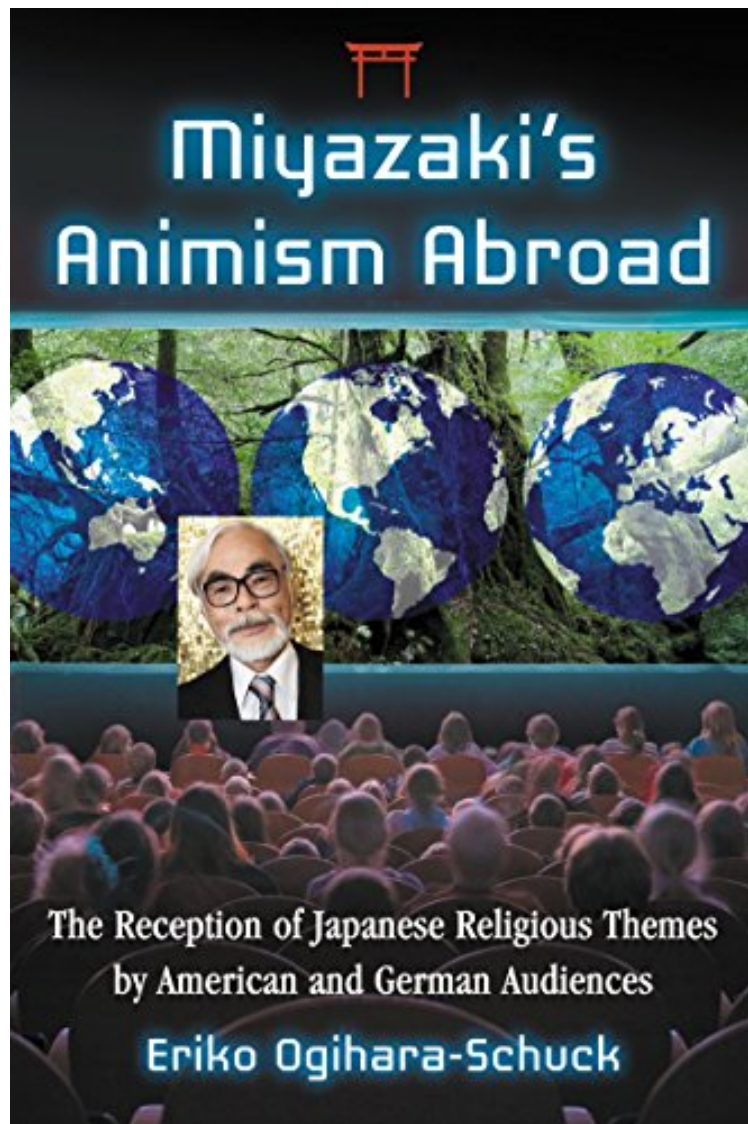


(Read free) Miyazaki's Animism Abroad: The Reception of Japanese Religious Themes by American and German Audiences

Miyazaki's Animism Abroad: The Reception of Japanese Religious Themes by American and German Audiences

Eriko Ogihara-Schuck

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Eriko Ogihara-Schuck : Miyazaki's Animism Abroad: The Reception of Japanese Religious Themes by American and German Audiences before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Miyazaki's Animism Abroad: The Reception of Japanese Religious Themes by American and German

Audiences:

After winning an Oscar for *Spirited Away*, the Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki's animated films were dubbed into many languages. Some of the films are saturated with religious themes distinctive to Japanese culture. How were these themes, or what Miyazaki describes as "animism," received abroad, especially considering that they are challenging to translate? This book examines how American and German audiences, grounded on Judeo-Christian traditions, responded to the animism in Miyazaki's *Nausica of the Valley of the Wind* (1984), *My Neighbor Totoro* (1988), *Princess Mononoke* (1997), *Spirited Away* (2001), and *Ponyo on the Cliff by the Sea* (2008). By a close reading of adaptations and film reviews, and a study of transitions in their verbal and visual approaches to animism, this book demonstrates that the American and German receptions transcended the conventional view of an antagonistic relationship between animism and Christianity. With the ability to change their shapes into forms easily accessible to other cultural arenas, the anime films make a significant contribution to inter-religious dialogue in the age of secularization.