



# Performing Hybridity in Colonial-Modern China (Palgrave Studies in Theatre and Performance History)

*Siyuan Liu*

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In Shanghai during the early portion of the twentieth century, a hybrid theatrical form emerged that was based on Western spoken theatre, classical Chinese theatre, and a Japanese hybrid form of kabuki and Western-style spoken theatre called *shinpa* (new school drama). Known as *wenmingxi* (civilized drama), this form has, until recently, largely been ignored by scholars in China and the West as it does not fit into the current binary "traditional/modern" model in non-Western theatre and performance studies. This book places *wenmingxi* in the context of its hybridized literary and performance elements, giving it a definitive place in modern Chinese theatre.

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