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Summary. A social and political geography of contemporary Cairo, this volume examines vernacular world-making through a 'grounded cosmopolitan' approach that builds new interdisciplinary methods for Middle East studies. Global stereotypes and certain social science agendas have tended to portray Cairo as a city of misery, a menacing population bomb, a morbid pharaonic tomb, or as the violent crossroads of the 'Arab street.'

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CAIRO COSMOPOLITAN - Politics, Culture, and Urban Space in the New Gobalized Middle East edited by Diane Singerman and Paul Amar. American University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt and New York, NY; [...] distributed by International Publishers Marketing, Herndon, VA; 800-758-3756. 2006. 542+ xviii pp. \$34.50 hardcover, ISBN 977-424-928-3. photographs, tables, chapter notes, chapter bibliographies.

Cairo Cosmopolitan: Politics, Culture, and Urban Space in ...

In Cairo Cosmopolitan, Diane Singerman and Paul Amar edit what might be termed a multi- author ethnography, which offers a portrait of Cairo through not just one image of the city but also several contemporary snapshots.

Diane Singerman and Paul Amar eds., Cairo Cosmopolitan ...

In the cities of the Arab world, while the media focus overwhelmingly on questions of religiosity and war, the future of urban modernity and political globalism is taking shape. As the Egyptian...

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Cairo Cosmopolitan: Politics, Culture, and Urban Space in the New Globalized Middle East by Diane Singerman (9789774162893)

Cairo Cosmopolitan: Politics, Culture, and Urban Space in ...

This volume launches the Cairo School of Urban Studies, committed to fusing political-economy and ethnographic methods and sensitive to ambivalence and contingency, to reveal the new contours and patterns of modern power emerging in the urban frame. Cairo shows us that divergent cosmopolitanisms—both elite and working-class—are emerging ...

Cairo Cosmopolitan: Politics, Culture, and Urban Space in ...

[Cairo Cosmopolitan: Politics, Culture, and Urban Space in the New Globalized Middle East] [Author: x] [October, 2009]: x: Books - Amazon.ca

Bringing together a distinguished interdisciplinary group of scholars, this volume explores what happens when new forms of privatization meet collectivist pasts, public space is sold off to satisfy investor needs and tourist gazes, and the state plans for Egypt's future in desert cities while stigmatizing and neglecting Cairo's popular neighborhoods. These dynamics produce surprising contradictions and juxtapositions that are coming to define today's Middle East. The original publication of this volume launched the Cairo School of Urban Studies, committed to fusing political-economy and ethnographic methods and sensitive to ambivalence and contingency, to reveal the new contours and patterns of modern power emerging in the urban frame. Contributors: Mona Abaza, Nezar AlSayyad, Paul Amar, Walter Armbrust, Vincent Battesti, Fanny Colonna, Eric Denis, Dalila ElKerdany, Yasser Elsheshawy, Farha Ghannam, Galila El Kadi, Anouk de Koning, Petra Kuppinge, Anna Madoeuf, Catherine Miller, Nicolas Puig, Said Sadek, Omnia El Shakry, Diane Singerman, Elizabeth A. Smith, Leila Vignal, Caroline Williams.

This parody of the abuses and extravagances of pseudo-philosophers in the Baghdad of the 60s throws into relief the Iraqi intellectual and cultural life of the time, and the reversal of fortune of some of Iraq's wealthy and powerful families.

At the start of the twenty-first century, Cairo's cityscape has acquired a spectacular global touch. Its luxurious five-star hotels, high-rise office buildings, immaculately clean malls, and swanky coffee shops serving café latte and caesar salad, along with the budding gated communities in the city's desert expanses, exemplify three decades of economic liberalization. In the surrounding social landscape, the gradual abrogation of the Nasser-era structures that provided many with low-cost goods and services is dearly felt. This new study examines Cairo's experience of economic liberalization in an era of globalization. It asks what happened to a postcolonial middle class that was once the carrier of national aspirations and dreams. It explores how young middle-class professionals navigate Cairo's increasingly divided landscape and discusses the rise of a young uppermiddle class presence in the work, leisure, and public spaces of the city.

This cross-disciplinary, ethnographic, contextualized, and empirical volume explores the meaning and significance of urban space, and maps the spatial inscription of power on the mega-city of Cairo. Suspicious of collective life and averse to power-sharing, Egyptian governance structures weaken but do not stop the public's role in the remaking of their city. What happens to a city where neo-liberalism has scaled back public services and encouraged the privatization of public goods, while the vast majority cannot afford the effects of such policies? Who wins and loses in the "march to the modern and the global" as the government transforms urban spaces and markets in the name of growth, security, tourism, and modernity? How do Cairenes struggle with an ambiguous and vulnerable legal and bureaucratic environment when legality is a privilege affordable only to the few or the connected? This companion volume to Cairo Cosmopolitan (AUC Press, 2006) further develops the central insights of the Cairo School of Urban Studies.

For members of Cairo's upper classes, cosmopolitanism is a form of social capital, deployed whenever they acquire or consume transnational commodities, or goods that are linked in the popular imagination to other, more "modern" places. In a series of thickly described and carefully contextualized case studies -- of Arabic children's magazines, Pokémon, private schools and popular films, coffee shops and fast-food restaurants -- Mark Allen Peterson describes the social practices that create class identities. He traces these processes from childhood into adulthood, examining how taste and style intersect with a changing educational system and economic liberalization. Peterson reveals how uneasy many cosmopolitan Cairenes are with their new global identities, and describes their efforts to root themselves in the local through religious, nationalist, or linguistic practices.

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This volume uncovers the relations between globalization and dirty dealings in urban settings, focusing on some capital cities and on the relations between underground and overground dynamics all over the globe. It aims to provide a new take on the dark side of globalization.

Exploring the intersections of visual culture, design and politics in Beirut from the late 1950s to the mid-1970s, this compelling interdisciplinary study critically examines a global conjuncture in Lebanon's history, marked by anticolonial struggle and complicated by a Cold War order. Against a celebratory reminiscence of the 'golden years', Beirut's long 1960s is conceived of as a liminal juncture, an anxious time and space when the city held out promises at once politically radical and radically cosmopolitan. Zeina Maasri examines the transnational circuits that animated Arab modernist pursuits, shedding light on key cultural transformations that saw Beirut develop as a Mediterranean site of tourism and leisure, a nexus between modern art and pan-Arab publishing and, through the rise of the Palestinian Resistance, a node in revolutionary anti-imperialism. Drawing on uncharted archives of printed media this book expands the scope of historical analysis of the postcolonial Arab East.

The 25 January 2011 uprising and the unprecedented dissent and discord to which it gave rise shattered the notion of homogeneity that had characterized state representations of Egypt and Egyptians since 1952. It allowed for the eruption of identities along multiple lines, including class, ideology, culture, and religion, long suppressed by state control. Concomitantly a profusion of women's voices arose to further challenge the state-managed feminism that had sought to define and carefully circumscribe women's social and civic roles in Egypt. Women in Revolutionary Egypt takes the uprising as the point of departure for an exploration of how gender in post-Mubarak Egypt came to be rethought, reimagined, and contested. It examines key areas of tension between national and gender identities, including gender empowerment through art and literature, particularly graffiti and poetry, the disciplining of the body, and the politics of history and memory. Shereen Abouelnaga argues that this new cartography of women's struggle has to be read in a context that takes into consideration the micropolitics of everyday life as well as the larger processes that work to separate the personal from the political. She shows how a new generation of women is resisting, both discursively and visually, the notion of a fixed or 'authentic' notion of Egyptian womanhood in spite of prevailing social structures and in face of all gendered politics of imagined nation.

A vibrant portrait of the talented and entrepreneurial women who defined an era in Cairo. One of the world ' s most multicultural cities, twentieth-century Cairo was a magnet for the ambitious and talented. During the 1920s and ' 30s, a vibrant music, theater, film, and cabaret scene flourished, defining what it meant to be a " modern " Egyptian. Women came to dominate the Egyptian entertainment industry—as stars of the stage and screen but also as impresarias, entrepreneurs, owners, and promoters of a new and strikingly modern entertainment industry. Raphael Cormack unveils the rich histories of independent, enterprising women like vaudeville star Rose al-Youssef (who launched one of Cairo ' s most important newspapers); nightclub singer Mounira al-Mahdiyya (the first woman to lead an Egyptian theater company) and her great rival, Oum Kalthoum (still venerated for her soulful lyrics); and other fabulous female stars of the interwar period, a time marked by excess and unheard-of freedom of expression. Buffeted by crosswinds of colonialism and nationalism, conservatism and liberalism, " religious " and " secular " values, patriarchy and feminism, this new generation of celebrities offered a new vision for women in Egypt and throughout the Middle East.

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