

*Explorations in Signs and Sounds*

**Gina Marchetti. *Romance and the Yellow Peril: Race, Sex, and Discursive Strategies in Hollywood Fiction*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993) 258 pp., \$30.00 cloth, \$14.00 paper.**

Marchetti poignantly mirrors Orientalism as conceived in the eyes of typical Hollywood filmmakers of their Eurocentric discourse, flavored with their own notions of romance, race and sexuality, and the “Yellow Peril,” the way they want to entertain the American viewers. The book introduces fifteen major classical films which span over a seventy-year period (1915-1985) with sharp literary as well as cinematographic criticism on Protestant ethics, gender supremacy, and conjugal family structure.

The introduction and conclusions are a bit lengthy, but nevertheless effective in discoursing the emergence and perpetuation of American reality. Each film portrayed in the book is further accentuated by photographs of actual film clips of the movie being discussed.

Marchetti’s book may be called Masterpiece theater of the post modern spectacle of race and romance in the year of Dragon. Her book is no doubt an asset to people of color in general, and women, writers, filmmakers, and ethnographers in particular.

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**Rebecca R. Martin. *Libraries and the Changing Face of Academia: Responses To Growing Multicultural Populations*. (Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1994) x, 263 pp.**

With great anticipation I sat down to read Rebecca R. Martin’s work about academic libraries services to multicultural populations in the United States. I had hoped to read about reasoned and responsible approaches to this current hot topic. What I found instead was an anthology of the politically correct chatter pulled from the last ten years of library literature. Martin’s book raises no new issues for the academic library administrator. *Libraries And The Changing Face of Academia* is a tame discussion of a serious issue that has kept academic librarians wringing their hands over the past decade. Rebecca Martin does do a good job of compiling this library literature into one volume. That is the problem with this work. She strings together all of the discussion and does not make any new statements.

Martin explains that “this study focuses on emerging pro-