

Kirkland

Taoism

These fifty-nine pioneering articles by scholars from around the world (17 women / 22 men) showcase recent advances in Taoist Studies. Instead of upholding conventional paradigms, these innovative studies expand our very concepts of Taoism by probing social and historical dimensions unimagined by twentieth-century minds. Overturning virtually all customary premises, they demonstrate Taoist activities by centuries of emperors, officials, literati, and women; Taoist involvement in medicine, the sciences, and the very origins of printing; Taoist art, architecture, music; even Taoists as healthcare providers. Rather than decaying in late-imperial or modern China, Taoism has continued to evolve and reach new audiences (for instance marketing age-old self-cultivation practices to educated men and women in today's urban settings). A critical Introduction by Russell Kirkland (author of *Taoism: The Enduring Tradition* and co-editor of *Routledge Studies in Taoism*) analyzes the Present Generation compared to earlier scholars. This collection offers today's freshest, most stimulating insights into Taoism's durability and rich diversity. It is an essential work of reference and is destined to be valued by scholars and advanced students as a vital research tool.



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