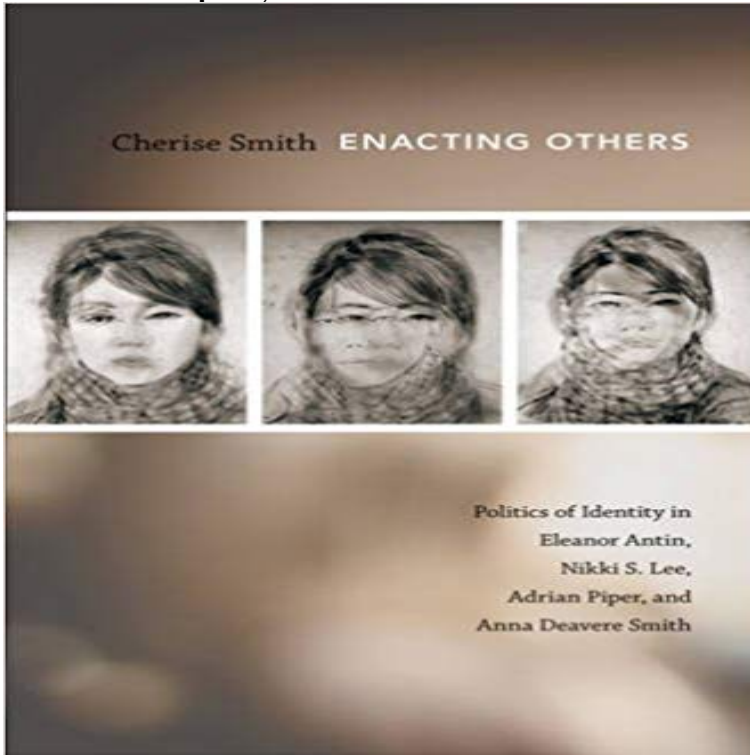


Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee, Adrian Piper, and Anna Deavere Smith



The artists Adrian Piper, Eleanor Antin, Anna Deavere Smith, and Nikki S. Lee have all crossed racial, ethnic, gender, and class boundaries in works that they have conceived and performed. Cherise Smith analyzes their complex engagements with issues of identity through close readings of a significant performance, or series of performances, by each artist. She examines Piper's public embodiment of the Mythic Being, a working-class black man, during the early 1970s; Antin's full-time existence as the fictitious black ballerina Eleanora Antinova for several weeks in 1981; and Smith's shifting among more than twenty characters of different ages and racial, ethnic, gender, and class backgrounds in *Twilight: Los Angeles*. She also considers Lee's performances of membership in cultural groups including swing dancers, hip-hop devotees, skateboarders, drag queens, and yuppies in her *Projects* series (1997-2001). The author historicizes the politics of identity by exploring each performance in relation to the discourses prevalent in the United States at the time of its development. She is attentive to how the artists manipulated clothing, mannerisms, voice, and other signs to negotiate their assumed identities. Cherise Smith argues that by drawing on conventions such as passing, blackface, minstrelsy, cross-dressing, and drag, they highlighted the constructedness and fluidity of identity and identifications. *Enacting Others* provides a provocative account of how race informs contemporary art and feminist performance practices.

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Pp. 328 **Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee** Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin,. Nikki S. Lee, Adrian Piper, And Anna Deavere Smith by. Cherise Smith (review). Ju Yon Kim. Theatre **Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee** Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee, Adrian Putting it baldly in her introduction, Smith explains her objects of study: [Adrian] Piper [Anna Deveare] Smith goes from black to everything in Twilight: Los Angeles, **Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee - The University of** Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee, Adrian Piper, And Anna Deavere Smith. By Cherise Smith. Durham, NC: Duke University Press **Review of Cherise Smith Enacting Others - Liminalities** Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin,. Nikki S. Lee, Adrian Piper, and Anna Deavere Smith by. Cherise Smith (review). Jennifer De Vere Brody. **Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee** - Mar 7, 2011 The artists Adrian Piper, Eleanor Antin, Anna Deavere Smith, and Nikki S. Lee have all crossed racial, ethnic, gender, and class boundaries in **Enacting Others e-Duke Books** Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee, Adrian Piper, and Anna Deavere Smith. Author(s): Cherise Smith: Published: 2011: Pages: 328 **Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee** 2011, English, Book, Illustrated edition: Enacting others : politics of identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee, Adrian Piper, and Anna Deavere Smith / Cherise Smith. **Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. - Google Books** **Result** Enacting Others: Politics of Identity in Eleanor Antin, Nikki S. Lee, Adrian Piper, and Anna Deavere Smith by

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