



## **Spirit Tree: Origins of Cosmology in Shinto Ritual at Hakozaki**

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*E. Leslie Williams*

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Spirit Tree Despite what some scholarship has suggested, Shint[trademark] does exhibit a unifying cognitive integrity. Employing a comparative approach, this title blends two theoretical orientations, cultural anthropology and Jungian psychology, to interpret Shint[trademark] ritual at the Hakozaki Hachiman Shrine in Fukuoka, Japan. Full description

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246 pages

Présentation de l'éditeur

Despite what some scholarship has suggested, Shintō does exhibit a unifying cognitive integrity. *Spirit Tree* offers a unique social psychological interpretation of Shintō ritual at the Hakozaki Hachiman Shrine in Fukuoka, Japan and situates the cosmological organization of this practice within the larger context of ritual in East Asia. Employing a comparative approach, this study blends two theoretical orientations: cultural anthropology and Jungian psychology. Hakozaki's rituals are a combination of a Yayoi period female medium tradition with a complex set of Chinese Yin-Yang Five Phase principles. Both systems are based on the feminine archetype, a fundamental conceptual foundation of Shintō ritual practice, which cognitively links woman and the earth. While the female shaman tradition is female-affirming in outlook, the later Chinese system is much less so. This monograph is a new acknowledgement of the conceptual continuity of Shintō ritual as an outgrowth of social cognition. Biographie de l'auteur

E. Leslie Williams began his study of East Asia by working as an ecclesiastical representative in Taiwan for two years. He was then a Japanese Ministry of Education graduate research scholar at Kyūshū University where he studied Edo period history for two years. He holds a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh and is Associate Professor of Japanese in the Department of Languages at Clemson University.

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