Divination and Prediction in Early China and Ancient Greece
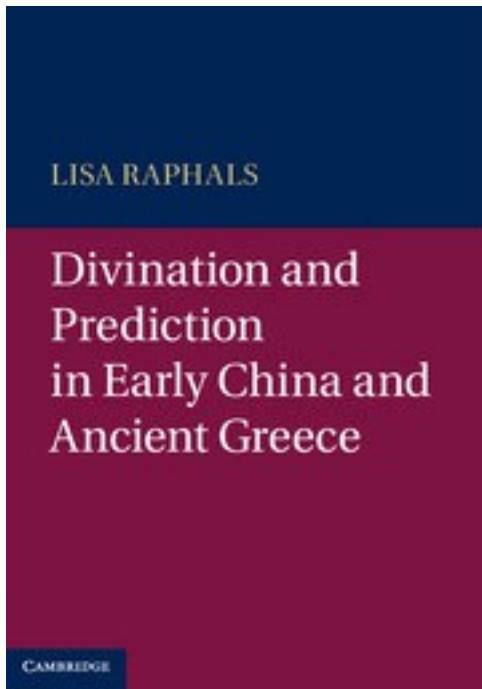
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出版者:Cambridge University Press

出版时间:2013-9

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9781107010758

http://www.cambridge.org/asia/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9781107010758

Divination was an important and distinctive aspect of religion in both ancient China and ancient Greece, and this book will provide the first systematic account and analysis of the two side by side. Who practised divination in these cultures and who consulted it? What kind of questions did they ask, and what methods were used to answer those questions? As well as these practical aspects, Lisa Raphals also examines divination as a subject of rhetorical and political narratives, and its role in the

development of systematic philosophical and scientific inquiry. She explores too the important similarities, differences and synergies between Greek and Chinese divinatory systems, providing important comparative evidence to reassess Greek oracular divination.

· Provides the first comparative treatment of Greek and Chinese divination · Examines both social and intellectual institutions and practices that informed Chinese and Greek divination · Presents new evidence in the cultural universalist-particularist debates that affect many disciplines in the humanities and social sciences

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目录: Preface; 1. Introduction; 2. Sources; 3. Theorizing divination; 4. Practitioners; 5. Methods; 6. The questions; 7. Consultors; 8. Mantic narratives; 9. Divination and systematic thought; 10. Conclusions; 11. Glossary; 12. Appendices.
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