

Contents

Preface

ix

1 What Is Cultural Appropriation?

1

Art, Culture, and Appropriation	1
Types of Cultural Appropriation	5
What is a Culture?	9
Objections to Cultural Appropriation	18
In Praise of Cultural Appropriation	27

2 The Aesthetics of Cultural Appropriation

32

The Aesthetic Handicap Thesis	32
The Cultural Experience Argument	34
Aesthetic Properties and Cultural Context	41
Authenticity and Appropriation	44
Authentic Appropriation	46
Cultural Experience and Subject Appropriation	55
Appropriation and the Authentic Expression of a Culture	60

3 Cultural Appropriation as Theft

63

Harm by Theft	63
Possible Owners of Artworks	64
Cultures and Inheritance	68
Lost and Abandoned Property	70
Cultural Property and Traditional Law	74
Collective Knowledge and Collective Property	78

Ownership of Land and Ownership of Art	85
Property and Value to a Culture	88
Cultures and Intellectual Property	93
Some Conclusions About Ownership and Appropriation	97
The Rescue Argument	102
4 Cultural Appropriation as Assault	106
Other Forms of Harm	106
Cultural Appropriation and Harmful Misrepresentation	107
Harm and Accurate Representation	113
Cultural Appropriation and Economic Opportunity	114
Cultural Appropriation and Assimilation	118
Art, Insignia, and Cultural Identity	120
Cultural Appropriation and Privacy	125
5 Profound Offence and Cultural Appropriation	129
Harm, Offence, and Profound Offence	129
Examples of Offensive Cultural Appropriation	131
The Problem and the Key to its Solution	134
Social Value and Offensive Art	136
Freedom of Expression	137
The Sacred and the Offensive	141
Time and Place Restrictions	143
Toleration of Offensive Art	145
Reasonable and Unreasonable Offence	147
Conclusion: Responding to Cultural Appropriation	152
Summing Up	152
Supporting Minority Artists	154
Envoy	157
<i>Bibliography of Works Cited and Consulted</i>	159
<i>Index</i>	166