



### Strongman Eugen Sandow's World Tour of 1904-1905

The 'Perfect Man' in Colonial India and Afro-Asia *By Carey Watt*

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**A study of Eugen Sandow's 1904–1905 world tour that uncovers and analyzes issues of representation and cultural exchange regarding physical culture, the body, gender, and race in a global imperial context.**

This book is about strongman and physical culture pioneer Eugen Sandow's (1867–1925) encounter with colonial Afro-Asia at the turn of the twentieth century, and the fascinating legacy of that encounter. It reveals the significance of Sandow's 17-month world tour of 1904–1905 (through South Africa, India, the Straits Settlements [Singapore and Malaysia], and China), with much attention devoted to the 8 months he spent in India—the British Empire's "Jewel in the Crown". It highlights the wider empire, the globalization of physical culture (including yoga and ju-jitsu), and new notions of scientifically sculpted muscular male bodies, entertainment, and transnational or global connections and comparisons in the first decade of the twentieth century.

#### Readership

Academic, but there might be some crossover to a lay, non-academic audience.

#### About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Carey A. Watt is Professor of History at St. Thomas University. He grew up in Montreal, where he completed his BA and MA at Concordia University, before undertaking a PhD in the history of modern India at Cambridge.

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