This book is a discussion of how modern Poland was created by the application and manipulation of myths about its past, and the symbols that represented them. Its focus is on the era 1914–2008, and the central actor is the charismatic Józef Piłsudski. Piłsudski came to represent a disposition regarding the meaning of Polish history which eventually penetrated virtually the whole of modern Polish society. The work is constructed by the analysis of memoirs, documents, coins, stamps, films, maps, monuments, and many other features, making it a multi-disciplinary and multi-dimensional volume It is written with verve and passion; its chapters explain the meaning of Polish history from a new perspective.

Oxford University Press