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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- TIMELINE 1890–1909 -- Introduction: American Cinema Emerges (1890–1909) -- 1890–1895 Movies and the Kinetoscope -- 1896–1897 Movies and the Beginnings of Cinema -- 1898–1899 Movies and Entrepreneurs -- 1900–1901 Movies, New Imperialism, and the New Century -- 1902–1903 Movies, Stories, and Attractions -- 1904–1905 Movies and Chasing the Missing Link(s) -- 1906 Movies and Spectacle -- 1907 Movies and the Expansion of the Audience -- 1908 Movies and Other Media -- 1909 Movies and Progress -- SOURCES FOR FILMS -- WORKS CITED AND CONSULTED -- CONTRIBUTORS -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	At the turn of the twentieth century, cinema was quickly establishing itself as a legitimate form of popular entertainment. The essays in American Cinema 1890-1909 explore and define how the making of motion pictures flowered into an industry that would finally become the central entertainment institution of the world. Beginning with all the early types of pictures that moved, this volume tells the story of the invention and consolidation of the various processes that gave rise to what we now call "cinema." By examining the battles over patents, production, exhibition, and the reception of film, readers learn how going to the movies became a social tradition in American society. In the course of these two decades, cinema succeeded both in establishing itself among other entertainment and instructional media and in updating various forms of spectacle.