Record Nr. UNINA9910136693003321 Autore Messeri Lisa <1982-> Titolo Placing outer space : an Earthly ethnography of other worlds / / Lisa Messeri Pubbl/distr/stampa Durham:,: Duke University Press,, 2016 **ISBN** 0-8223-7391-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (249 pages) Experimental futures: technological lives, scientific arts, Collana anthropological voices 523.2/4 Disciplina Soggetti Ethnology **Planets** Extrasolar planets Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction from outer space to outer place -- Narrating Mars in Utah's desert -- Mapping Mars in Silicon Valley -- Visualizing alien worlds -- Inhabiting other Earths -- Conclusion : navigating the infinite cosmos. Sommario/riassunto In Placing Outer Space Lisa Messeri traces how the place-making practices of planetary scientists transform the void of space into a cosmos filled with worlds that can be known and explored. Making planets into places is central to the daily practices and professional identities of the astronomers, geologists, and computer scientists Messeri studies. She takes readers to the Mars Desert Research Station and a NASA research center to discuss ways scientists experience and map Mars. At a Chilean observatory and in MIT's labs she describes how they discover exoplanets and envision what it would be like to inhabit them. Today's planetary science reveals the universe as densely inhabited by evocative worlds, which in turn tells us more about Earth,

ourselves, and our place in the universe.