

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910154565103321
Autore	Grogan Jane, Dr.
Titolo	Exemplary Spenser : visual and poetic pedagogy in <i>The faerie queene</i> / / Jane Grogan
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2016
ISBN	1-351-93787-1 1-138-37632-9 1-315-25571-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (226 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	821/.3
Soggetti	Didactic poetry, English - History and criticism Ekphrasis Visualization in literature Authors and readers
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"First published 2009 by Ashgate Publishing"--t.p. verso.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. To fashion a gentleman or noble person : Xenophon and English Protestant poetics -- 2. Spenser's 'gallery of pictures' -- 3. 'Bad art' or good readers? Spenserian ekphrasis -- 4. Making a virtue of courtesy.
Sommario/riassunto	Exemplary Spenser analyses the didactic poetics of <i>The Faerie Queene</i> , renewing attention to its avowed attempt to "fashion a gentleman or noble person in virtuous and gentle discipline" and examining how Spenser mobilises his pedagogic concerns through the reading experience of the poem. Grogan's investigation shows how Spenser transacts the public life of the nation heuristically, prompting a reflective reading experience that compels engagement with other readers, other texts and other political communities. Negotiating between competing pedagogical traditions, she shows how Spenser's epic challenges the more conservative prevailing impulses of humanist pedagogy to espouse a radical didacticism capable of inventing a more active and responsible reader. To this end, Grogan examines a wide variety of Spenser's techniques and sources, including Philip Sidney's <i>Defence of Poesy</i> and the powerful visually-couched epistemological paradigms of early modern culture, ekphrasis among them.

Importantly, Grogan examines how Spenser's didactic poetics was crucially shaped by readings of the Greek historian Xenophon's *Cyropaedia*, a text and influence previously overlooked by critics. Grogan concludes by reading the last book of *The Faerie Queene*, the *Legend of Courtesy*, as an attempt to reconcile his own didactic sources and poetics with the more recent tastes of his contemporaries for a courtesy theory less concerned with "virtuous and gentle discipline". Returning to the early modern reading experience, Grogan shows the sophisticated intertextual dexterity that goes into reading Spenser, where Spenserian pedagogy lies not simply in the textual body of the poem, but also in the act of reading it.
