Record Nr. UNINA9910154975103321 Autore Terranova Charissa N. Titolo Art as organism: biology and the evolution of the digital image // Charissa N. Terranova London, England:,: I.B. Tauris & Co. Ltd,, 2016 Pubbl/distr/stampa London, England:,: Bloomsbury Publishing,, 2019 **ISBN** 1-350-98541-4 0-85772-807-5 Edizione [First edition.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (338 pages): illustrations International library of modern and contemporary art;; 32 Collana Disciplina 709.04 Soggetti Art and biology Modern art - 20th century Modernism (Art) Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Includes bibliographical references (pages 256-308) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Preface: modernism after the affective turn -- Introduction: the haptic unconscious: Laszlo Moholy-Nagy's organismic aesthetics -- Bauhaus biology: the beginnings of biofunctionalism -- Gyorgy Kepes and the light image as bio-image; pop art-and-science, integration, and distribution -- The distributed image of the city: the collaboration between Gyorgy Kepes and Kevin Lynch -- Wet perception: op art and new tendencies, between the Gestalt and ecological psychology -- The digital image in art: the generative turn, computational and biological -- Epilogue: political paths -- past and future. Sommario/riassunto What if modernism had been characterised by evolving, interconnected and multi-sensory images rather than by the monolithic objects often described by its artists and theorists? In this groundbreaking book, Charissa Terranova unearths a forgotten narrative of modernism, which charts the influence that biology, General Systems Theory and cybernetics had on art in the twentieth century. From kinetic and interactive art to early computer art and installations spanning an entire city, she shows that the digital image was a rich and expansive artistic

medium of modernism. This book links the emergence of the digital image to the dispersion of biocentric aesthetic philosophies developed

by Bauhaus pedagogue Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, from 1920s Berlin to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the 1970s. It uncovers seminal but overlooked references to biology, the organism, feedback loops, emotions and the Gestalt, along with an intricate genealogy of related thinkers across disciplines. Terranova reinterprets major art movements such as the Bauhaus, Op Art and Experiments in Art and Technology (E.A.T.), by referencing contemporary insights from architects, embryologists, electrical engineers and computer scientists, among others. This book reveals the complex connections between visual culture, science and technology that comprise the deep history of twentieth-century art.