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Sommario/riassunto	Cettina Rizzo's work explores the intricacies of art collection in the 19th century, detailing its transformation from Renaissance traditions to a complex social phenomenon. The book delves into how the political and social changes of the period influenced the practices and perceptions of collecting art. It highlights the critical discourse surrounding art collections, auctions, and the evolving tastes and associations within artistic circles, with a focus on Théophile Gautier's contributions to art criticism and literature. Rizzo, a professor of French language and literature, uses her expertise to examine the relationships between art and writing, providing critical insights into 19th-century artistic and literary practices. This book is aimed at scholars and enthusiasts of art history, literature, and cultural studies.