1. Record Nr. UNINA9910255233403321 Autore Pilný Ondej Titolo The Grotesque in Contemporary Anglophone Drama / / by Ondej Pilný London:,: Palgrave Macmillan UK:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan,, Pubbl/distr/stampa 2016 1-137-51318-7 **ISBN** Edizione [1st ed. 2016.] 1 online resource (VII, 178 p.) Descrizione fisica 809 Disciplina Soggetti Literature, Modern—20th century Literature, Modern—21st century **British literature** America—Literatures Literature—Philosophy Contemporary Literature British and Irish Literature North American Literature **Literary Theory** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto 1. Introduction -- 2. Engaging Monsters -- 3. Wild Justice -- 4. Life in a Box -- 5. Mutabilities -- 6. Imagine This -- 7. Afterword. Sommario/riassunto Following on from the work of art historians and literary and cultural theorists, this book examines the ways in which varieties of the grotesque function in the plays of Philip Ridley, Mark O'Rowe, Enda Walsh, Suzan-Lori Parks and Tim Crouch. The term 'grotesque' has been frequently applied in commentaries on some of the most exciting contemporary drama, without much further elucidation. By producing visions of an alienated world, engendering simultaneous attraction and repulsion, and often triggering laughter that comes with a chill in the spine, the grotesque attacks both aesthetic and social conventions and requires a creative use of the imagination on the part of the spectators.

The book argues that as such, the grotesque in the works of the selected playwrights solicits profound audience engagement with

urgent ethical, social and political issues. The inevitable openness caused by the grotesque demonstrates the authors' faith in the deliberative powers of their audience, which stands in contrast to the ready-made choices offered by overtly committed political theatre.