Record Nr. UNINA9910300024503321 La Mamma: Interrogating a National Stereotype / / edited by Penelope Titolo Morris, Perry Willson Pubbl/distr/stampa New York:,: Palgrave Macmillan US:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan,, 2018 **ISBN** 1-137-54256-X Edizione [1st ed. 2018.] 1 online resource (XIII, 248 p. 1 illus.) Descrizione fisica Italian and Italian American Studies, , 2635-2931 Collana Disciplina 809.4 Soggetti European literature Motion pictures—History Literature, Modern—20th century Sociology Literature—Philosophy Culture—Study and teaching **European Literature** Film History Twentieth-Century Literature Gender Studies Literary Theory **Cultural Theory** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di contenuto 1. La Mamma: Italian Mothers Past and Present: Penelope Morris and Perry Willson -- 2. Mammismo/Momism: On the History and Uses of a Stereotype, 1940s to the Present: Silvana Patriarca -- 3. Mothers, Workers, Citizens: Teresa Noce and the Parliamentary Politics of Motherhood: Molly Tambor -- 4. Problems and Prescriptions: Motherhood and Mammismo in 1950s Advice Columns: Penelope Morris -- 5. Conceptualizing the Maternal: Representations, Reflections and Refractions in Women's Literary Writings: Ursula Fanning -- 6.

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The idea of the "mamma italiana" is one of the most widespread and recognizable stereotypes in perceptions of Italian national character both within and beyond Italy. This figure makes frequent appearances in jokes and other forms of popular culture, but it has also been seen as shaping the lived experience of modern-day Italians of both sexes, as well as influencing perceptions of Italy in the wider world. This interdisciplinary collection examines the invented tradition of mammismo but also contextualizes it by discussing other, often contrasting, ways in which the role of mothers, and the mother-son relationship, have been understood and represented in culture and society over the last century and a half, both in Italy and in its diaspora.