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Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. Epic in Aristotle and Vico -- 3. Idealism and Romanticism -- 4. Kierkegaard, Irony and Subjectivity -- 5. Lukács on Subjectivity and History (Introduced through Nietzsche) -- 6. Bakhtin, Ethics and Time -- 7. Mimesis, Humanism and History -- 8. Mimetic Limits -- 9. The Absolute Novel -- 10. The Philosophical Novel -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	This book explores the aesthetics of the novel from the perspective of Continental European philosophy, presenting a theory on the philosophical definition and importance of the novel as a literary genre. It analyses a variety of individuals whose work is reflected in both theoretical literary criticism and Continental European aesthetics, including Mikhail Bakhtin, Georg Lukács, Theodor Adorno, and Walter Benjamin. Moving through material from eighteenth century and ancient Greek philosophy and aesthetics, the book provides comprehensive coverage of the major positions on the philosophy of the novel. Distinctive features include the importance of Vico's view of the epic to understanding the novel, the importance of Kierkegaard's view of the novel and irony along with his other aesthetic views, the

different possibilities associated with seeing the novel as 'mimetic' and the importance of Proust in understanding the genre in all its philosophical aspects, relating the issue of the philosophical aesthetics of the novel with the issue of philosophy written as a novel and the interaction between these two alternative positions.

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