Record Nr. UNINA9910389554303321 Autore Boluk Stephanie <1979-> Titolo Metagaming: playing, competing, spectating, cheating, trading, making, and breaking videogames // Stephanie Boluk and Patrick LeMieux Minneapolis, Minnesota;; London, [England]:,: University of Pubbl/distr/stampa Minnesota Press, , 2017 ©2017 **ISBN** 1-4529-5415-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (383 pages): illustrations, photographs Electronic mediations;;53 Collana Classificazione GAM013000COM079000SOC022000 Disciplina 794.8 Soggetti SOCIAL SCIENCE / Popular Culture COMPUTERS / Social Aspects / General GAMES / Video & Electronic Video games - Design Video games industry - Social aspects Video games - Social aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Machine generated contents note: -- Contents -- Introduction. Metagaming: Videogames and the Practice of Play -- 1. About, Within. Around, Without: A Survey of Six Metagames -- Metagame 2: Triforce -- 2. Stretched Skulls: Anamorphic Games and the Memento Mortem Mortis -- Metagame 3: Memento Mortem Mortis -- 3. Blind Spots: The Phantom Pain, The Helen Keller Simulator, and Blindrunning --Metagame 4: It Is Pitch Black -- 4. Hundred Thousand Billion Fingers: A Serial History of Super Mario Bros. -- Metagame 5: 99 Exercises in Style -- 5. The Turn of the Tide: E-Sports, Moneyball, and the Undercurrency in Dota 2 -- Metagame 6: Tide Hunter -- 6. Breaking the Metagame: Feminist Spoilsports and Magic Circle Jerks -- Acknowledgments --Notes -- Bibliography -- Gameography -- Index. Sommario/riassunto "The greatest trick the videogame industry ever pulled was convincing the world that videogames were games rather than a medium for

making metagames. Elegantly defined as "games about games,"

metagames implicate a diverse range of practices that stray outside the boundaries and bend the rules: from technical glitches and forbidden strategies to Renaissance painting, algorithmic trading, professional sports, and the War on Terror. In Metagaming, Stephanie Boluk and Patrick LeMieux demonstrate how games always extend beyond the screen, and how modders, mappers, streamers, spectators, analysts, and artists are changing the way we play. Metagaming uncovers these alternative histories of play by exploring the strange experiences and unexpected effects that emerge in, on, around, and through videogames. Players puzzle through the problems of perspectival rendering in Portal, perform clandestine acts of electronic espionage in EVE Online, compete and commentate in Korean StarCraft, and speedrun The Legend of Zelda in record times (with or without the use of vision). Companies like Valve attempt to capture the metagame through international e-sports and online marketplaces while the corporate history of Super Mario Bros. is undermined by the endless levels of Infinite Mario, the frustrating pranks of Asshole Mario, and even Super Mario Clouds, a ROM hack exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art. One of the only books to include original software alongside each chapter, Metagaming transforms videogames from packaged products into instruments, equipment, tools, and toys for intervening in the sensory and political economies of everyday life. And although videogames conflate the creativity, criticality, and craft of play with the act of consumption, we don't simply play videogames--we make metagames"--