

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910410027503321
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Titolo	Barbara Bodichon's Epistolary Education : Unfolding Feminism / / by Meritxell Simon-Martin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2020
ISBN	3-030-41441-8
Edizione	[1st ed. 2020.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 293 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	305.420942 900
Soggetti	Great Britain - History Civilization - History Social history Feminism Feminist theory World politics History of Britain and Ireland Cultural History Social History Feminism and Feminist Theory Political History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Unfolding Feminism: Letters, Networks and Friendship -- 2. Bodichon's Epistolary Bildung: Learning, Narratives and Agency -- 3. 'A Peculiar Education': Epistolary Networks, Knowledge and Critical Thinking -- 4. 'To be happy is to work, work - work - work': Affection, Creativity and Self-fulfilment -- 5. 'Improbable that we should agree in the choice of husbands': Love, Marriage and Silences -- 6. 'Slavery is... allied to the injustice to women': Morality, Equality and Citizenship -- 7. 'Bringing home bamboos to paint': Artistry, Aesthetics and Power -- 8. 'Born a hundred years too soon': Bodichon's Agentic Epistolary Bildung.

Sommario/riassunto

This book assesses Barbara Bodichon's significance in the history of the women's movement in Britain by elaborating a conceptualisation of letters as sources of feminist development. Bodichon was the leader of the first women's suffrage committee in England, which collected 1,500 signatures in favour of the female vote - a petition presented in the House of Commons by sympathising MPs to support the amendment of the 1867 Reform Bill. This book explores the significance of letter-exchange in Barbara Bodichon's feminist becoming as she managed to mobilize partisans and secure signatures by means of chains of friendship letters spreading across the country. For letters functioned as platforms where, concomitantly to her making sense of her experiential input, Bodichon adopted, redefined and challenged circulating discourses - transforming them in the process and hence contributing to the production of feminist knowledge, intersubjectively and collaboratively in dialogue with her addressees. At the crossroads of history of feminism, gender history and history of women's education, this book explores the significance of letter-exchange in Bodichon's development into one of the galvanizing figures of the women's rights movement in Victorian England. .
