Record Nr. UNINA9910450423803321 Autore Hegerfeldt Anne C. Titolo Lies that Tell the Truth: Magic Realism Seen through Contemporary Fiction from Britain / / Anne C. Hegerfeldt Leiden; ; Boston: ,: BRILL, , 2005 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 94-012-0283-4 1-4175-9106-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (392 p.) Collana Costerus New Series; ; 155 Disciplina 823.9140915 Soggetti **English fiction** Magic realism (Literature) Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction -- Part One: The Problem of Definition -- Chapter 1 The Critical Debate: an Overview -- Chapter 2 A Working Definition -- Part Two: Literary Techniques -- Chapter 3: Magic "Mongrel" Realism: The Adaptation of Other Genres and Modes -- Chapter 4: Through AnOther's Eyes: Magic Realist Focalizers -- Chapter 5: Mythos Meets Logos: Paradigms of Knowledge in Magic Realist Fiction -- Chapter 6: Making the Real Fantastic and the Fantastic Real: Strategies of Destabilization -- Chapter 7: Making the Immaterial Matter: Techniques of Literalization -- Part Three: Magic or Mimesis? Reading the Mode --Chapter 8: Mimicking the Mind: Magic Realism as an Inquiry into Human Thought -- Chapter 9: "The only real ism of these back-tofront and jabberwocky days": Mimicking a fantastic reality --Bibliography -- Index. Magic realism has long been treated as a phenomenon restricted to Sommario/riassunto postcolonial literature. Drawing on works from Britain, Lies that Tell the Truth compellingly shows how magic realist fiction can be produced also at what is usually considered to be the cultural centre without forfeiting the mode's postcolonial attitude and aims. A close analysis of

works by Angela Carter, Salman Rushdie, Jeanette Winterson, Robert Nye and others reveals how the techniques of magic realism generate a

complex critique of the West's rational-empirical worldview from within a Western context itself. Understanding magic realism as a fictional analogue of anthropology and sociology, Lies that Tell the Truth reads the mode as a frequently humorous but at the same time critical investigation into people's attempts to make sense of their world. By laying bare the manifold strategies employed to make meaning, magic realist fiction indicates that knowledge and reality cannot be reduced to hard facts, but that people's dreams and fears, ideas, stories and beliefs must equally be taken into account.