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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [389]-412) and index.
Nota di contenuto	The theater of history -- Scattered lives, scattered documents : writing liberation history -- Multiple lives and lost narratives : (auto)biography as history -- The assembly of history : orations and conventions -- Our warfare lies in the field of thought : the African American -- Press and the work of history -- Epilogue : William Wells Brown and the performance of history.
Sommario/riassunto	As the story of the United States was recorded in pages written by white historians, early-19th-century African American writers faced the task of piecing together a counterhistory. Here, John Ernest demonstrates that African Americans created a body of writing in which the spiritual, the historical and the political are inextricably connected.