Record Nr. UNINA9910452542003321 Autore Levine Michael G Titolo A weak messianic power [[electronic resource]]: figures of a time to come in Benjamin, Derrida, and Celan / / Michael G. Levine New York, : Fordham University Press, 2014 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8232-5512-3 0-8232-5511-5 0-8232-6085-2 0-8232-5514-X 0-8232-5513-1 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (191 p.): illustrations Disciplina 202/.3 Soggetti Messianism - History LITERARY CRITICISM / Jewish 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 Frontmatter -- Contents -- Figures -- Acknowledgments -- 1. A Time Nota di contenuto to Come: Hunchbacked Theology, Post-Freudian Psychoanalysis, and Historical Materialism -- 2. The Day the Sun Stood Still: Benjamin's Theses, Celan's Realignments, Trauma, and the Eichmann Trial -- 3. Pendant: Celan, Büchner, and the Terrible Voice of the Meridian -- 4. On the Stroke of Circumcision I: Derrida, Celan, and the Covenant of the Word -- 5. On the Stroke of Circumcision II: Celan, Kafka, and the Wound in the Name -- 6. Poetry's Demands and Abrahamic Sacrifi ce: Celan's Poems for Eric -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto In his famous theses on the philosophy of history, Benjamin writes: "We have been endowed with a weak messianic power to which the past has a claim." This claim addresses us not just from the past but from what will have belonged to it only as a missed possibility and unrealized potential. For Benajmin, as for Celan and Derrida, what has never been actualized remains with us, not as a lingering echo but as a secretly

insistent appeal. Because such appeals do not pass through normal channels of communication, they require a special attunement, perhaps

even a mode of unconscious receptivity. Levine examines the ways in which this attunement is cultivated in Benjamin's philosophical, autobiographical, and photohistorical writings; Celan's poetry and poetological addresses; and Derrida's writings on Celan.