Record Nr. UNINA9910455094103321 Autore Stewart Ian <1945-> **Titolo** Figments of reality: the evolution of the curious mind // lan Stewart and Jack Cohen [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 1997 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-107-11102-1 **ISBN** 0-511-00336-6 1-280-42918-6 0-511-17217-6 0-511-14898-4 0-511-30942-2 0-511-54138-4 0-511-05366-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xiii, 325 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Disciplina 153.4/2 Soggetti Cognition and culture Consciousness Intellect Genetic psychology Cultural pluralism Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 313-316) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto The origins of life -- The reductionist nightmare -- Ant country --Winning ways -- Universals and parochials -- Neural nests -- Features great and small -- What is it like to be a human? -- We wanted to have a chapter on free will, but we decided not to, so here it is --Extelligence -- Simplex, complex, multiplex. Is the universe around us a figment of our imagination? Or are our Sommario/riassunto minds figments of reality? In this refreshing new look at the evolution of mind and culture, bestselling authors Ian Stewart and Jack Cohen eloquently argue that our minds necessarily evolved inextricably within the context of culture and language. They go beyond conventional

reductionist ideas to look at how the mind is the response of an

evolving brain trying to grapple with a complex environment. Along the way they develop new and intriguing insights into the nature of evolution, science and humanity.