

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910456527903321
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Titolo	Patrons of enlightenment // Edward G. Andrew
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2006 ©2006
ISBN	1-281-99184-8 9786611991845 1-4426-7831-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (295 p.)
Disciplina	190.9033
Soggetti	Enlightenment Philosophers - Europe - History - 18th century Authors and patrons - Europe - History - 18th century Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Patronage of Philosophy -- 2. Enlightenment and Print Culture -- 3. Seneca in the Age of Frederick and Catherine -- 4. Patronage and the Modes of Liberal Tolerance: Bayle, Care, and Locke -- 5. Voltaire and His Female Protectors -- 6. Scottish Universities and Their Patrons: Argyll, Bute, and Dundas -- 7. Independence in Theory and Practice: D'Alembert and Rousseau -- 8. Samuel Johnson and the Question of Enlightenment in England -- 9. Irish Antagonists: Burke and Shelburne -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	All major writers of the Enlightenment enjoyed royal or aristocratic patronage, often denying their financial dependency and claiming to live by the labours of their pens or by the expanding readership of the eighteenth century, thereby maintaining the ideal of intellectual autonomy. In Patrons of Enlightenment, Edward G. Andrew examines the conditions in which the central idea of Enlightenment was fabricated; intellectual autonomy was constructed while patronage was being transformed by a commercial print culture. Andrew further argues that

since an Enlightenment depends on a relationship of plebeian genius and patrician taste, England could not have had one - as the French and Scots did - because after the English civil war, plebeians did not contribute to the intellectual culture of England. Patrons of Enlightenment emphasizes the dependency of thinkers upon patrons and compares the patron-client relationships in the French, English, and Scottish republics of letters. Andrew challenges philosophers to rethink the Platonic distinction between philosophers and sophists and the Aristotelian view of philosophers as godlike in their self-sufficiency.

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