

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910456803903321
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Titolo	Dickens and creativity / Barbara Hardy
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; New York, : Continuum, 2008
ISBN	1-4742-1132-1 1-283-27239-3 9786613272393 1-4411-9782-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (198 p.)
Disciplina	823/.8
Soggetti	Imagination in literature Creation (Literary, artistic, etc.)
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 (pages [175]-177) and index
Nota di contenuto	A career and its context -- Dickens discusses creativity -- The awareness of art in Sketches by Boz, Pickwick papers, Oliver Twist, Barnaby Rudge, The Old Curiosity Shop, A Christmas carol and The chimes -- The artist as narrator in Doctor Marigold, David Copperfield, Bleak House and Great expectations -- Talkative men and women in Pickwick papers, Nicholas Nickleby, Martin Chuzzlewit and Little Dorrit -- Imaginative extremes, negations and norms -- Subversions and oppositions -- Crises of imagination in Oliver Twist, A Christmas carol, Domeby and son, Bleak house, Hard times and The lazy tour of two idle apprentices -- Forecast and fantasy in Little Dorrit -- Creative conversation in Hard times, Great expectations and Our mutual friend -- Assertions of style : rhythm and repetition in A tale of two cities and Our mutual friend -- Shakespeare in Dickens : David Copperfield and Great expectations -- Dickens in the twentieth century Acknowledgments -- Editions and Works Cited -- Preface -- 1. A Career and its Context -- 2. Dickens discusses Creativity -- 3. Awareness of Art in Sketches By Boz, Pickwick Papers, Oliver Twist, Barnaby Rudge, The Old Curiosity Shop, A Christmas Carol and The Chimes -- 4. The Artist as Narrator in Doctor Marigold, David Copperfield, Bleak House and Great Expectations -- 5. Talkative Men

and Women -- 6. Imaginative Extremes, Norms and Negations -- 7. Subversions and Oppositions -- 8. Crises of Imagination -- 9. Forecast and Fantasy in Little Dorrit -- 10. Creative Conversation in Hard Times, Great Expectations and Our Mutual Friend -- 11. Assertions of Style: Rhythm and Repetition in A Tale of Two Cities and Our Mutual Friend -- 12. Dialogues with Shakespeare in David Copperfield and Great Expectations -- 13. Dickens in the Twentieth Century -- Index --

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## Sommario/riassunto

Charles Dickens's experience and imagining of creativity is at the heart of his self-awareness, subject-matter and narrative. His intelligence works intuitively rather than conceptually and ideas about imagination often emerge informally in personal letters and implicitly through characters, language and story. His self-analysis and reflexive tendency are embedded in his styles and forms of narrative and dialogue, images of normality, madness, extremity, subversion and disorder, poetry and inter-textuality, anticipating and shaping the languages of modernism, influencing James Joyce and Virginia Woolf as well as traditionalists like H.G. Wells and Evelyn Waugh. Discussing Dickens's novels and some of his letters, sketches, essays and stories, Barbara Hardy offers a fascinating demonstration of creativity.

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