Record Nr. UNINA9910458000103321 Autore Heffernan Thomas J. <1944-> Titolo Sacred biography: saints and their biographers in the Middle Ages // Thomas J. Heffernan New York;; Oxford:,: Oxford University Press,, 1988 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-19-536001-X 0-19-802195-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (348 p.) Disciplina 820/.9/382 Soggetti Christian literature, English (Middle) - History and criticism Christian literature, Latin (Medieval and modern) - History and criticism Christian saints - Legends - History and criticism Christianity and literature - History - To 1500 Christian hagiography - History - To 1500 Literary form - History - To 1500 Christian saints in literature Biography as a literary form Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Includes bibliographical references (pages 300-318). Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Contents: 1 From Logos to Canon: The Making of a Saint's Life: 2 Sacred Biography as Historical Narrative: Testing the Tradition, Gibbon to Gadamer; 3 Sanctity in the Cloister: Walter Daniel's Vita Sancti Aelredi and Rhetoric: 4 A Theology of Behavior: Communio Sanctorum and the Use of Sources; 5 The Passion of Saints Perpetua and Felicitas and the Imitatio Christi; 6 Virgin Mothers; Select Bibliography; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W; X; Y; Z Sommario/riassunto Modern historiography dismisses the medieval lives of saints about whom little was really known as ""pious fiction"". This study

demonstrates that to characterize the genre as fiction is to

credulous nor blinded by piety.

misunderstand the intentions of medieval authors, who were neither