

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910458421103321
Autore	Barber Karin <1949->
Titolo	The anthropology of texts, persons and publics : oral and written culture in Africa and beyond // Karin Barber [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2007
ISBN	1-107-17492-9 1-281-24328-0 9786611243289 0-511-37785-1 0-511-37694-4 0-511-37600-6 0-511-37450-X 0-511-61965-0 0-511-37874-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (ix, 276 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	New departures in anthropology
Disciplina	302.2
Soggetti	Oral tradition Folklore Oral tradition - Africa Folklore - Africa
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Anthropology and text -- 2. Genre, society and history -- 3. The constitution of oral texts -- 4. Text and personhood -- 5. Audiences and publics -- 6. The private -- 7. Textual fields and popular creativity.
Sommario/riassunto	What can texts - both written and oral - tell us about the societies that produce them? How are texts constituted in different cultures, and how do they shape societies and individuals? How can we understand the people who compose them? Drawing on examples from Africa and other countries, this original study sets out to answer these questions, by exploring textuality from a variety of angles. Topics covered include the importance of genre, the ways in which oral genres transcend the here-and-now, and the complex relationship between texts and the

material world. Barber considers the ways in which personhood is evoked, both in oral poetry and in written diaries and letters, discusses the audience's role in creating the meaning of texts, and shows textual creativity to be a universal human capacity expressed in myriad forms. Engaging and thought-provoking, this book will be welcomed by anyone interested in anthropology, literature and cultural studies.
