Record Nr. UNINA9910458563103321 Autore Vardoulakis Dimitris Titolo The doppelganger [[electronic resource]]: literature's philosophy // **Dimitris Vardoulakis** New York, : Fordham University Press, c2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8232-3569-6 1-283-29717-5 9786613297174 0-8232-3839-3 0-8232-3300-6 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (344 p.) Collana Modern Language Initiative Disciplina 190 Soggetti Literature - Philosophy Philosophy Subject (Philosophy) 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 -- Preface -- Preamble, or An Other Opening -- Introduction, or The Reflections of the Doppelgänger -- Chapter One. The Critique of Loneliness -- Chapter Two. The Subject of Modernity -- Chapter Three. The Task of the Doppelgänger -- Chapter Four. The Politics of the Doppelgänger -- Chapter Five. Self-Inscriptions -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto The Doppelgänger or Double presents literature as the "double" of philosophy. There are historical reasons for this. The genesis of the Doppelgänger is literature's response to the philosophical focus on subjectivity. The Doppelgänger was coined by the German author Jean Paul in 1796 as a critique of Idealism's assertion of subjective autonomy, individuality and human agency. This critique prefigures post-War extrapolations of the subject as decentred. From this perspective, the Doppelgänger has a "family resemblance" to current conceptualizations of subjectivity. It becomes the emblematic subject

of modernity. This is the first significant study on the Doppelgänger's

influence on philosophical thought. The Doppelgänger emerges as a hidden and unexplored element both in conceptions of subjectivity and in philosophy's relation to literature. Vardoulakis demonstrates this by employing the Doppelgänger to read literature philosophically and to read philosophy as literature. The Doppelgänger then appears instrumental in the self-conception of both literature and philosophy.