Record Nr. UNINA9910460351903321 Autore Calvo-Pascual Monica **Titolo** Chaos and madness [[electronic resource]]: the politics of fiction in Stephen Marlowe's historical narratives / / Monica Calvo-Pascual Amsterdam, : Rodopi, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-283-03460-3 **ISBN** 9786613034601 90-420-3302-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (213 p.) Collana Costerus;; new ser., 188 Disciplina 616.89/156 Soggetti Politics in literature Historical fiction Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material -- INTRODUCTION -- HISTORY AND THE NOVEL: AN OVERVIEW -- MASTERING THE ART: THE HISTORICAL NOVEL AND LOCAL COLOR -- BETWEEN MAGIC AND MADNESS: A PORTRAIT OF SPAIN AND ITS NEUROSES -- POSTMODERN CRITIQUE AND THE HAND OF THE HISTORIAN -- CHAOS, COMPLEXITY AND INTERPRETATION --BEYOND REFERENCE: HISTORIOGRAPHIC METAFICTION IMPINGED BY SCIENCE FICTION -- THE NOVEL NEVER ENDS: ON ALTERNATIVE WORLDS, JEWISH CONNECTIONS AND INFINITE REGRESS --CONCLUDING REMARKS -- NOVELS PUBLISHED BY MILTON LESSER UNDER THE FOLLOWING NAMES OR PSEUDONYMS -- SHORT STORIES --**BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX.** In the 1950's prolific U.S. fiction writer Stephen Marlowe became a cult Sommario/riassunto author for lovers of noir fiction mainly for his Drumbeat series, which present his best-known character: private eye Chester Drum. Yet, the academia never paid much attention to his multifaceted, extensive oeuvre. Chaos and Madness is the first volume offering a critical

approach to Marlowe's riveting historical novels. Their relevance in the field of literary studies derives from their well-wrought structure and captivating prose as well as from their portrayal of remote European

history – a distinctive feature that makes Marlowe a unique figure in the North American trend of historiographic metafiction. Chaos and Madness provides a comprehensive narratological and ideological analysis of three novels in which Marlowe deals with Spanish history. Preceded by an in-depth if reader-friendly theoretical chapter that traces the evolution of the historical novel as a genre, Calvo-Pascual's meticulous investigation into Marlowe's fiction proves compelling for anyone interested in contemporary American fiction, in Spanish history, or in the interaction of metafiction and the scientific discourse of chaos theory.