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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Foreword -- Preliminaries : from babble to barter -- From vehicles to anigrafs -- Intrinsic knowledge -- Social connections: bartering -- Anigraf abstraction -- Animacy [action-agents] -- Anigraf1 -- Anigraf2 : swimmers : beginning to move -- Anigraf3: walkers : syncopated limbs -- Anigraf4: tally machines -- Cognition : agents with beliefs -- Anigraf5: dancers : mating games -- Anigraf6: planners : event sequencing -- Anigraf7: explorers : new worlds -- Anigraf8: alliances : coordinating diversity -- Metagrafs -- Representational forms -- Epilogue -- Appendices -- Bibliography -- Phase plots -- Glossary -- Commentaries -- Notes -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	In this book, Whitman Richards offers a novel and provocative proposal for understanding decision making and human behavior. Building on Valentino Braitenberg's famous "vehicles," Richards describes a collection of mental organisms that he calls "daemons" -- virtual correlates of neural modules. Daemons have favored choices and make decisions that control behaviors of the group to which they belong, with each daemon preferring a different outcome. Richards arranges these preferences in graphs, linking similar choices, which thus reinforce each other. "Anigrafs" refers to these two components --

animals, or the mental organisms (agents or daemons), and the graphs that show similarity relations. Together these two components are the basis of a new cognitive architecture. In Richards's account, a collection of daemons compete for control of the cognitive system in which they reside; the challenge is to get the daemons to agree on one of many choices. Richards explores the results of group decisions, emphasizing the Condorcet voting procedure for aggregating preferences. A neural mechanism is proposed. Anigrafs presents a series of group decisions that incorporate simple and complex movements, as well as aspects of cognition and belief. Anigrafs concludes with a section on "metagrafs," which chart relationships between different anigraf models.