

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910463894903321
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Titolo	Icons of Danish modernity [[electronic resource]] : Georg Brandes and Asta Nielsen // Julie K. Allen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Seattle, : University of Washington Press Copenhagen, : Museum Tusculanum Press, c2012
ISBN	0-295-80436-X
Descrizione fisica	xii, 283 p. : ill
Collana	New directions in Scandinavian studies
Disciplina	306.09489
Soggetti	National characteristics, Scandinavian Electronic books. Denmark Civilization 20th century Denmark Intellectual life 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Georg Brandes -- pt. 2. Asta Nielsen.
Sommario/riassunto	"Julie Allen utilizes the lives and friendship of the Danish literary critic George Brandes (1842-1927) and the silent film star Asta Nielsen (1881-1972) to explore questions of culture and national identity in early twentieth-century Denmark. Danish culture and politics were influenced in this period by the country's deeply ambivalent relationship with Germany. Brandes and Nielsen, both of whom lived and worked in Germany for significant periods of time, were seen as dangerously cosmopolitan by the Danish public, even while they served as international cultural ambassadors for the very society that rejected them during their lifetimes. Allen argues that they were the prototypical representatives of a socially liberal and culturally modern "Danishness" (Danskhed) that Denmark itself only gradually (and later) grew into. This lively study brings its central characters to life while offering an original, thought provoking analysis of the origins and permutations of Danish modernism and Danish national identity--issues that continue to be significant in today's multi-ethnic Denmark. Icons of Danish Modernity is a book about the uneasy waves that arise when celebrities take on national symbolism, and the beginnings of this formula in the

early twentieth century. Julie K. Allen is associate professor of Scandinavian studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. "Allen weaves a compelling cultural analysis about national identity and its mores. The juxtaposition of the works of Georg Brandes and Asta Nielsen is highly original and Allen's contribution offers a much-needed introduction to an English reading audience of these important cultural figures." -Karin Sanders, University of California, Berkeley"--
