Record Nr. UNINA9910464110103321 Autore Langis Unhae Park Titolo Passion, prudence, and virtue in Shakespearean drama / / Unhae Park Langis London; New York:,: Continuum International Publishing Group,, Pubbl/distr/stampa 2011 **ISBN** 1-4725-5506-6 1-4411-2024-6 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (180 p.) Continuum Shakespeare studies Collana Disciplina 822.3/3 Prudence in literature Soggetti Virtue in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Formerly CIP. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Virtue, passion, and prudence in early modern England -- The taming of the shrew: woman on top, prudence over cleverness -- Othello: passion's peril in the marital traverse from two to one -- Living well: virtue, means, and ends in All's well that ends well -- "Heavenly mingle" in Antony and Cleopatra: rare virtue at the nexus of sex and politics -- Coriolanus: inordinate passions and powers in personal and political governance. Sommario/riassunto "Virtue, as a Renaissance ideal, was largely conceived as a rational governing of unruly passions. Revising this early modern commonplace, this study shows how Shakespeare dramatizes a discerning Aristotelian conception of virtue as a touchstone of excellence: executing just action at the best time, in the best way, and for the best end within the contingent world. Not only situational, Aristotelian virtue is, moreover, integrative, harmonizing passion and reason, will and understanding, towards personal and civil good. Yet as a surprising backfire on the misogynist streak in Aristotle, the resistant female characters in Shakespeare emerge as the exemplars of ethical action, appropriating traditionally male-inflected virtue. At the junction

of ethical, psycho-physiological, cultural and gender studies, this approach of prudential psychology bridges an apparent but needless divergence of critical focus between affect and cognition, ethics and

prudential action. Firmly situated in new historicist practices, prudential psychology goes beyond narrow discourses of power into the allencompassing arena of virtue as the complete life, which recommends an interdisciplinary approach for a fuller understanding of Shakespeare's works."--Bloomsbury Publishing.