1. Record Nr. UNINA9910464439203321 Autore Hultgren Neil **Titolo** Melodramatic imperial writing: from the Sepoy Rebellion to Cecil Rhodes / / Neil Hultgren Pubbl/distr/stampa Athens, Ohio:,: Ohio University Press,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8214-4483-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (272 pages) Series in Victorian studies Melodramatic imperial writing Collana Disciplina 828/.08 English prose literature - History and criticism Soggetti Melodrama, English - History and criticism Literature and society - England - History Imperialism in literature Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Sommario/riassunto "Melodrama, as an aesthetic, has long been criticized for its reliance on improbable situations and overwhelming emotion. These very aspects, however, made it a useful and appealing literary mode for British imperial propagandists in the late nineteenth century. Though stage melodrama may have been declining in prominence, the melodramatic style influenced many late-Victorian genres outside of the theater-for example, imperialist ballads, detective novels, travel narratives, and romances-and developed a complicated relationship with British imperial discourse. Melodramatic Imperial Writing: From the Sepov Rebellion to Cecil Rhodes locates melodrama within a new and considerably more complicated history of British imperialism: beyond its use in constructing imperialist fantasies or supporting unjust policies, the melodramatic style also enabled writers to upset narratives of British imperial destiny or racial superiority. This book examines

> works by both canonical and lesser-known authors writing after the Sepoy Rebellion, including Wilkie Collins, Marie Corelli, Charles Dickens, H. Rider Haggard, W. E. Henley, Rudyard Kipling, Olive

Schreiner, and Robert Louis Stevenson, and encompasses representations of British imperialism from India, to South Africa and the South Seas"--