

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910464967403321
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Titolo	Making sense of taste : food & philosophy / Carolyn Korsmeyer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ithaca, New York : Cornell University Press, 2002 ©1999
ISBN	0-8014-7132-X 1-322-52312-6 0-8014-7133-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (247 p.)
Classificazione	CC 8200
Disciplina	664/.07
Soggetti	Food Philosophy Food - Sensory evaluation Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- CHAPTER 1. The Hierarchy of the Senses -- CHAPTER 2. Philosophies of Taste: Aesthetic and Nonesthetic Senses -- CHAPTER 3. The Science of Taste -- CHAPTER 4. The Meaning of Taste and the Taste of Meaning -- CHAPTER 5. The Visual Appetite: Representing Taste and Food -- CHAPTER 6. Narratives Of Eating -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Taste, perhaps the most intimate of the five senses, has traditionally been considered beneath the concern of philosophy, too bound to the body, too personal and idiosyncratic. Yet, in addition to providing physical pleasure, eating and drinking bear symbolic and aesthetic value in human experience, and they continually inspire writers and artists. In <i>Making Sense of Taste</i> , Carolyn Korsmeyer explains how taste came to occupy so low a place in the hierarchy of senses and why it is deserving of greater philosophical respect and attention. Korsmeyer begins with the Greek thinkers who classified taste as an inferior, bodily sense; she then traces the parallels between notions of aesthetic and gustatory taste that were explored in the formation of modern aesthetic theories. She presents scientific views of how taste actually

works and identifies multiple components of taste experiences. Turning to taste's objects-food and drink-she looks at the different meanings they convey in art and literature as well as in ordinary human life and proposes an approach to the aesthetic value of taste that recognizes the representational and expressive roles of food. Korsmeyer's consideration of art encompasses works that employ food in contexts sacred and profane, that seek to whet the appetite and to keep it at bay; her selection of literary vignettes ranges from narratives of macabre devouring to stories of communities forged by shared eating.
