Record Nr. UNINA9910465074803321 Autore Hart George Leslie Titolo Inventing the language to tell it [[electronic resource]]: Robinson Jeffers and the biology of consciousness / / George Hart New York, : Fordham University Press, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa 0-8232-5491-7 **ISBN** 0-8232-6101-8 0-8232-5492-5 0-8232-5490-9 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (287 p.) Disciplina 811/.52 LITERARY CRITICISM / American / General Soggetti Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: Robinson Jeffers's sacramental poetics -- Rock, bark, and blood: sacramental poetics and West Coast nature poetry -- The strain in the skull: biopoetics and the biology of consciousness -- The whole mind: brains, biology, and bioregion in the middle period -- To keep one's own integrity: the inhumanist and the crisis of holism -- The wound in the brain: the discoveries of the later poetry -- Conclusion: the Jeffers influence and the middle generation. Sommario/riassunto From 1920 until his death in 1962, consciousness and its effect on the natural world was Robinson Jeffers's obsession. Understanding and explaining the biological basis of mind is one of the towering challenges of modern science to this day, and Jeffers's poetic experiment is an important contribution to American literary history no other twentieth-century poet attempted such a thorough engagement with a crucial scientific problem. Jeffers invented a sacramental poetics that accommodates a modern scientific account of consciousness, thereby integrating an essentially religious sensibility with science in order to discover the sacramentality of natural process

and reveal a divine cosmos. There is no other study of Jeffers or sacramental nature poetry like this one. It proposes that Jeffers's

sacramentalism emerged out of his scientifically informed understanding of material nature. Drawing on ecocriticism, religious studies, and neuroscience, Inventing the Languageto Tell It shows how Jeffers produced the most compelling sacramental nature poetry of the twentieth century.