Record Nr. UNINA9910465142803321 Autore Brown Jane K. <1943-> Titolo Goethe's allegories of identity / / Jane K. Brown Pubbl/distr/stampa Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:,: University of Pennsylvania Press,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8122-0938-9 Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (241 p.) Descrizione fisica Haney Foundation Series Collana Disciplina 831/.6 Identity (Philosophical concept) in literature Soggetti Self in literature Subconsciousness in literature Subjectivity in literature Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Chapter 1. Representing Subjectivity --Chapter 2. Goethe Contra Rousseau on Passion -- Chapter 3. Goethe Contra Rousseau on Social Responsibility -- Chapter 4. The Theatrical Self -- Chapter 5. The Scientific Self: Identity in Faust -- Chapter 6. The Narrative Self -- Chapter 7. Goethe's Angst -- Chapter 8. "Es singen wohl die Nixen": Werther and the Romantic Tale -- Chapter 9. Goethe and the Uncanny -- Conclusion. Classicism and Goethe's Emotional Regime -- Notes -- Works Cited -- Index -- Acknowledgments A century before psychoanalytic discourse codified a scientific language Sommario/riassunto to describe the landscape of the mind, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe explored the paradoxes of an interior self separate from a conscious self. Though long acknowledged by the developers of depth psychology and by its historians, Goethe's literary rendering of interiority has not been the subject of detailed analysis in itself. Goethe's Allegories of Identity examines how Goethe created the essential bridge between the psychological insights of his contemporary, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and the psychoanalytic theories of his admirer Sigmund Freud. Equally

> fascinated and repelled by Rousseau's vision of an unconscious self, Goethe struggled with the moral question of subjectivity: what is the

relation of conscience to consciousness? To explore this inner conflict through language, Goethe developed a unique mode of allegorical representation that modernized the long tradition of dramatic personification in European drama. Jane K. Brown's deft, focused readings of Goethe's major dramas and novels, from The Sorrows of Young Werther to Elective Affinities, reveal each text's engagement with the concept of a subconscious or unconscious psyche whose workings are largely inaccessible to the rational mind. As Brown demonstrates, Goethe's representational strategies fashioned a language of subjectivity that deeply influenced the conceptions of important twentieth-century thinkers such as Freud, Michel Foucault, and Hannah Arendt.