Record Nr. UNINA9910465339603321 Autore Spanos William V. Titolo Redeemer nation in the interregnum: an untimely meditation on the American vocation / / William V. Spanos; foreword by Donald E. Pease Pubbl/distr/stampa New York: ,: Fordham University Press, , 2016 ©2016 **ISBN** 0-8232-7246-X 0-8232-6819-5 0-8232-6818-7 Edizione [First edition.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (209 p.) 306.20973 Disciplina Soggetti Exceptionalism - United States Political culture - United States **Democracy - United States** Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Front matter -- Contents -- Foreword -- Preface -- Acknowledgments Nota di contenuto -- Chapter 1. The Nothingness of Being and the Spectacle -- Chapter 2. American Exceptionalism in the Post-9/11 Era -- Chapter 3. "The Center Will Not Hold" -- Chapter 4. American Exceptionalism and the Calling -- Appendix -- Notes -- Index Sommario/riassunto Redeemer Nation in the Interregnum interrogates the polyvalent role that American exceptionalism continues to play after 9/11. Whereas American exceptionalism is often construed as a discredited Cold Warera belief structure, Spanos persuasively demonstrates how it operationalizes an apparatus of biopolitical capture that saturates the American body politic down to its capillaries. The exceptionalism that Redeemer Nation in the Interregnum renders starkly visible is not a corrigible ideological screen. It is a deeply structured ethos that functions simultaneously on ontological, moral, economic, racial,

gendered, and political registers as the American Calling. Precisely by refusing to answer the American Calling, by rendering inoperative (in Agamben's sense) its covenantal summons, Spanos enables us to

imagine an alternative America. At once timely and personal, Spanos's meditation acknowledges the priority of being. He emphasizes the dignity not simply of humanity but of all phenomena on the continuum of being, "the groundless ground of any political formation that would claim the name of democracy."