

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910466253103321
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Titolo	Tom Stoppard's plays : patterns of plenitude and parsimony // by Nigel Purse
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden, Netherlands ; ; Boston, [Massachusetts] : , : Brill Rodopi, , 2017 ©2017
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (686 pages)
Collana	Costerus New Series, , 0165-9618 ; ; Volume 217
Disciplina	822/.914
Soggetti	Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Occam's Razor -- The Stoppardian Stage Debate -- The Vehicle versus the Idea -- Ethics -- Dualism--Illusion and Reality -- Stoppard's Theatricality -- Stoppard's Time Shifts -- Coda -- Appendix 1: Hamlet vs Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead -- Appendix 2: Indian Ink -- Timeline -- Appendix 3: The Coast of Utopia -- Timeline -- Bibliography -- Works by Tom Stoppard -- Characters in Stoppard's Works -- General Index.
Sommario/riassunto	In Tom Stoppard's Plays: Patterns of Plenitude and Parsimony Nigel Purse assesses the complete canon of Tom Stoppard's works on a thematic basis. He explains that, amongst the plenitude of chaotic comedy, wordplay and intellectual ping-pong of Stoppard's plays, the principle of parsimony that is Occam's razor lies at the heart of his works. He identifies key patterns in theme – ethics and duality - and method – Stoppard's stage debates and his dramatic vehicles - as well as in theatrical devices. Quoting extensively from all Stoppard's published works, many of his interviews and also unpublished material Nigel Purse arrives at a comprehensive and unique appraisal of Stoppard's plays.