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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter Contents ABBREVIATIONS ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS 1. Introduction / van der Molen, Willem 2. The Rmyaa in Java and Bali: Chapters from its Literary History / Robson, Stuart 3. Abimanyu Gugur: The Death of Abimanyu in Classical and Modern Indonesian and Malay Literature / Aveling, Harry 4. Drona's Betrayal and Bima's Brutality: Javanaiserie in Malay Culture / Arps, Bernard 5. Ramayana and Mahabharata in Hikayat Misa Taman Jayeng Kusuma / Koster, Gijs L 6. The death of alya Balinese Textual and Iconographic Representations of the Kakawin Bha ⁻ ratayuddha / Creese, Helen 7. The Illustrated Ast- abrata In Pakualaman Manuscript Art / Wieringa, Edwin P Index
Sommario/riassunto	Local renderings of the two Indian epics Ramayana and Mahabharata in Malay and Javanese literature have existed since around the ninth and tenth centuries. In the following centuries new versions were created alongside the old ones, and these opened up interesting new directions. They questioned the views of previous versions and laid different accents, in a continuous process of modernization and adaptation, successfully satisfying the curiosity of their audiences for more than a thousand years. Much of this history is still unclear. For a long time, scholarly research made little progress, due to its preoccupation with problems of origin. The present volume, going beyond identifying sources, analyses the socio-literary contexts and ideological foundations of seemingly similar contents and concepts in

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different periods; it examines the literary functions of borrowing and	
intertextual referencing, and calls upon the visual arts to illustrate the	
independent character of the epic tradition in Southeast Asia.	