Record Nr. UNINA9910479878503321 Autore Magerstadt Sylvie <1976-> Titolo TV antiquity: Swords, sandals, blood and sand // Sylvie Magerstadt Pubbl/distr/stampa Baltimore, Maryland:,: Project Muse,, 2019 Baltimore, Md.:,: Project MUSE,, 2019 ©2019 **ISBN** 1-5261-0007-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource: illustrations (black and white) Collana Television series Disciplina 791.45658 Soggetti Civilization, Ancient, on television Historical television programs - History and criticism Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Also issued in print: 2019. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (pages [205]-215), filmography (pages [216]-219) and index. Nota di contenuto part I. The ancient world as serial television drama -- part II. Pepla and politics: the emergence of a television genre (1960s) -- Case study 1 The Caesars (1968) -- Case study 2 Odissea/The Odyssey (1968) -part III. Costumes and censorship: the BBC's Roman Empire (1970s) --Case study 3 I, Claudius (1976) -- Case study 4 The Eagle of the Ninth (1977) -- part IV. Cult and kitsch: Graeco-Roman myths on US television (1980s-90s) -- Case study 5 The Last Days of Pompeii (1984) -- Case study 6 Hercules: the legendary journeys (1995-99) -part V. Expanse and spectacle: the postmillennial revival of a genre --Case study 7 Rome (2005-8) -- Case study 8 STARZ Spartacus (2010-13) -- Conclusion: what is the future of TV antiquity? TV antiquity explores representations of ancient Greece and Rome Sommario/riassunto throughout television history. The first comprehensive overview of the 'swords and sandals' genre on the small screen, it argues that these shows offer a distinct perspective on the ancient world. The book traces the historic development of fictional representations of antiquity from the staged black-and-white shows of the 1950s and 1960s to the

> most recent digital spectacles. One of its key insights is that the structure of serial television is at times better suited to exploring the

complex mythic and historic plots of antiquity. Featuring a range of case studies, from popular serials like I, Claudius (1976) and Rome (2005-8) to lesser known works like The Caesars (1968) and The Eagle of the Ninth (1976), the book illustrates how broader cultural, political and economic issues have over time influenced the representation of antiquity on television.