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| Autore                  | Pourciau Sarah M.  |
| Titolo                  | The Writing of Spirit : Soul, System, and the Roots of Language Science<br>// Sarah M. Pourciau  |
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| ISBN                    | 0-8232-7566-3<br>0-8232-7717-8<br>0-8232-7565-5  |
| Edizione                | [First edition.]   |
| Descrizione fisica      | 1 online resource (384 pages)  |
| Collana                 | The modern language initiative   |
| Disciplina              | 901  |
| Soggetti                | Language and languages<br>Linguistics<br>Electronic books.   |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese  |
| Formato                 | Materiale a stampa   |
| Livello bibliografico   | Monografia   |
| Note generali           | Issued as part of book collections on Project MUSE.  |
| Nota di bibliografia    | Includes bibliographical references (pages [339]-362) and index  |
| Nota di contenuto       | Front matter -- Contents -- List of Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. Language Ensouled -- 2. Saussure's Dream -- 3. Verse Origins -- 4. Wagner's Poetry of the Spheres -- 5. Pythagoras in the Laboratory -- 6. Jakobson's Zeros -- Afterword -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index  |
| Sommario/riassunto      | Contemporary thought has been profoundly shaped by the early-twentieth-century turn toward synchronic models of explanation, which analyze phenomena as they appear at a single moment, rather than diachronically as they develop through time. But the relationship between time and system remains unexplained by the standard account of this shift. Through a new history of systematic thinking across the humanities and sciences, <i>The Writing of Spirit</i> argues that nineteenth-century historicism wasn't simply replaced by a more modern synchronic perspective. The structuralist revolution consisted rather in a turn toward time's absolutely minimal conditions, and thus also toward a new theory of diachrony. Pourciau arrives at this surprising and powerful conclusion through an analysis of language-scientific theories over the course of two centuries, associated with thinkers from |

Jacob Grimm and Richard Wagner to the Russian Futurists, in domains as disparate as historical linguistics, phonology, acoustics, opera theory, philosophy, poetics, and psychology. The result is a novel contribution to a pressing contemporary question—namely, what role history should play in the interpretation of the present.

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