Record Nr. UNINA9910483424503321 Autore Ionica Cristina Titolo The Affects, Cognition, and Politics of Samuel Beckett's Postwar Drama and Fiction [[electronic resource]]: Revolutionary and Evolutionary Paradoxes / / by Cristina Ionica Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Palgrave Pubbl/distr/stampa Macmillan, , 2020 3-030-34902-0 **ISBN** Edizione [1st ed. 2020.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xi, 286 pages) Collana New Interpretations of Beckett in the Twenty-First Century Disciplina 848.91409 Soggetti Literature, Modern—20th century **British literature** Drama Theater **Fiction** Twentieth-Century Literature British and Irish Literature **Contemporary Theatre** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto 1. Introduction to Beckett's "Absurdist" Excess -- Part I Contagion and Accessibility: Revolutionary Beckett -- 2. Repetition, Deliberation, and an Other Power: The Paradox as Practice -- 3. The Liberating Laughter of "Nearly There": Beckett's Solidarity-Building Dramas -- 4. Underthe-Radar Derision and Anger: Becoming Revolutionary in/through Beckett's Fiction -- Part II Script Evaluation and Enrichment: Evolutionary Beckett -- 5. Beckett's "Script Multiplication and Enrichment": Rejecting Toxic Disjunctions and Seeking Inclusivity -- 6. Evaluation, Expulsion, Expansion, and Reframing: Building Processing Speed and Tolerance to Cognitive Strain -- 7. Conclusion. The Affects, Cognition, and Politics of Samuel Beckett's Postwar Drama Sommario/riassunto and Fiction: Revolutionary and Evolutionary Paradoxes theorizes the revolutionary and evolutionary import of Beckett's works in a global

context defined by increasingly ubiquitous and insidious mechanisms

of capture, exploitation, and repression, alongside unprecedented demands for high-volume information-processing and connectivity. Part I shows that, in generating consistent flows of solidarity-based angry laughter, Beckett's works sabotage coercive couplings of the subject to social machines by translating subordination and repression into processes rather than data of experience. Through an examination of Beckett's attack on gender/ class-related normative injunctions, the book shows that Beckett's works can generate solidarity and actionoriented affects in readers/ spectators regardless of their training in textual analysis. Part II proposes that Beckett's works can weaken the cognitive dominance of constrictive "frames" in readers/ audiences, so that toxic ideological formations such as the association of safety and comfort with simplicity and "sameness" are rejected and more complex cognitive operations are welcomed instead—a process that bolsters the mind's ability to operate at ease with increasingly complex, malleable. extensible, and inclusive frames, as well as with increasing volumes of information.