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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Comparative Practices in Britain's Long Eighteenth Century -- The Creation of the English Nation: Alfred the Great as Role Model -- The Circulating Library, the Novel, and Implicit Practices of Comparing in Eighteenth-Century England: Assembling 'Middle-Class' Literariness -- Comparing Conduct: English Novels of the Long Eighteenth Century and the Formation of Ideals of Social Behaviour -- The Complexity of Narrative Comparisons in Wollstonecraft's Maria; Or, The Wrongs of Woman and Lennox's The Female Quixote -- "'tis by Comparison we can Judge and Chuse [sic!]" : Incomparable Oroonoko -- Articulating Differences: Practices of Comparing in British Travel Writing of the Long Eighteenth Century -- Oceans of Non-Relation: Affect and Narcissistic Imperialism in Sea Poetry by James Thomson, Charlotte Brontë, and Hannah More -- Practices of Comparing in Eighteenth-Century Grammars of English -- Authors and Editors

Sommario/riassunto

Comparisons not only prove fundamental in the epistemological foundation of modernity (Foucault, Luhmann), but they fulfil a central function in social life and the production of art. Taking a cue from the Practice Turn in sociology, the contributors are investigating the role of comparative practices in the formation of eighteenth-century literature and culture. The book conceives of social practices of comparing as being entrenched in networks of circulation of bodies, artefacts, discourses and ideas, and aims to investigate how such practices ordered and changed British literature and culture during the long eighteenth century.
