Record Nr. UNINA9910573817003321 Autore Garcia David F. Titolo Listening for Africa: freedom, modernity, and the logic of Black music's African origins / / David F. Garcia Durham:,: Duke University Press,, 2017 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-4780-9325-0 0-8223-7311-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (377 pages) Disciplina 780.89/96073 Soggetti African Americans - Music - History and criticism Black people - Music - History and criticism Dance music - History and criticism Music - Africa - History and criticism Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Analyzing the African origins of Negro music and dance in a time of racism, fascism, and war -- Listening to Africa in the city, in the laboratory, and on record -- Embodying Africa against racial oppression, ignorance, and colonialism -- Disalienating movement and sound from the pathologies of freedom and time -- Desiring Africa, or Western civilization's discontents -- Conclusion: dance-music as rhizome. In Listening for Africa David F. Garcia explores how a diverse group of Sommario/riassunto musicians, dancers, academics, and activists engaged with the idea of black music and dance's African origins between the 1930s and 1950s. Garcia examines the work of figures ranging from Melville J. Herskovits. Katherine Dunham, and Asadata Dafora to Duke Ellington, Dámaso Pérez Prado, and others who believed that linking black music and dance with Africa and nature would help realize modernity's promises

of freedom in the face of fascism and racism in Europe and the Americas, colonialism in Africa, and the nuclear threat at the start of the Cold War. In analyzing their work, Garcia traces how such attempts to link black music and dance to Africa unintentionally reinforced the binary relationships between the West and Africa, white and black, the

modern and the primitive, science and magic, and rural and urban. It was, Garcia demonstrates, modernity's determinations of unraced, heteronormative, and productive bodies, and of scientific truth that helped defer the realization of individual and political freedom in the world.