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Nota di contenuto	Part I: The uses of myth and history -- 1. The uses of myth and history in the ideological politics of the Dutch Golden Age -- 2. The past in a foreign country: patriotic history and new world geography in the Dutch Republic, c.1600-1648 -- 3. A noble courtier and a gentleman warrior: some aspects of the creation of the Spinola image -- 4. The cult of the seventeenth-century Dutch naval heroes: critical appropriation of a popular patriotic tradition -- 5. Patriotism in Dutch literature (c.1650- c.1750) -- 6. Groen van Prinsterer's interpretation of the French Revolution and the rise of 'pillars' in Dutch society -- 7. Memories and identities in conflicts: the myth concerning the battle of Courtrai (1302) in nineteenth-century Belgium -- 8. The concept of nationality in nineteenth-century Flemish theatre discourse: some preliminary remarks. -- Part 2. The past as illumination of cultural context -- 9. Sinte Lorts bewaer u. Sinte Lorts gespaer u! Paradpx as the leu tp a 'new morality' in a late medieval text -- 10. The Bible in modern Dutch fiction -- 11. The antiquity of the Dutch language: Renaissance theories on the language of Paradise -- 12. Maarten van Heemskerck's use of literary sources from antiquity for his Wonders of the world series of 1572 -- 13. The legacy of Hegel's and Jean Paul's aesthetics: the idyllic in seventeenth-century Dutch genre painting. -- Part 3. Historiography in focus -- 14. The rhetoric of narrative historiography -- 15. The disciplinization of historiography in nineteenth-century Friesland and the simultaneous radicalization of nationalist discourse.

Source: De Friesche Volksalmanak (1836-1899) -- 16. The unimportance of writing well: eighteenth-century Belgian historians on the problem of style of history -- 17. The apostle of a wooden Christ: P.N. van Eyck and the journal *Leiding* -- 18. Menno Ter Braak in Dutch literature: object and subject of image-building -- 19. The reviled and the revered: preliminary notes on the reappraisal of canonized literary texts -- 20. Postmodern Dutch literature: renewal or tradition?.

Sommario/riassunto

This edited collection explores the ways in which our understanding of the past in Dutch history and culture can be rethought to consider not only how it forms part of the present but how it can relate also to the future. Divided into three parts - *The Uses of Myth and History*, *The Past as Illumination of Cultural Context*, and *Historiography in Focus* - this book seeks to demonstrate the importance of the past by investigating the transmission of culture and its transformations. It reflects on the history of historiography and looks critically at the products of the historiographic process, such as Dutch and Afrikaans literary history. The chapters cover a range of disciplines and approaches: some authors offer a broad view of a particular period, such as Jonathan Israel's contribution on myth and history in the ideological politics of the Dutch Golden Age, while others zoom in on specific genres, texts or historical moments, such as Benjamin Schmidt's study of the *doolhof*, a word that today means 'labyrinth' but once described a 17th-century educational amusement park. This volume, enlightening and home to multiple paths of enquiry leading in different directions, is an excellent example of what a past-present *doolhof* might look like.
