1. Record Nr. UNINA9910687914003321 Autore Bexley Erica M. Titolo Seneca's characters: fictional identities and implied human selves // Erica M. Bexley Cambridge, UK;; New York, NY:,: Cambridge University Press,, Pubbl/distr/stampa [2022] 1 online resource (x, 388 pages) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 872/.01 Soggetti Characters and characteristics in literature Human behavior in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di contenuto Introduction -- Coherence -- Exemplarity -- Appearance -- Autonomy -- Conclusion. Sommario/riassunto "Seneca's Characters addresses one of the most enduring and least theorised elements of literature: fictional character and its relationship to actual, human selfhood. Where does the boundary between character and person lie? While the characters we encounter in texts are obviously not 'real' people, they still possess person-like qualities that stimulate our attention and engagement. How is this relationship formulated in contexts of theatrical performance, where characters are set in motion by actual people, actual bodies and voices? This book addresses such questions by focusing on issues of coherence. imitation, appearance and autonomous action. It argues for the plays' sophisticated treatment of character, their acknowledgement of its purely fictional ontology alongside deep - and often dark appreciation of its quasi-human qualities. Seneca's Characters offers a

fresh perspective on the playwright's powerful tragic aesthetics that will

stimulate scholars and students alike"-- Provided by publisher.