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Record Nr. UNINA9910823491303321 Autore Miller Stephen G (Stephen Gaylord), <1942-> **Titolo** The Berkeley Plato: from neglected relic to ancient treasure: an archaeological detective story / / Stephen G. Miller; with an appendix by John Twilley Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-70349-8 9786612703492 0-520-94359-7 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (169 p.) Collana The Joan Palevsky imprint in classical literature Disciplina 733/.3Soggetti Hermae Inscriptions, Greek Portrait sculpture, Classical - Italy - Tivoli Portrait sculpture, Classical - California - Berkeley Classical antiquities - Conservation and restoration - California -Berkeley - History - 20th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and indexes. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- ILLUSTRATIONS -- PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- HISTORY OF ACQUISITION AND THE FIRST CENTURY IN CALIFORNIA -- DESCRIPTION OF THE ARTIFACT --PERTINENCE OF THE HEAD -- THE INSCRIPTION -- THE SEVEN SAGES --THE TIVOLI PLATO -- THE BERKELEY PLATO AND THE RENAISSANCE --PORTRAITS OF PLATO -- THE BERKELEY PLATO AND THE AKADEMY --RIBBONS -- PLATO AND RIBBONS -- WHY PLATO AND RIBBONS --CONCLUSION -- APPENDIX I. THE SQUARE-OMICRON AND SQUARE-THETA PORTRAIT HERMS FROM TIVOLI -- APPENDIX 2. TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS OF THE BERKELEY PLATO -- BIBLIOGRAPHY --GENERAL INDEX -- INDEX OF ANCIENT SOURCES -- INDEX OF ANCIENT SOURCES This book explores the provenance of the so-called Berkeley Herm of Sommario/riassunto Plato, a sculptural portrait that Stephen G. Miller first encountered over

thirty years ago in a university storage basement. The head,

languishing since its arrival in 1902, had become detached from the body, or herm, and had been labeled a fake. In 2002, while preparing another book, Miller-now an experienced archaeologist-needed an illustration of Plato, remembered this piece, and took another look. The marble, he recognized immediately, was from the Greek islands, the inscription appeared ancient, and the ribbons visible on the head were typical of those in Greek athletic scenes. The Berkeley Plato, rich in scientific, archaeological, and historical detail, tells the fascinating story of how Miller was able to authenticate this long-dismissed treasure. His conclusion, that it is an ancient Roman copy possibly dating from the time of Hadrian, is further supported by art conservation scientist John Twilley, whose essay appears as an appendix. Miller's discovery makes a significant contribution to the worlds of art history, philosophy, archaeology, and sports history and will serve as a starting point for new research in the back rooms of museums.