

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777511803321
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Titolo	Delirio--the fantastic, the demonic, and the reel [[electronic resource] ] : the buried history of Nuevo Leon / / Marie Theresa Hernandez
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Austin, : University of Texas Press Austin, 2002
ISBN	0-292-79642-0
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (321 p.)
Disciplina	305.8/00972/13
Soggetti	Ethnology - Mexico - Nuevo Leon (State) Folklore - Mexico - Nuevo Leon (State) Indians of Mexico - Mexico - Nuevo Leon (State) - History Nuevo Leon (Mexico : State) History Nuevo Leon (Mexico : State) Social life and customs
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 293-299) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- PART ONE. HISTORY -- CHAPTER I. Don Gregorio Tijerina: General Bravo, Nuevo León -- CHAPTER II. Before and After History: Los Chichimeca y Carvajal -- PART TWO. LANDSCAPE AND NARRATIVE -- CHAPTER III. Televisa: Finding Alvarado -- CHAPTER IV. Spaces In-between -- PART THREE. ETHNOGRAPHIC IMAGINARIES -- CHAPTER V. A Place of Origins -- CHAPTER VI. The Mystic and the Fantastic -- PART FOUR. LOCATIONS OF LE RÉEL -- CHAPTER VII. The Discourse of Illusion: Los Sefardíes -- CHAPTER VIII. Inquisition: The Present -- CHAPTER IX. La Sultana del Norte: The Second Nuevo Reino -- CHAPTER X. La Joya: The House on Arreola -- CHAPTER XI. Conclusion: Delirio and the Finality of Pragmatic Connections-a Paradox -- Notes -- Selected Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Striking, inexplicable stories circulate among the people of Nuevo León in northern Mexico. Stories of conversos (converted Jews) who fled the Inquisition in Spain and became fabulously wealthy in Mexico. Stories of women and children buried in walls and under houses. Stories of an entire, secret city hidden under modern-day Monterrey. All these stories have no place or corroboration in the official histories of Nuevo

León. In this pioneering ethnography, Marie Theresa Hernández explores how the folktales of Nuevo León encode aspects of Nuevolenesse identity that have been lost, repressed, or fetishized in "legitimate" histories of the region. She focuses particularly on stories regarding three groups: the Sephardic Jews said to be the "original" settlers of the region, the "disappeared" indigenous population, and the supposed "barbaric" society that persists in modern Nuevo León. Hernández's explorations into these stories uncover the region's complicated history, as well as the problematic and often fascinating relationship between history and folklore, between officially accepted "facts" and "fictions" that many Nuevoleneses believe as truth.

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