1. Record Nr. UNINA9910777695503321 Autore Miller Marilyn Grace <1961-> Titolo Rise and fall of the cosmic race [[electronic resource]]: the cult of mestizaje in Latin America / / Marilyn Grace Miller Austin,: University of Texas Press, 2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa 0-292-79720-6 **ISBN** Edizione [1st. ed.] 1 online resource (217 p.) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 980.03/3 Soggetti Mestizaje - Latin America - History Miscegenation - Latin America - History Mestizaje in literature Latin America Civilization 20th century Latin America In art Latin America Race relations Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references (p. [179]-196) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Jose Vasconcelos' about-face on the cosmic race -- Caribbean counterpoint and mulatez -- Tango in black and white -- Showcasing mixed race in Northeast Brazil -- Dis/encounters in the labyrinths. Latin America is characterized by a uniquely rich history of cultural and Sommario/riassunto racial mixtures known collectively as mestizaje. These mixtures reflect the influences of indigenous peoples from Latin America, Europeans. and Africans, and spawn a fascinating and often volatile blend of cultural practices and products. Yet no scholarly study to date has provided an articulate context for fully appreciating and exploring the profound effects of distinct local invocations of syncretism and hybridity. Rise and Fall of the Cosmic Race fills this void by charting the history of Latin America's experience of mestizaje through the prisms of literature, the visual and performing arts, social commentary, and music. In accessible, jargon-free prose, Marilyn Grace Miller brings to life the varied perspectives of a vast region in a tour that stretches from Mexico and the Caribbean to Brazil, Ecuador and Argentina. She

explores the repercussions of mestizo identity in the United States and

reveals the key moments in the story of Latin America's cult of

synthesis. Rise and Fall of the Cosmic Race examines the inextricable links between aesthetics and politics, and unravels the threads of colonialism woven throughout national narratives in which mestizos serve as primary protagonists. Illuminating the ways in which regional engagements with mestizaje represent contentious sites of nation building and racial politics, Miller uncovers a rich and multivalent self-portrait of Latin America's diverse populations.