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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Introduction -- Library Sources for the Charles Olson Letters in This Volume -- A Chronology of Charles Olson's Life and Correspondence -- I -- II -- III -- IV -- V -- VI -- VII -- VIII -- IX -- X -- XI -- Bibliography -- Annotated Index
Sommario/riassunto	For Charles Olson, letters were not only a daily means of communication with friends but were at the same time a vehicle for exploratory thought. In fact, many of Olson's finest works, including Projective Verse and the Maximus Poems, were formulated as letters. Olson's letters are important to an understanding of his definition of the postmodern, and through the play of mind exhibited here we recognize him as one of the vital thinkers of the twentieth century. In this volume, edited and annotated by Ralph Maud, we see Olson at the height of his powers and also at his most human. Nearly 200 letters, selected from a known 3,000, demonstrate the wide range of Olson's interests and the depth of his concern for the future. Maud includes letters to friends and loved ones, job and grant applications, letters of recommendation, and Black Mountain College business letters, as well as correspondence illuminating Olson's poetics. As we read through the letters, which span the years from 1931, when Olson was an

undergraduate, to his death in 1970, a fascinating portrait of this complex poet and thinker emerges.

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