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Sommario/riassunto

This collection of essays by French and British humanities scholars explores the complex relationship between the two nations in the long nineteenth century. Both countries contemplated the other with admiration and anxiety, using their best enemy to shape their own national identities. - - Mutual (In)Comprehensions is unique in the range of its coverage, which includes artistic, literary, economic, educational, social, and historical interpretations, interactions, and appropriations. British railway engineers consider the character of the French railway worker; a French illustrator portrays with disturbing insight the social divisions of Victorian London; British agricultural writers find cause for reflection in the condition of the French peasantry; and an English Anglo-Catholic considers the lessons for her church in the history of post-Reformation French Catholicism. French architects discover something to admire in the British Gothic Revival, while geographical societies on both sides of the Channel exhibit a spirit of international co-operation. - - Including the work of both established academics and young scholars, the collection demonstrates the significance of Franco-British interactions over the long nineteenth century, and shows that - as ever - British culture can only be fully understood within a Continental framework, and vice versa. This volume will appeal to scholars of Victorian culture, in particular French

and British nineteenth-century literature and art, as well as to academics interested in the development of national identities and international cultural relations. - -