Record Nr. UNINA9910779990103321 Autore Forman Ross G. **Titolo** China and the Victorian imagination: empires entwined / / Ross G. Forman [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-107-27238-6 1-139-89059-X 1-107-27179-7 1-316-60099-8 1-107-27837-6 1-139-00380-1 1-107-27388-9 1-107-27511-3 1-107-27714-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (x, 300 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Collana Cambridge studies in nineteenth-century literature and culture; ; 85 Disciplina 820.9/3251 English literature - 19th century - History and criticism Soggetti English literature - Chinese influences Great Britain Civilization Chinese influences China In literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: Topsy-turvy Britain and China -- The manners and customs of the modern Chinese: narrating China through the treaty ports -- Projecting from possession point: James Dalziel's Chronicles of Hong Kong -- Peking plots: representing the Boxer Rebellion of 1900 -- Britain "knit and nationalised": Asian invasion novels in Britain, 1898-1914 -- Staging the celestial -- A Cockney Chinatown: the literature of Limehouse, London -- Conclusion: No rest for the West. Sommario/riassunto What happens to our understanding of 'orientalism' and imperialism when we consider British-Chinese relations during the nineteenth century, rather than focusing on India, Africa or the Caribbean? This

book explores China's centrality to British imperial aspirations and

literary production, underscoring the heterogeneous, interconnected nature of Britain's formal and informal empire. To British eyes, China promised unlimited economic possibilities, but also posed an ominous threat to global hegemony. Surveying anglophone literary production about China across high and low cultures, as well as across time, space and genres, this book demonstrates how important location was to the production, circulation and reception of received ideas about China and the Chinese. In this account, treaty ports matter more than opium. Ross Forman challenges our preconceptions about British imperialism, reconceptualizes anglophone literary production in the global and local contexts, and excavates the little-known Victorian history so germane to contemporary debates about China's 'rise'.