1. Record Nr. UNINA9910780250803321 Autore McNeely Ian F. <1971-> Titolo The emancipation of writing [[electronic resource]]: German civil society in the making, 1790's-1820's / / Ian F. McNeely Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2003 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-27705-0 9786613277053 0-520-92852-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (348 p.) Collana Studies on the history of society and culture Disciplina 300/.943/09033 Bureaucracy - Germany - History Soggetti Written communication - Germany - History Civil society - Germany - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 253-323) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments --Introduction -- 1. The Civic Landscape -- 2. The Tutelage of the Scribes -- 3. The Black Forest Cahier -- 4. Constitutional Fetishism --5. Transcending "Textual Serfdom" -- 6. Reading, Writing, and Reform -- 7. Cataloging the Social World -- 8. The Intelligence Gazettes --Conclusion -- Glossary -- Abbreviations -- Notes -- Sources -- Index The Emancipation of Writing is the first study of writing in its Sommario/riassunto connection to bureaucracy, citizenship, and the state in Germany. Stitching together micro- and macro-level analysis, it reconstructs the vibrant, textually saturated civic culture of the German southwest in the aftermath of the French Revolution and Napoleon's invasions. Ian F. McNeely reveals that Germany's notoriously oppressive bureaucracy. when viewed through the writing practices that were its lifeblood, could also function as a site of citizenship. Citizens, acting under the mediation of powerful local scribes, practiced their freedoms in written engagements with the state. Their communications laid the basis for civil society, showing how social networks commonly associated with the free market, the free press, and the voluntary association could also

take root in powerful state institutions.