

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910780325403321
Autore	Joyce Rosemary A. <1956->
Titolo	Gender and power in Prehispanic Mesoamerica [[electronic resource] /] / Rosemary A. Joyce
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Austin, : University of Texas Press, 2000
ISBN	0-292-79835-0
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (288 p.)
Disciplina	305.3/0972
Soggetti	Indians of Central America - Social life and customs Indians of Mexico - Social life and customs Sex role - Central America Sex role - Mexico Maya women Aztec women
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [215]-259) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Gender, performance, power, and representation -- Negotiating sex and gender in formative Mesoamerica -- Narratives of gender among the Classic Maya -- Transforming gender: Classic to Postclassic Maya -- Becoming human: body and person in Aztec Tenochtitlan.
Sommario/riassunto	Gender was a fluid potential, not a fixed category, before the Spaniards came to Mesoamerica. Childhood training and ritual shaped, but did not set, adult gender, which could encompass third genders and alternative sexualities as well as "male" and "female." At the height of the Classic period, Maya rulers presented themselves as embodying the entire range of gender possibilities, from male through female, by wearing blended costumes and playing male and female roles in state ceremonies. This landmark book offers the first comprehensive description and analysis of gender and power relations in prehispanic Mesoamerica from the Formative Period Olmec world (ca. 1500-500 BC) through the Postclassic Maya and Aztec societies of the sixteenth century AD. Using approaches from contemporary gender theory, Rosemary Joyce explores how Mesoamericans created human images to represent idealized notions of what it meant to be male and female and

to depict proper gender roles. She then juxtaposes these images with archaeological evidence from burials, house sites, and body ornaments, which reveals that real gender roles were more fluid and variable than the stereotyped images suggest.

---