

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910780673503321
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Titolo	The professional literary agent in Britain, 1880-1920 // Mary Ann Gillies
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2007 ©2007
ISBN	1-4426-8499-2
Edizione	[2nd ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (265 p.)
Collana	Studies in Book and Print Culture
Disciplina	070.5/2
Soggetti	Literary agents - Great Britain Authors and publishers - Great Britain - History - 19th century Authors and publishers - Great Britain - History - 20th century Grossbritannien Great Britain
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Why did the professional literary agent emerge in the 1880s? -- A.P. Watt : professional literary agent -- Establishing the agency model : George MacDonald and Watt -- Testing the agency model : "Lucas Malet" and Watt -- The second wave of agenting : J.B. Pinker -- The agent and "popular" literature : Somerville and Ross and Pinker -- Building a career : Joseph Conrad and Pinker.
Sommario/riassunto	"Breaking new ground in the study of British literary culture during an important, transitional period, this new work by Mary Ann Gillies focuses on the professional literary agent whose emergence in Britain around 1880 coincided with and accelerated the transformation of both publishing and authorship." "Like other recent studies in book and print culture, The Professional Literary Agent in Britain, 1880-1920 starts from the central premise that the business of authorship is inextricably linked with the aesthetics of literary praxis. Rather than provide a broad overview of the period, however, Gillies focuses on a specific figure, the professional literary agent. She then traces the influence of two prominent agents - A.P. Watt (generally acknowledged as the first

professional literary agent) and J.B. Pinker (the leading figure in the second wave of agents) - focusing on their respective relationships with two key clients. The case studies not only provide insight into the business dynamics of the literary world at this time, but also illustrate the shifting definition of literature itself during the period."--Jacket
