Record Nr. UNINA9910781033503321 Autore Reese Diana K. <1965-> Titolo Reproducing enlightenment: paradoxes in the life of the body politic [[electronic resource]]: literature and philosophy around 1800 / / Diana K. Reese New York, : Walter de Gruyter, 2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-71442-2 9786612714429 3-11-021745-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (196 p.) Collana Interdisciplinary German cultural studies; ; 5 Classificazione CF 1150 Disciplina 830.9/006 Soggetti Human reproduction in literature Human reproduction - Philosophy German literature - 18th century - History and criticism German literature - 19th century - History and criticism Philosophy, European - 18th century Philosophy, European - 19th century Enlightenment - Europe Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Table of Contents -- Introduction -- Chapter One: Another Reasoning Being -- Chapter Two: Generating Universals --Chapter Three: Kleist's Penthesilea, Ein Trauerspiel -- Backmatter Written at the crossroads of aesthetics and politics, Reproducing Sommario/riassunto Enlightenment: Paradoxes of the Body Politic interrogates the abstraction of the bearer of rights in Enlightenment thought by

exploring contradictions between reproductive labor and political representation in the ideal of democratic citizenship. Drawing parallels between new definitions of biological form in Kant's Critique of Judgment and his popular writings on Enlightenment, Reese's study reveals connections between naturalist inquiry and the political category of self-evidence around the turn of the 19th century. Pursuing

this connection into Weimar-Classical era aesthetics, Reese's

scholarship sets the backdrop against which she proposes to read the formal literary innovations of Mary Shelley and Heinrich von Kleist. The careful comparison of textual compositions by Shelley and Kleist shows how these two authors refuse organicist metaphor and excavate the paradoxes of Enlightenment attempts to theorize the equality of a disembodied subject. Reproducing Enlightenment traces two anticlassical poetics that arc beyond the concept of juridical and biological self-evidence to touch the dialectics and dilemmas of recognition at the foundation of social being.