

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910781104703321
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Titolo	Venice incognito : masks in the serene republic // James H. Johnson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, Calif. ; ; Los Angeles, Calif. : , : University of California Press, , 2011
ISBN	1-283-27776-X 9786613277763 0-520-94862-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiv, 317 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	391.4/340945311
Soggetti	Masks - Italy - Venice - History Venice (Italy) Social life and customs Venice (Italy) History 1508-1797
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	pt. 1. The carnival of Venice -- pt. 2. The culture of masking -- pt. 3. The honest mask -- pt. 4. Carnival and community.
Sommario/riassunto	"The entire town is disguised," declared a French tourist of eighteenth-century Venice. And, indeed, maskers of all ranks--nobles, clergy, imposters, seducers, con men--could be found mixing at every level of Venetian society. Even a pious nun donned a mask and male attire for her liaison with the libertine Casanova. In Venice Incognito, James H. Johnson offers a spirited analysis of masking in this carnival-loving city. He draws on a wealth of material to explore the world view of maskers, both during and outside of carnival, and reconstructs their logic: covering the face in public was a uniquely Venetian response to one of the most rigid class hierarchies in European history. This vivid account goes beyond common views that masking was about forgetting the past and minding the muse of pleasure to offer fresh insight into the historical construction of identity.