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Titolo	The living prism [[electronic resource]] : itineraries in comparative literature // Eva Kushner
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (350 p.)
Disciplina	801/.95
Soggetti	Comparative literature Literature - History and criticism - Theory, etc
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Collection of essays, either previously published, or presented as lectures.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Foreword Knowledge, Empathy, and Global Village: The Comparative Discourse of Eva Kushner -- Introduction -- Legacies and Renewals -- Literature in the Global Village -- Is Comparative Literature Ready for the Twenty-first Century? -- Towards a Typology of Comparative Literature Studies -- Literary Studies, Cultural Studies: The Case for a Cease-Fire -- Comparative Literature in Canada: Whence and Whither? -- Theory, Theories, Theorizing, and Cultural Relativism -- Changing Perspectives in Literary History -- Diachrony and Structure: Thoughts on Renewals in the Theory of Literary History -- From "Time Lost" to "Time Regained" in Literary History -- On Renaissance Literary Historiography -- Comparative Literary History among the Human Sciences -- Comparative Literary History as Dialogue among Nations -- History and the Power of Metaphor -- Comparative Literary History in the Era of Difference -- History and Early Modern Subjectivity -- Distant Voices: The Call of Early Modern Studies -- History and the Absent Self -- The Emergence of the Paradoxical Self -- The Renewed Meaning of the Renaissance Dialogue -- Erasmus and the Paradox of Subjectivity -- In Search of the Obverse Side of Petrarchism -- Imagining the Renaissance Child -- In

Memory of Northrop Frye -- Northrop Frye and the Possibility of Intercultural Dialogue -- Northrop Frye and the Historicity of Literature -- The Social Thought of Northrop Frye -- Comparative Imaginings -- Liberating Children's Imagination -- Myth and Literature: The Example of Modern Drama -- Greek Myths in Modern Drama: Paths of Transformation -- Victor Segalen and China: A Dialectic of Reality and Imagination -- Index of Names -- Subject Index

Sommario/riassunto

She discusses the current state of comparative literary studies and the renewed role of comparative literature in a world that is at once more plural and more globalized, as well as some of the debates now taking place within literary criticism as a whole, including the interchange between comparative literature and cultural studies, the re-envisioning of the Renaissance, the work of Northrop Frye, myth and literature at the end of the twentieth century, modern drama, and post-colonialism. To play an important role in the human sciences, comparative literature had first to free itself of a number of restrictive habits, such as an insufficiently critical literary history. In order to do this, it had to think theoretically, but without yielding to the temptation of letting theory become an end in itself. Kushner demonstrates that, while under strong pressures to be a more rigorous science, comparative literature has realized that in the human sciences the validation of knowledge has to seek its own tests and criteria, becoming increasingly more open to individuality, difference, and life situations and controlling its tendency to universalize. With its emphasis on whether literary history is possible and the problems it raises for literary theory and for comparative literature in particular, *The Living Prism* adds an important dimension to the ongoing debate about criticism and comparative literary studies.
