1. Record Nr. UNINA9910785517303321 Autore Rohman Carrie Titolo Stalking the subject [[electronic resource]]: modernism and the animal // Carrie Rohman New York,: Columbia University Press, c2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-231-51856-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (209 p.) Disciplina 820.9/362 Soggetti Animals in literature Animals - Symbolic aspects English literature - 19th century - History and criticism English literature - 20th century - History and criticism Ethics in literature Evolution (Biology) in literature Human-animal relationships in literature Modernism (Literature) - 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 (p. [177]-183) and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- 1. The Animal Among Others -- 2. Imperialism and Disavowal -- 3. Facing the Animal -- 4. Recuperating the Animal -- 5. Revising the Human -- Conclusion. Animal Studies, Ethics, and the Humanities -- Notes -- Works Cited --Index Sommario/riassunto Human and animal subjectivity converge in a historically unprecedented way within modernism, as evolutionary theory, imperialism, antirationalism, and psychoanalysis all grapple with the place of the human in relation to the animal. Drawing on the thought of Jacques Derrida and Georges Bataille, Carrie Rohman outlines the complex philosophical and ethical stakes involved in theorizing the animal in humanism, including the difficulty in determining an ontological place for the animal, the question of animal consciousness and language,

and the paradoxical status of the human as both a primate body and a "human" mind abstracting itself from the physical and material world. Rohman then turns to the work of Joseph Conrad, D. H. Lawrence, H. G.

Wells, and Djuna Barnes, authors who were deeply invested in the relationship between animality and identity. The Island of Dr. Moreau embodies a Darwinian nightmare of the evolutionary continuum; The Croquet Player thematizes the dialectic between evolutionary theory and psychoanalysis; and Women in Love, St. Mawr, and Nightwood all refuse to project animality onto others, inverting the traditional humanist position by valuing animal consciousness. A novel treatment of the animal in literature, Stalking the Subject provides vital perspective on modernism's most compelling intellectual and philosophical issues.