Record Nr. UNINA9910786351703321 Autore Welch Anthony <1975-> Titolo The Renaissance epic and the oral past [[electronic resource] /] / Anthony Welch Pubbl/distr/stampa New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2012 **ISBN** 0-300-18899-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (viii, 260 p.) Collana Yale studies in English 809.1/32 Disciplina Soggetti Epic poetry, European - History and criticism Epic literature, European - Classical influences European poetry - Renaissance, 1450-1600 - History and criticism European literature - 17th century - History and criticism Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Tasso's silent lyre -- The oldest song: Ronsard and Spenser --Interchapter: The lutanist and the nightingale -- Harps in Babylon: Cowley, Davenant, Butler -- Milton's lament -- Epic opera -- Coda: The singer withdraws. Sommario/riassunto This book offers a close survey of the changing audiences, modes of reading, and cultural expectations that shaped epic writing in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. According to Anthony Welch, the theory and practice of epic poetry in this period-including little-known attempts by many epic poets to have their work orally recited or set to music-must be understood in the context of Renaissance musical humanism. Welch's approach leads to a fresh perspective on a literary culture that stood on the brink of a new relationship with antiquity and on the history of music in the early modern era.