

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910786808803321
Autore	Ritivoi Andreea Deciu <1970->
Titolo	Intimate strangers : Arendt, Marcuse, Solzhenitsyn, and Said in American political discourse // Andreea Deciu Ritivoi
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, New York ; ; West Sussex, England : , : Columbia University Press, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	0-231-53791-3
Edizione	[Pilot project. eBook available to selected US libraries only]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (319 p.)
Disciplina	320.97309/049
Soggetti	Politics and culture - United States - History - 20th century Intellectuals - United States - History - 20th century Rhetoric - Political aspects - United States - History - 20th century United States Intellectual life 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- Acknowledgments -- INTRODUCTION -- 1. THE STRANGER PERSONA -- 2. HANNAH ARENDT: THE THINKER AND THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC -- 3. HERBERT MARCUSE'S GERMAN REVOLUTION IN AMERICA -- 4. COLD WAR PROPHESIES: ALEXANDER SOLZHENITSYN AND MYTHOLOGICAL AMERICA -- 5. EDWARD SAID AND THE CLASH OF IDENTITIES -- CONCLUSION -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Hannah Arendt, Herbert Marcuse, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, and Edward Said each steered major intellectual and political schools of thought in American political discourse after World War II, yet none of them was American, which proved crucial to their ways of arguing and reasoning both in and out of the American context. In an effort to convince their audiences they were American enough, these thinkers deployed deft rhetorical strategies that made their cosmopolitanism feel acceptable, inspiring radical new approaches to longstanding problems in American politics. Speaking like natives, they also exploited their foreignness to entice listeners to embrace alternative modes of thought. Intimate Strangers unpacks this "stranger ethos," a blend of detachment and involvement that manifested in the persona of a prophet for

Solzhenitsyn, an impartial observer for Arendt, a mentor for Marcuse, and a victim for Said. Yet despite its many successes, the stranger ethos did alienate many audiences, and critics continue to dismiss these thinkers not for their positions but because of their foreign point of view. This book encourages readers to reject this kind of critical xenophobia, throwing support behind a political discourse that accounts for the ideals of citizens and noncitizens alike.

---