Record Nr. UNINA9910788670003321 Autore Witgen Michael J **Titolo** An infinity of nations [[electronic resource]]: how the native New World shaped early North America / / Michael Witgen Philadelphia, : University of Pennsylvania Press, c2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-283-89719-9 **ISBN** 0-8122-0517-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (457 p.) Collana Early American Studies Early American studies Disciplina 970.004/97 Soggetti Indians of North America - Government relations - To 1789 Indians of North America - Colonization - History Indians of North America - Social life and customs North America History Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Based on the author's 2004 thesis (Ph. D.) from the University of Note generali Washington. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto pt. 1. Discovery -- pt. 2. The new world -- pt. 3. The illusion of empire -- pt. 4. Sovereignty: the making of North America's new nations. An Infinity of Nations explores the formation and development of a Sommario/riassunto Native New World in North America. Until the middle of the nineteenth century, indigenous peoples controlled the vast majority of the continent while European colonies of the Atlantic World were largely confined to the eastern seaboard. To be sure. Native North America experienced far-reaching and radical change following contact with the peoples, things, and ideas that flowed inland following the creation of European colonies on North American soil. Most of the continent's indigenous peoples, however, were not conquered, assimilated, or even

socially incorporated into the settlements and political regimes of this Atlantic New World. Instead, Native peoples forged a New World of their own. This history, the evolution of a distinctly Native New World, is a foundational story that remains largely untold in histories of early America. Through imaginative use of both Native language and

European documents, historian Michael Witgen recreates the world of

the indigenous peoples who ruled the western interior of North America. The Anishinaabe and Dakota peoples of the Great Lakes and Northern Great Plains dominated the politics and political economy of these interconnected regions, which were pivotal to the fur trade and the emergent world economy. Moving between cycles of alliance and competition, and between peace and violence, the Anishinaabeg and Dakota carved out a place for Native peoples in modern North America, ensuring not only that they would survive as independent and distinct Native peoples but also that they would be a part of the new community of nations who made the New World.