

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910788816303321
Autore	Muller-Sievers Helmut
Titolo	The science of literature : essays on an incalculable difference // Helmut Muller-Sievers ; translated by Chadwick Truscott Smith, Paul Babinski, and Helmut Muller-Sievers ; with an afterword by David E. Wellbery
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin, [Germany] : , : De Gruyter, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	3-11-038219-9 3-11-032434-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (276 p.)
Collana	Paradigms : Literature and the Human Sciences, , 2195-2205 ; ; Volume 1
Classificazione	GB 1750
Disciplina	830.9007
Soggetti	Literature and science - History and criticism German literature - 18th century - History and criticism German literature - 19th century - History and criticism
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Table of Contents -- Introduction: A Science of Literature? -- 1) Poetics of the Life Sciences -- Formative Forces: Biological, Philosophical, and Linguistic Generativity -- Divining Relations: Forms of Generational Recognition around 1800 -- Tidings of the Earth: Towards a History of Romantic Erdkunde -- On Nerve Fibers: Rhetoric and Brain Anatomy in Georg Büchner -- 2) The Science of Reading -- Reading Off: On the Emergence of the Scientific Gaze -- On the Margins of Derrida's Terminology : Deconstruction, Dissemination, mise en abîme -- What Does it Mean to Orient Oneself in Thinking? -- A Tremendous Chasm: Nietzsche, The Birth of Tragedy, and the Measure of Poetry -- 3) The Applied Science of Literature -- Torque: Life and Motion in the 19th Century -- A Doctrine of Transmissions: On the Classification of Machines Around 1800 -- The Novel Machine: Narration in the 19th Century -- The Moment of Narration: Outlines for a Kinematic Study of Goethe's Wilhelm Meisters Wanderjahre -- Afterword / Wellbery, David E. -- List of First Publications -- Bibliography -- Acknowledgments -- Index

---

## Sommario/riassunto

One of the most contentious questions in contemporary literary studies is whether there can ever be a science of literature that can lay claim to objectivity and universality, for example by concentrating on philological criticism, by appealing to cognitive science, or by exposing the underlying media of literary communication. The present collection of essays seeks to open up this discussion by posing the question's historical and systematic double: has there been a science of literature, i.e. a mode of presentation and practice of reference in science that owes its coherence to the discourse of literature? Detailed analyses of scientific, literary and philosophical texts show that from the late 18th to the late 19th century science and literature were bound to one another through an intricate web of mutual dependence and distinct yet incalculable difference. The Science of Literature suggests that this legacy continues to shape the relation between literary and scientific discourses inside and outside of academia.

---