Record Nr. UNINA9910789325503321 Autore Knickerbocker Scott Titolo Ecopoetics: the language of nature, the nature of language / / Scott Knickerbocker Pubbl/distr/stampa Amherst, [Massachusetts];; Boston, [Massachusetts]:,: University of Massachusetts Press, , 2012 ©2012 **ISBN** 1-61376-198-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (x, 203 p.) Disciplina 811/.50936 Soggetti American poetry - 20th century - History and criticism Nature conservation in literature **Ecocriticism** Philosophy of nature in literature 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 Introduction: The language of nature, the nature of language -- Wallace Stevens, eco-aesthete -- Elizabeth Bishop's strange reality -- Richard Wilbur's natural artifice -- Sylvia Plath's physical words -- Conclusion: Organic formalism and contemporary poetry. "Ecocritics and other literary scholars interested in the environment Sommario/riassunto have tended to examine writings that pertain directly to nature and to focus on subject matter more than expression. In this book, Scott Knickerbocker argues that it is time for the next step in ecocriticism: scholars need to explore the figurative and aural capacity of language to evoke the natural world in powerful ways. Ecopoetics probes the complex relationship between artifice and the natural world in the work of modern American poets - in particular Wallace Stevens, Elizabeth Bishop, Richard Wilbur, and Sylvia Plath. These poets relate to nature as a deep wellspring of meaning, although they all avoid using language the way most nature writers do, merely to reflect or refer directly to the world. Each of these poets, in his or her

own distinct way, employs instead what Knickerbocker terms sensuous poesis, the process of rematerializing language through sound effects

and other formal devices as a sophisticated response to nonhuman nature.

Rather than attempt to erase the artifice of their own poems, to make them seem more natural and thus supposedly closer to nature, the poets in this book unapologetically embrace artifice - not for its own sake but in order to perform and enact the natural world. Indeed, for them, artifice is natural. In examining their work, Knickerbocker charts a new direction for ecocriticism."--pub. desc.