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Sommario/riassunto	How did the rise of metropolitan art institutions influence modernism and the modernisation of art in England? This volume explores the artist as creator, notions of class and taste, and the power of institutions to affect creativity and artistic expression. Topics discussed include the radicalism of engravers and how their claim to be artists is an important and neglected aspect of the nineteenth-century art world; and how the aesthetic dispute over the Chantrey Bequest epitomized conflicts of taste, cultural independence, and interdependence between opposed art institutions and the Treasury.