Record Nr. UNINA9910790106003321 Autore O'Leary John Titolo Savage songs & wild romances [[electronic resource]]: settler poetry and the indigene, 1830-1880 / / John O'Leary New York, : Rodopi, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-280-49703-3 **ISBN** 9786613592262 94-012-0686-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (216 p.) Collana Cross/cultures: readings in the post/colonial literatures in English:: 138 821.8093529 Disciplina Soggetti Indians in literature Noble savage stereotype in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali "Writers treated include George Copway, Alfred Domett, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, George McCrae, Thomas Pringle, George Rusden, Lydia Sigourney, and Alfred Street".--Back cover. New Zealand author, John O'Leary. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material -- Texts in Context: Nineteenth-Century Settler Culture -- "Bold, unfettered rhapsodies": Nineteenth-Century

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possess": 'Savage' Songs and Laments -- "Unlocking the fountains of
the heart": Settler Verse and the Politics of Sympathy -- Indigenous
Romeos and Juliets: Romantic Verse Melodramas -- "In their strange
customs versed": Ethnographic Verse Epics -- Conclusion -- Appendix

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Savage Songs and amp; Wild Romances considers the various types of poetry – from short songs and laments to lengthy ethnographic epics – which nineteenth-century settlers wrote about indigenous peoples as they moved into new territories in North America, South Africa, and Australasia. Drawing on a variety of texts (some virtually unknown), the author demonstrates the range and depth of this verse, suggesting that it exhibited far more interest in, and sympathy for, indigenous peoples

than has generally been acknowledged. In so doing, he challenges both the traditional view of this poetry as derivative and eccentric, and more recent postcolonial condemnations of it as racist and imperialist. Instead, he offers a new, more positive reading of this verse, whose openness towards the presence of the indigenous Other he sees as an early expression of the tolerance and cultural relativity characteristic of modern Western society. Writers treated include George Copway, Alfred Domett, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, George McCrae, Thomas Pringle, George Rusden, Lydia Sigourney, and Alfred Street.