Record Nr. UNINA9910790357403321 Autore Gunn Joshua **Titolo** Modern Occult Rhetoric [[electronic resource]]: Mass Media and the Drama of Secrecy in the Twentieth Century Tuscaloosa,: University of Alabama Press, 2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8173-8541-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (372 p.) Collana Albma Rhetoric Cult & Soc Crit Disciplina 130.14 130/.1/4 Soggetti Language and languages Mass media Mass media -- History -- 20th century Occultism -- History -- 20th century Occultism - Social aspects Popular culture - History - 20th century Popular culture -- History -- 20th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di contenuto Contents; List of Illustrations; Acknowledgments; Introduction; Part I: Esoterica; 1. What Is the Occult?; Interlude: Erasing the Grooves: On Cold Feet; 2. Toward an Occult Poetics; Interlude: Mysteries of the Unknown; 3. H. P. Blavatsky and the Magic of Esoteric Language; 4. On Textual Occultism; Part II: Exoterica; Interlude: Re-membering Crowley; 5. Aleister Crowley and the Hermeneutic of Authority; Interlude: On Stolen Letters and Lettered Secrets; 6. The Death of the Modern Magus: "The Masses" and Irony's Other; 7. Prime-Time Satanism: Stock Footage and the Death of Modern Occultism 8. The Allegory of The Ninth GateEpilogue: The Fool's Yapping Cur; Appendix 1: Scholarship on Occultism; Appendix 2: Aleister Crowley's The Book of the Law; Notes; Selected Bibliography; Index A broadly interdisciplinary study of the pervasive secrecy in America Sommario/riassunto cultural, political, and religious discourse. The occult has traditionally been understood as the study of secrets of the practice of mysticism or

magic. This book broadens our understanding of the occult by treating

it as a rhetorical phenomenon tied to language and symbols and more central to American culture than is commonly assumed. Joshua Gunn approaches the occult as an idiom, examining the ways in which acts of textual criticism and interpretation are occultic in nature, as evident in prac