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Nota di contenuto	General studies -- Regional approaches to iconographic art / George E. Lankford -- The cosmology of the Osage : the Star People and their universe / James R. Duncan -- Regional studies: Middle Mississippi Valley -- The regional culture signature of the Braden art style / James A. Brown -- Early manifestations of Mississippian iconography in middle Mississippi Valley rock-art / Carol Diaz-Granados -- Regional studies: Lower Mississippi Valley -- Mississippian ceramic art in the lower Mississippi Valley : a thematic overview / David H. Dye -- The great serpent in the lower Mississippi Valley / F. Kent Reilly III -- Regional studies: Cumberland Valley -- Iconography of the Thruston

Tablet / Vincas P. Steponaitis, Vernon James Knight, Jr., George E. Lankford, Robert V. Sharp, and David H. Dye -- Woman in the patterned shawl : female effigy vessels and figurines from the Middle Cumberland River Basin / Robert V. Sharp, Vernon James Knight, Jr., and George E. Lankford -- Regional studies: Moundville -- A redefinition of the Hemphill style in Mississippian art / Vernon James Knight, Jr., and Vincas P. Steponaitis -- The raptor on the path / George E. Lankford -- The swirl-cross and the center / George E. Lankford -- Regional studies: Etowah and Upper Tennessee Valley -- Iconography of the Hightower region of eastern Tennessee and northern Georgia / Adam King -- Dancing in the otherworld : the human figural art of the Hightower style revisited / F. Kent Reilly III and James F. Garber -- Raptor imagery at Etowah : the raptor is the path to power / Adam King and F. Kent Reilly III.

Sommario/riassunto

The prehistoric native peoples of the Mississippi River Valley and other areas of the Eastern Woodlands of the United States shared a complex set of symbols and motifs that constituted one of the greatest artistic traditions of the pre-Columbian Americas. Traditionally known as the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex, these artifacts of copper, shell, stone, clay, and wood were the subject of the groundbreaking 2007 book *Ancient Objects and Sacred Realms: Interpretations of Mississippian Iconography*, which presented a major reconstruction of the rituals, cosmology, ideology, and political structures of the Mississippian peoples. Visualizing the Sacred advances the study of Mississippian iconography by delving into the regional variations within what is now known as the Mississippian Iconographic Interaction Sphere (MIIS). Bringing archaeological, ethnographic, ethnohistoric, and iconographic perspectives to the analysis of Mississippian art, contributors from several disciplines discuss variations in symbols and motifs among major sites and regions across a wide span of time and also consider what visual symbols reveal about elite status in diverse political environments. These findings represent the first formal identification of style regions within the Mississippian Iconographic Interaction Sphere and call for a new understanding of the MIIS as a network of localized, yet interrelated religious systems that experienced both continuity and change over time.
