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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- Preface -- 1. Introduction: The Rhapsodic Imagination -- 2. The Origins of the Term "Fu" as a Literary Genre of Recitation -- 3. Into the New Realm of Belles Lettres: Intersections of Sevens and Song Verses in Jian'an Poetry -- 4. The Assimilation and Dissimilation of Fu and Shi Poetry up to the Tang Dynasty -- 5. Xu Wei's Early Modern Rhapsodies: Catalogue and Critique, Lyricism and Logic -- 6. The Metaphysical Rhapsody of the Six Dynasties -- 7. Argumentation and Generic Change in the Mid- Tang Fu: Li Guan's (766- 794) "Fu on Suffering the Pitiless Rains" and the Role of the Shelun Genre -- 8. The Hidden Message of Zhang Heng's "Contemplating the Mystery" -- 9. A New Discourse on "Lament for the South" in the Fu of the Ming- Qing Transition -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This is the first book in English to examine the fu, one of China's oldest and culturally central literary forms, from its origins up to the late imperial era. Fu poems are highly revealing sources for understanding the culture, society, and politics of their periods, and in this volume eleven essays by prominent scholars treat the fu from four major perspectives: its original use in court recitation; as a poetic genre with distinctive formal features; as a vehicle of philosophical inquiry; and as a major mode of political expression.

