

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910794150403321
Titolo	Different lives : global perspectives on biography in public cultures and societies / / edited by Hans Renders, David Veltman
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Boston, Massachusetts : , : Brill, , 2020
ISBN	90-04-43497-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource
Collana	Biography studies, , 2468-2497 ; ; volume 1
Disciplina	808.06/692
Soggetti	Biography Biography as a literary form
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"Many of the contributors to this volume presented their papers at the conference Different Lives: Global Perspectives on Biography in Public Cultures and Societies. This conference was organized in September 2018 at the University of Groningen by Hans Renders, Madelon Nanninga-Franssen and David Veltman, with support of the Biography Institute, the Biography Society and the Biographers International Organization."--Acknowledgements.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [231]-260) and index.
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## Sommario/riassunto

"Internationally acclaimed biographies are almost always written by British or American biographers. But what is the state of the art of biography in other parts of the world? Introduced by Richard Holmes, the volume "Different Lives" offers a global perspective: seventeen scholars vividly describe the biographical tradition in their countries of interest. They show how biography functions as a public genre, featuring specific societal issues and opinion-making. Indeed, the volume aims to answer the question: how can biography contribute to a better understanding of differences between societies and cultures? Special attention is given to the US, China and the Netherlands. Other contributions are on Australia, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Iceland, Iran, Italy, New Zealand, Spain, and South Africa. 'This book represents a much needed breakdown of the history and current status of Biography Studies throughout the world. Any educator teaching a course in higher education that includes Biography Studies should definitely consider this as a major text for inclusion.' -- Billy Tooma, filmmaker and Assistant Professor, Wessex County College. 'The rise of biography is the literary event of our time; Hamilton and Renders are its pioneer scholars, and their compelling primer is a must read.' -- Joanny Moulin (Institut Universitaire de France) on Nigel Hamilton and Hans Renders, *The ABC of Modern Biography* (2018)"--

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