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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- 1 Transient Cities: Representations of Urban Destructions in European Iconography in the Fourteenth to Seventeenth Centuries / Marco Folin -- 2 When Towns Collapse: Images of Earthquakes, Floods, and Eruptions in Italy in the Fifteenth to Nineteenth Centuries / Emanuela Guidoboni -- 3 Urban Responses to Disaster in Renaissance Italy: Images and Rituals / Fabrizio Nevola -- 4 In the Beginning, There was Fire: Vitruvius and the Origin of the City / Olga Medvedkova -- 5 "Cities of Fire": Iconographic Fortune, Taste and Circulation of Fire Paintings between Flanders and Italy in the early Sixteenth Century / Isabella di Lenardo -- 6 The Destruction of the City: A Pledge of Salvation? Some Reflections about Monsù Desiderio and the Genre of "Destruction Painting" / Philippe Malgouyres -- 7 Catastrophe and Photography as a "Double Reversal": The 1908 Messina and Reggio Earthquake and the Album of the Italian Photographic Society / Tiziana Serena -- 8 Meidner's Urban Iconography: Optical Destruction and Visual Apocalypse / Sophie Goetzmann -- 9 Destruction and Construction in Contemporary Art. Three Cases in Twentieth-Century Italy (Gibellina 1968, Friuli 1976, Napoli 1980) / Alessandro Del Puppo -- Index of Names / Marco Folin

Sommario/riassunto

Natural hazards punctuate the history of European towns, moulding their shape and identity: this book is devoted to the artistic representation of those calamities, from the late Middle Ages to the 20th century. It contains nine case studies which discuss, among others, the relationship between biblical imagery and the realistic depiction of urban disasters; the religious, political and ritual meanings of “destruction subjects” in early modern painting; the image of fire in Renaissance treatises on architecture; the first photographic campaigns documenting earthquakes’ damages; the role of contemporary art in the elaboration of a cultural memory of urban destructions. Thus, this book intends to address one of the main issues of Western civilization: the relationship of European towns with their own past and its discontinuities. Contributors are Alessandro Del Puppo, Isabella di Lenardo, Marco Folin, Sophie Goetzmann, Emanuela Guidoboni, Philippe Malgouyres, Olga Medvedkova, Fabrizio Nevola, Monica Preti and Tiziana Serena.
