Record Nr. UNINA9910797811703321 Autore Delgado-Garcia Cristina Titolo Rethinking character in contemporary british theatre: aesthetics, politics, subjectivity / / Cristina Delgado-Garcia Berlin, Germany;; Boston, [Massachusetts]:,: De Gruyter,, 2015 Pubbl/distr/stampa ©2015 **ISBN** 3-11-041122-9 3-11-033391-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (240 p.) Collana CDE Studies, , 2194-9069; ; Volume 26 Classificazione HN 1274 792.0942 Disciplina Soggetti Theater - Great Britain - 21st century **Great Britain** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Acknowledgements -- Contents -- Preface: Character Remains -- Introduction -- 1. The Life, Death and Second Coming of Character -- 2. Figuring the Subject beyond Individuality -- 3. Singular Subjectivities -- 4. Collective Subjectivities -- Conclusion -- Appendix: Brief Survey of Character-less Plays, 1900 - Present -- Works Cited --Index Sommario/riassunto The category of theatrical character has been swiftly dismissed in the academic reception of no-longer-dramatic texts and performances. However, claims on the dissolution of character narrowly demarcate what a subject is and how it may appear. This volume unmoors theatre scholarship from the regulatory ideals of liberal humanism, stretching the notion of character to encompass and illuminate otherwise unaccounted-for subjects, aesthetic strategies and political gestures in recent theatre works. To this aim, contemporary philosophical theories of subjectivation, European theatre studies, and experimental, scriptled work produced in Britain since the late 1990s are mobilised as discussants on the question of subjectivity. Four contemporary playtexts and their performances are examined in depth: Sarah Kane's Crave and 4.48 Psychosis, Ed Thomas's Stone City Blue and Tim

Crouch's ENGLAND. Through these case studies, Delgado-García

demonstrates alternative ways of engaging theoretically with character, and elucidating a range of subjective figures beyond identity and individuality. Alongside these analyses, the book traces a large body of work that has experimented with speech attribution since the early twentieth-century. This is a timely contribution to contemporary theatre scholarship, which demonstrates that character remains a malleable and politically-salient notion in which understandings of subjectivity are still being negotiated.