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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Acknowledgements -- Table of Contents -- Introduction: After Yugoslavia - memory on the ruins of history -- Part 1: Entangled Legacies of Extreme Violence: Traumatic Memories in the Aftermath of the Yugoslav Successor Wars -- "Read and Remember": Ozren Kebo's Sarajevo for Beginners as Ironic Guidebook and Narrative Memorial / Postema, Antje -- Remembering Nowhere: The Homeland-on-the-Move in the Exile Writing of Saša Staniši and Ismet Prcic / Biti, Vladimir -- The Art and Craft of Memory: Re-Memorialization Practices in Post-Socialist Croatia / Potkonjak, Sanja / Pletenac, Tomislav -- The Evidence of Srebrenica: Oliver Frliji's Theater Court in Cowardice / Jakiša, Miranda -- Intersecting Memories in Post-Yugoslav Fiction: The Yugoslav Wars of the 1990's through the Lens of the Holocaust / Vervaet, Stijn -- Part 2: Reclaiming the Past: Artistic and Literary Representations of Socialist Yugoslavia -- What Remains of Mostar?: Archive and Witness in Marsela Sunji's Goodnight, City / Demiragi, Ajla -- Post-Socialism Remembers the Revolution: The Comedy of It / Juki, Tatjana -- Yugoslavia in Post-Yugoslav Artistic Practices: Or, Art as ... / Dedi, Nikola -- Part 3: Reconfiguring the Post-Yugoslav

Present: Towards New Forms of Community and Identity -- Garbage Heap, Storehouse, Encyclopedia: Metaphors for a Post-Yugoslav Cultural Memory / Snel, Guido -- Small Town as the Scene of a Memory Encounter: Portraits and Commemorations of Radomir Konstantinovi / Zori, Vladimir -- Recollecting an Alternative Modernity: Aleksandar Zograf's Flea Market Archaeologies / Beronja, Vlad -- A Public Language of Grief: Art, Poetry, and Transitional Justice in Post-Conflict Bosnia / Arsenijevi, Damir / Husanovi, Jasmina / Wastell, Sari -- Digital Afterlife: Ex-Yugoslav Pop Culture Icons and Social Media / Pogaar, Martin -- Notes on Contributors -- List of Illustrations -- Index of Names

Sommario/riassunto

Memory in the Balkans has often been described as binding, authoritative, and non-negotiable, functioning as a banner of war. This book challenges such a one-dimensional representation and offers a more nuanced analysis that accommodates frequently ignored instances of transnational solidarity, dialogue, communal mourning and working through a difficult past. Exploring a broad range of memorial practices, the book focuses on the ways in which cultural memory is mediated, performed and critically reworked by literature and the arts in the former Yugoslavia. Against the methodological nationalism of works that study Serbian, Croatian, or Bosniak culture as self-contained, this book examines post-Yugoslav literature, film, visual culture, and politicized art practices from a supranational angle. Not solely focusing on traumatic memories, but also exploring how post-Yugoslav cultural practices mobilize memory for a politics of hope, this volume moves beyond the trauma paradigm that still dominates memory studies. In its scope and approach, the book shows the relevance of the cultural memory of Eastern European citizens and the contribution they can offer to the building of Europe's shared cultural memory and transnational identity.
