Record Nr. UNINA9910807748903321 Autore Martin Desiree A. <1972-> Titolo Borderlands saints: secular sanctity in Chicano/a and Mexican culture / / Desiree A. Martin Pubbl/distr/stampa New Brunswick, New Jersey: ,: Rutgers University Press, , [2014] ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8135-6235-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (268 p.) Collana Latinidad: Transnational Cultures in the United States Disciplina 810.9/868 American literature - Mexican American authors - History and criticism Soggetti Mexican American literature (Spanish) - History and criticism Mexican literature - History and criticism Secularism in literature Holy, The, in literature Heroes in literature Mexican-American Border Region Civilization Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: The secular sanctity of borderlands saints -- Saint of contradiction: Teresa Urrea, La Santa de Cabora -- The remains of Pancho Villa -- Canonizing Cesar Chavez -- Todos somos santos: Subcomandante Marcos and the EZLN -- Illegal marginalizations: La Santisima Muerte -- Conclusion: Narrative devotion. Sommario/riassunto In Borderlands Saints, Desirée A. Martín examines the rise and fall of popular saints and saint-like figures in the borderlands of the United States and Mexico. Focusing specifically on Teresa Urrea (La Santa de Cabora), Pancho Villa, César Chávez, Subcomandante Marcos, and Santa Muerte, she traces the intersections of these figures, their devotees, artistic representations, and dominant institutions with an eye for the ways in which such unofficial saints mirror traditional spiritual practices and serve specific cultural needs. Popular spirituality of this kind engages the use and exchange of relics, faith healing, pilgrimages, and spirit possession, exemplifying the contradictions

between high and popular culture, human and divine, and secular and

sacred. Martín focuses upon a wide range of Mexican and Chicano/a cultural works drawn from the nineteenth century to the present, covering such diverse genres as the novel, the communiqué, drama, the essay or crónica, film, and contemporary digital media. She argues that spiritual practice is often represented as narrative, while narrative-whether literary, historical, visual, or oral-may modify or even function as devotional practice.