

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910808507403321
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Titolo	Thomas Pynchon and the dark passages of history // David Cowart
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Athens, : University of Georgia Press, c2011
ISBN	1-283-43202-1 9786613432025 0-8203-3709-9
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (273 p.)
Disciplina	813/.54
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: Calibrating Clio -- Prospero's apprenticeship: slow learner -- History and myth: Pynchon's V -- Streben nach dem unendlichen: Germany and German culture in Pynchon's early work -- Pynchon and the sixties: the California novels -- The luddite vision: Mason & Dixon -- Pynchon, genealogy, history: Against the day -- The historiographer historicized: Pynchon and literary history.
Sommario/riassunto	For David Cowart, Thomas Pynchon's most profound teachings are about history- history as myth, as rhetorical construct, as false consciousness, as prologue, as mirror, and as seedbed of national and literary identities. In one encyclopedic novel after another, Pynchon has reconceptualized historical periods that he sees as culturally definitive. This book offers a deft analysis of the problems of history as engaged by our greatest living novelist and argues for the continuity of Pynchon's historical vision. -- from Back Cover