Record Nr. UNINA9910809423003321 Disembodied heads in medieval and early modern culture / / edited by **Titolo** Barbara Baert, Catrien Santing & Anita Traninger Pubbl/distr/stampa Boston, : Brill, 2013 **ISBN** 90-04-25355-6 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (331 p.) Collana Intersections;; volume 28 Altri autori (Persone) BaertBarbara TraningerAnita SantingCatrien Disciplina 306.4 Soggetti Head - Social aspects Human body - Social aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Outcome of a two-day conference held at the Academia Belgica and the Note generali Royal Dutch Institute at Rome. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material / Catrien Santing, Barbara Baert and Anita Traninger -- Introduction / Catrien Santing and Barbara Baert -- Adam' s Skull / Marina Montesano -- Talking Heads, or, A Tale of Two Clerics / Robert Mills -- The Meaning of the Head in High Medieval Culture / Esther Cohen -- Securing the Sacred Head: Cephalophory and Relic Claims / Scott B. Montgomery -- The Johannesschüssel as Andachtsbild: The Gaze, The Medium and The Senses / Barbara Baert -- Chasing the Caput. Head Images of John the Baptist in a Political Conflict / Mateusz Kapustka -- The Self-Portrait 'En Décapité': Interpreting Artistic Self-Insertion / Arjan R. de Koomen -- Capita Selecta in Historia Sacra. Head Relics in Counter Reformation Rome (ca. 1570-ca. 1630) / Jetze Touber -- Framing the Face. Patterns of Presentation and Representation in Early Modern Dress and Portraiture / Bert Watteeuw -- 'And I Bear Your Beautiful Face Painted on My Chest'. The Longevity of the Heart as the Primal Organ in the Renaissance / Catrien Santing -- Index Nominum / Catrien Santing, Barbara Baert and Anita Traninger. Do heads excite a desire to chop them off; a desire to decapitate and Sommario/riassunto take a human life, as anthropologists have suggested? The contributors

to this book are fascinated by 'disembodied heads', which are pursued

in their many medieval and early modern disguises and representations, including the metaphorical. They challenge the question why in medieval and early modern cultures the head was usually considered the most important part of the body, a primacy only contested by the heart for religious reasons. Carefully mapping beliefs, mythologies and traditions concerning the head, the result is an attempt to establish a 'cultural anatomy' of the head, which is relevant for cultural historians, art historians and students of the philosophy, art and sciences of the premodern period. Contributors include Barbara Baert, Esther Cohen, Mateusz Kapustka, Arjan R. de Koomen, Robert Mills, Marina Montesano, Scott B. Montgomery, Catrien Santing, Jetze Touber, and Bert Watteeuw.