1. Record Nr. UNINA9910810233203321 Autore Magedera Ian H. Titolo Outsider biographies: Savage, de Sade, Wainewright, Ned Kelly, Billy the Kid, Rimbaud and Genet: base crime and high art in biography and bio-fiction, 1744-2000 / / Ian H. Magedera Amsterdam, Netherlands;; New York:,: Rodopi,, 2014 Pubbl/distr/stampa ©2014 ISBN 94-012-1143-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (352 p.) Collana Textxet. Studies in Comparative Literature; ; 75 Disciplina 808.06692 Soggetti Biography as a literary form Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material -- OUTSIDER BIOGRAPHY: DEFINITIONS AND CORPUS -- PARTIAL BIOGRAPHIES BY SAMUEL JOHNSON AND RICHARD HOLMES -- DE SADE ACCORDING TO SAINTE-BEUVE. APOLLINAIRE. LELY AND LEVER -- BARTHES' AND PAUVERT'S QUESTIONING OF DE SADE BIOGRAPHY -- AN OUTLAW IN FICTIONAL BIOGRAPHY: ANDREW MOTION'S THOMAS GRIFFITHS WAINEWRIGHT 1794-1847 -- AN OUTLAW IN FICTIONAL BIOGRAPHY: PETER CAREY'S NED KELLY 1855-1880 -- AN OUTLAW IN FICTIONAL BIOGRAPHY: MICHAEL ONDAATJE'S BILLY THE KID 1859-1881 -- 'FAMILY BIOGRAPHIES' OF RIMBAUD, FOLLOWED BY SCEPTICISM AND ANTI-BIOGRAPHY -- ARTHUR RIMBAUD: STEINMETZ'S BIOGRAPHY AND MICHON'S BIOGRAPHICAL FICTION -- JEAN GENET: BIOGRAPHY AND SAINT GENET -- JEAN GENET: BIOGRAPHY AFTER SAINT GENET -- THE OUTSIDER'S SOLITUDE --BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX. Sommario/riassunto Concerning itself with biography and bio-fiction written in English and in French and also taking in American and Australian subjects, Outsider Biographies focuses on writers who have a criminal record and on notorious criminals who authors of bio-fiction consider as writers. It pursues an understanding of the formal effects of life-writers' struggles between championing their subjects and a deep ambivalence

towards their subjects' crimes. The book analyses the challenge that

these literary outsiders present to the mainstream French- and

English-language traditions where many biographers assign merit to productive lives well lived. The book's approach illuminates both differences in those traditions from the mid-eighteenth, to the twenty-first century and a convergence between them, evident in the experimental-cum-fictional devices in recent English-language biography. Outsider Biographies advances wide-ranging new interpretations of the biographical writing on each of its seven subjects, but does so in a way that invites the reader picking up the book out of a passion for just one of those subjects, to follow the thread onto another and yet another.