1. Record Nr. UNINA9910810674703321 Autore Malpas Simon Titolo Thomas Pynchon // Simon Malpas and Andrew Taylor Pubbl/distr/stampa Manchester, UK:,: Manchester University Press,, 2015 ©2013 **ISBN** 1-78499-239-9 1-78499-238-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (vii, 244 pages) : digital file(s) Collana Contemporary American and Canadian writers Disciplina 813.54 Soggetti Literature Literary Studies: Fiction, Novelists & Prose Writers LITERARY CRITICISM / American / General Literary studies: fiction, novelists & prose writers Criticism, interpretation, etc. Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Includes bibliographical references ([228] - 238 pages) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: 'the fork in the road' -- Refuge and refuse in Slow Learner -- Convoluted reading: identity, interpretation and reference in The Crying of Lot 49 -- Disappearing points: V. -- 'A progressive knotting into': power, presentation and history in Gravity's Rainbow -- Cultural nostalgia and political possibility in Vineland -- Mason & Dixon and the transnational vortices of historical fiction -- 'I believe in incursion from elsewhere': political and aesthetic disruption in Against the Day --Conclusion: Inherent Vice as Pynchon Lite? Sommario/riassunto Now available in paperback, this is a comprehensive study of the most influential figure in postwar American literature. Over a writing career spanning more than fifty years, Thomas Pynchon has been at the forefront of America's engagement with postmodern literary possibilities. In chapters that address the full range of Pvnchon's career, from his earliest short stories and first novel, V., to his most recent work, this book offers highly accessible and detailed readings of

a writer whose work is indispensable to understanding how the

American novel has met the challenges of postmodernity. The authors discuss Pynchon's relationship to literary history, his engagement with discourses of science and utopianism, his interrogation of imperialism and his preoccupation with the paranoid sensibility. Invaluable to Pynchon scholars and to everyone working in the field of contemporary American fiction, this study explores how Pynchon's complex narratives work both as exuberant examples of formal experimentation and as serious interventions in the political health of the nation.