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Nota di contenuto	Trauma, memory and history / Hamid Dabashi -- Oblique points of entry / Irit Rogoff -- Framing the discipline of contemporary art of the Arab world through the press / Nada Shabout -- Mapping Iranian contemporary art publications and knowledge-production / Hamid Severi -- The spectre (of knowledge) : recording the vernacular / Shaheen Merali -- Education and the teaching of contemporary art from the Middle East / James Allan -- The crisis of belonging : on the politics of art practice in contemporary Iran / Hamid Keshmirshekan -- A short history of postwar art in Lebanon through the early work of Walid Sadek and Ziad Abillama / Sarah Rogers -- Deconstruction and the contemporary arts of Iran : reversal of the hierarchy / Abbas Daneshvari -- Introducing art from the Middle East and its diaspora into western institutions : benefits and dilemmas / Fereshteh Daftari -- Histories of the present : the changing worlds of Middle Eastern artists / Venetia Porter -- Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art as a microcosm of the state's cultural agenda / Helia Darabi.

How is home-grown contemporary art viewed within the Middle East? And is it understood differently outside the region? What is liable to be lost when contemporary art from the Middle East is 'transferred' to international contexts - and how can it be reclaimed? This timely book tackles ongoing questions about how 'local' perspectives on contemporary art from the Middle East are defined and how these perspectives intersect with global art discourses. Inside, leading figures from the Middle Eastern art world, western art historians, art theorists and museum curators discuss the historical and cultural circumstances which have shaped contemporary art from the Middle East, reflecting on recent exhibitions and curatorial projects and revealing how artists have struggled with the label of 'Middle Eastern Artist'. Chapters reflect on the fundamental methodologies of art history and cultural studies - considering how relevant they are when studying contemporary art from the Middle East - and investigate the ways in which contemporary, so-called 'global', theories impact on the making of art in the region. Drawing on their unique expertise, the book's contributors offer completely new perspectives on the most recent cultural, intellectual and socio-political developments of contemporary art from the Middle East.

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