Record Nr. UNINA9910812335403321 Autore Malewitz Raymond Titolo The practice of misuse: rugged consumerism in contemporary American culture / / Raymond Malewitz Pubbl/distr/stampa Stanford, California: .: Stanford University Press. . 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8047-9299-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource Disciplina 810.9/3553 American literature - 20th century - History and criticism Soggetti Consumption (Economics) in literature Material culture in literature Consumption (Economics) - United States Material culture - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Misuse: From Aesthetics to Practice -- 2. Theaters of Rugged Consumerism -- 3. The Garden in the Machine: Biomimetic Hybrids and the Tragedy of Singular Use -- 4. The Rugged Consumer Bildungsroman -- 5. Ritual, Play, and Neoliberal Rugged Consumerism -- 6. The Commodity at the End of the World -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index This title examines the oppositional emergence and eventual Sommario/riassunto ideological containment of 'rugged consumers' in late 20th century American literature, who creatively misuse, reuse, and repurpose the objects within their environments to suit their idiosyncratic needs and desires. The book shows how certain authors position their rugged consumers within the intertwined American myths of primal nature and rugged individualism, creating left- and right-libertarian maker

communities that are skeptical of both traditional political institutions and (in its pre-neoliberal state) globalised corporate capitalism.