Record Nr. UNINA9910814858603321 Autore Fend Mechthild Titolo Fleshing out surfaces: Skin in French art and medicine, 1650–1850 / / Mechthild Fend Pubbl/distr/stampa Manchester:,: Manchester University Press,, 2017 Baltimore, Md.:,: Project MUSE,, 2017 ©2017 **ISBN** 1-5261-0467-9 1-5261-2072-0 1-5261-0466-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (347 pages): color illustrations Collana Rethinking art's histories Disciplina 709.944 Soggetti Skin - Psychological aspects Skin in art Human skin color in art Art, French - Themes, motives Anatomy, Artistic Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Previously issued in print: 2017. Includes bibliographical references (pages 281-303) and index. Nota di bibliografia The surface's substance -- Nervous canvas -- Sensitive limit -- Skin Nota di contenuto colour -- Seeing through the skin -- Hermetic borderline -- Epilogue : segregagtion. Sommario/riassunto 'Fleshing out surfaces' is the first English-language book on skin and flesh tones in art. It considers flesh and skin in art theory, image making and medical discourse in seventeenth to nineteenth-century France. Describing a gradual shift between the early modern and the modern period, it argues that what artists made when imitating human nakedness was not always the same. Initially understood in terms of the body's substance, of flesh tones and body colour, it became increasingly a matter of skin, skin colour and surfaces. Each chapter is dedicated to a different notion of skin and its colour, from flesh tones via a membrane imbued with nervous energy to hermetic borderline.

Looking in particular at works by Fragonard, David, Girodet, Benoist

and Ingres, the focus is on portraits, as facial skin is a special arena for testing painterly skills and a site where the body and the image become equally expressive.--