1. Record Nr. UNINA9910815268403321 Autore Swensen Cole <1955-> Titolo Ours [[electronic resource] /] / Cole Swensen Berkeley,: University of California Press, c2008 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-36052-3 9786612360527 0-520-94156-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (114 p.) Collana New California poetry Disciplina 811/.54 Soggetti Gardens Gardens, French Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- INTRODUCTION --HISTORY -- PRINCIPLES -- VAUX-LE-VICOMTE -- OTHER GARDENS --THE MEDICIS -- VERSAILLES -- STATUARY -- ORANGERIES -- "YOU ARE A HAPPY MAN, LE NÔTRE" Sommario/riassunto These poems are about gardens, particularly the seventeenth-century French baroque gardens designed by the father of the form, André Le Nôtre. While the poems focus on such examples as Versailles, which Le Nôtre created for Louis XIV, they also explore the garden as metaphor. Using the imagery of the garden, Cole Swensen considers everything from human society to the formal structure of poetry. She looks in particular at the concept of public versus private property, asking who actually owns a garden? A gentle irony accompanies the guestion because in French, the phrase "le nôtre" means "ours." Whereas all of Le Nôtre's gardens were designed and built for the aristocracy, today most

are public parks. Swensen probes the two senses of "le nôtre" to

discover where they intersect, overlap, or blur.