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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Plan of the Work -- On Translation, Transliteration, Pronunciation, and Time -- Introduction -- Mystical Improvisations -- Love's Secrets -- Joined at the Crossroads -- The Beloved's Wine -- Poem of the Sufi Way in "T"-- Major -- The Poetry of Recollection -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Umar Ibn al-Fri (1181–1235), author of two classic works, the Wine Ode and the Poem of the Sufi Way, is considered the greatest Sufi poet to write in Arabic. In this study, these and other poems by Ibn al-Fri are considered within the context of Islamic mysticism, Arabic literature, and Sufi poetry. Th. Emil Homerin uncovers the literary and religious intent of these poems and their aesthetic and mystical content, showing them to be a type of meditative poetry. Indeed, Ibn al-Fri often alludes to the Sufi practice of "recollection," or meditation on God, to evoke a view of existence in which the seeker may be transformed by an epiphany of love revealing an intimate relationship to the divine beloved. Homerin provides elegant translations and close readings of Ibn al-Fri's poetry, highlighting the beauty of his verse, its moods, meanings, and significance within Islamic mysticism and Arabic poetry, where Ibn al-Fri is still known as the "Sultan of the Lovers."