Record Nr. UNINA9910815578303321 **Titolo** How we became human: mimetic theory and the science of evolutionary origins / / edited by Pierpaolo Antonello and Paul Gifford Pubbl/distr/stampa East Lansing:,: Michigan State University Press,, [2015] ©2015 **ISBN** 1-62895-233-4 1-60917-461-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (406 p.) Collana Studies in violence, mimesis, and culture Disciplina 192.200398474 Soggetti Social evolution Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Coevolution and mimesis / William H. Durham -- Genes and mimesis : Nota di contenuto structural patterns in Darwinism and mimetic theory / Paul Dumouchel -- Maladaptation, counterintuitiveness and symbolism : the challenge of mimetic theory to evolutionary thinking / Pierpaolo Antonello --Convergence between mimetic theory and imitation research / Scott Garrels -- The deepest principle of life: neurobiology and the psychology of desire / William B. Hurlbut -- The three Rs: retaliation, revenge, and (especially) redirected aggression / David P. Barash --Violent origins: mimetic rivalry in Darwinian evolution / Melvin Konner -- Mechanisms of internal cohesion : scapegoating and parochial altruism / Zoey Reeve -- A mediatory theory of hominization / Giuseppe Fornari -- Animal scapegoating at Catalhoyuk / Rene Girard -- Self-transcendence and tangled hierarchies in Catalhovuk / Jean-Pierre Dupuy -- Rethinking the Neolithic revolution: symbolism and sacrifice at Gobekli Tepe / Paul Gifford and Pierpaolo Antonello --Intrinsic or situated religiousness: a Girardian solution / Warren S. Brown, James Van Slyke, and Scott Garrels -- Homo religiosus in mimetic perspective : an evolutionary dialogue / Paul Gifford. Sommario/riassunto From his groundbreaking Violence and the Sacred and Things Hidden since the Foundation of the World, Rene Girard's mimetic theory is presented as elucidating "the origins of culture." He posits that archaic religion (or "the sacred"), particularly in its dynamics of sacrifice and ritual, is a neglected and major key to unlocking the enigma of "how we became human." French philosopher of science Michel Serres states that Girard's theory provides a Darwinian theory of culture because it "proposes a dynamic, shows an evolution and gives a universal explanation." This major claim has, however, re