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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Copyright page -- Contributors -- Abbreviations -- Introduction / Marco Antonio Santamaría -- Conservation and Restoration -- Problems Pertaining to the Restoration, Conservation, and Reproduction of the Derveni Papyrus / Roger T. Macfarlane and Gianluca Del Mastro -- Reconstruction and Interpretation of the First Six Columns -- Some Textual Issues on Column III (ed. Piano) / Valeria Piano -- Daimons in the Derveni Papyrus and in Early Stoicism / Carlos Megino Rodríguez -- The Orphic Poem -- The Orphic Poem of the Derveni Papyrus and Hesiod's Theogony / Marco Antonio Santamaría -- μ and Parmenides' What-is / Chiara Ferella -- The Interpretation of the Poem: Exegesis and Cosmogony -- Misleading and Unclear to the Many: Allegory in the Derveni Papyrus and the Orphic Theogony of Hieronymus / Radcliffe G. Edmonds III -- The Sage Speaks in Riddles: Notes on Col. VII of the Derveni Papyrus / Sofia Ranzato -- The Commentary of the Derveni Papyrus: Pre-Socratic Cosmogonies at Work / Alberto Bernabé -- The Last Columns -- Rites and Officiants in Col. XX of the Derveni Papyrus / Ana Isabel Jiménez San Cristóbal -- Aphrodite Urania and Uranus Euphronides in the Derveni Papyrus: A Semantic Genealogy / Marisa Tortorelli Ghidini -- Back Matter -- Bibliography of the Derveni Papyrus (1997–2018) -- Index Locorum -- Index Nominum et Rerum Notabiliorum -- Index Verborum Graecorum.

Sommario/riassunto

The Derveni Papyrus: Unearthing Ancient Mysteries is devoted to this fascinating and challenging document, discovered in 1962 in a tomb in Derveni, near Thessaloniki, and dated c. 340-320 BCE. It contains a text probably written at the end of 5th c. BCE, which after some reflections on minor divinities and unusual cults, comments upon a poem attributed to Orpheus from an allegorical and philosophical perspective. This volume focuses on the restoration and conservation of the papyrus, the ideas of the anonymous author about Erinyes and daimons, the quoted Orphic poem in comparison with Hesiod's Theogony and Parmenides' poem, the exegetical approach of the commentator, his cosmogonic system, his attitude regarding mystery cults and his peculiar theology.