

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910817909703321
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Titolo	Spenser's supreme fiction : Platonic natural philosophy and The faerie queene // Jon A. Quitslund
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, [Ontario] ; ; Buffalo, [New York] ; ; London, [England] : , : University of Toronto Press, , 2001 ©2001
ISBN	1-282-01428-5 9786612014284 1-4426-8011-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (388 p.)
Disciplina	821/.3
Soggetti	English poetry - Greek influences Philosophy of nature in literature Neoplatonism in literature Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The Maker's Mind -- The Author in 1580 and 1590 -- The Subject of Gender -- The Poet's Career in 1580 and 1590 -- Dialogical Relations between Gabriel Harvey and Edmund Spenser -- The World and the Book -- Nature and Myth -- 'The whole circle or compasse of Learning' -- The Poem as Heterocosm -- 'Deepe within the mynd' -- The Poet as Magus and Viator -- Isomorphism of the Soul and the World -- Socratic and Esoteric Humanism -- Poetic and Philosophical Discourses -- Spenser's Poetry and Ficinian Platonism -- Platonic Natural Philosophy in the Aeneid -- The Organic Soul or Spiritus -- Landino's Commentary on the Aeneid -- English Protestant Responses to Platonic Natural Philosophy -- 'Within This Wide Great Vniuerse' -- Nature in The Faerie Queene: Concepts and Phenomena -- Hierarchical and Dynamic Principles -- Night and Day; Destiny, Necessity, Providence -- Fate and Fortune -- Strife and Love -- The Four Elements -- Sprights and Spirits -- Decay -- Reading the Garden of Adonis Canto -- Sources of the Source -- Reading the Garden as a Woman -- Courtly and Erudite

Trattati d'Amore -- Formal Symmetries in the Garden Canto -- The Ontological Status of the Garden -- Gender Roles and Family Life in the Garden -- 'In the thickest couert of that shade' -- The Work of Mourning -- The Platonic Program of the Garden Canto -- Leone Ebreo's Exposition of Two Myths in The Symposium -- Louis Le Roy's Le Sympose de Platon -- Marsilio Ficino's De Amore -- Aristophanes' Myth and the Daughters of Chrysogone.

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Sommario/riassunto

Quitslund argues that Spenser sought authority for his poem by grounding its narrative in a divinely ordained natural order, intelligible in terms derived from the ancient sources of poetry and philosophy.

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