

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910818507003321
Autore	Smith Steven B. <1951->
Titolo	Spinoza's book of life [[electronic resource] ] : freedom and redemption in the ethics // Steven B. Smith
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2003
ISBN	1-281-72165-4 9786611721657 0-300-12849-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (257 p.)
Disciplina	170
Soggetti	Free will and determinism - History - 17th century Ethics, Modern - 17th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 203-215) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Thinking about the ethics -- Thinking about God -- Thinking about thinking -- Thinking about desire -- Thinking about politics -- Thinking about love -- The authority of reason.
Sommario/riassunto	Most readers of Spinoza treat him as a pure metaphysician, a grim determinist, or a stoic moralist, but none of these descriptions captures the author of the Ethics, argues Steven B. Smith in this intriguing book. Offering a new reading of Spinoza's masterpiece, Smith asserts that the Ethics is a celebration of human freedom and its attendant joys and responsibilities and should be placed among the great founding documents of the Enlightenment. Two aspects of Smith's book distinguish it from other studies. It treats the famous "geometrical method" of the Ethics as a form of moral rhetoric, a model for the construction of individuality. And it presents the Ethics as a companion to Spinoza's major work of political philosophy, the Theologico-Political Treatise, each work helping to explore the problem of freedom. Affirming Spinoza's centrality for both critics and defenders of modernity, the book will be of value to students of political theory, philosophy, and intellectual history.