

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819392203321
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Titolo	The young Derrida and French philosophy, 1945-1968 // Edward Baring [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2011
ISBN	1-139-15297-1 1-107-22834-4 1-283-34256-1 9786613342560 1-139-16052-4 1-139-16152-0 1-139-15595-4 1-139-15770-1 1-139-15947-X 0-511-84208-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 326 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Ideas in context ; ; 98
Classificazione	PHI009000
Disciplina	194
Soggetti	Philosophy, French - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Humanist pretensions: Catholics, communists and Sartre's struggle for existentialism in postwar France -- Derrida's "Christian" existentialism -- Normalization: the Ecole normale superieure and Derrida's turn to Husserl -- Genesis as a problem: Derrida reading Husserl -- The God of mathematics: Derrida and the origin of geometry -- A history of differance -- L'ambiguite du concours: the deconstruction of commentary and interpretation in Speech and Phenomena -- The ends of man: reading and writing at the ENS -- Epilogue.
Sommario/riassunto	In this powerful study Edward Baring sheds fresh light on Jacques Derrida, one of the most influential yet controversial intellectuals of the twentieth century. Reading Derrida from a historical perspective and drawing on new archival sources, The Young Derrida and French

Philosophy shows how Derrida's thought arose in the closely contested space of post-war French intellectual life, developing in response to Sartrean existentialism, religious philosophy and the structuralism that found its base at the Ecole Normale Superieure. In a history of the philosophical movements and academic institutions of post-war France, Baring paints a portrait of a community caught between humanism and anti-humanism, providing a radically new interpretation of the genesis of deconstruction and of one of the most vibrant intellectual moments of modern times.

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