1. Record Nr. UNINA9910820591603321
Autore Stein Gertrude <1874-1946.>
Titolo Stanzas in meditation [felectro

Stanzas in meditation [[electronic resource] /] / Gertrude Stein; edited

by Susannah Hollister and Emily Setina; with an introduction by Joan

Retallack

Pubbl/distr/stampa New Haven; ; London, : Yale University Press, c2012

ISBN 1-283-42598-X

9786613425980 0-300-15733-9

Edizione [Corrected ed.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (224 p.)

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Disciplina 811/.52

Soggetti American literature - 20th century

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali "In association with the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library".

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Not Reading Stanzas in Meditation -- The Turning Point -- The Impossible: Gertrude Stein -- Stanzas in Meditation -- Appendix A. Publication History -- Appendix B. Reading Text -- Appendix C.

Editorial Practices -- Appendix D. Notes

Sommario/riassunto In the 1950's, Yale University Press published a number of Gertrude

Stein's posthumous works, among them her incomparable Stanzas in Meditation. Since that time, scholars have discovered that Stein's poem exists in several versions: a manuscript that Stein wrote and two typescripts that her partner Alice B. Toklas prepared. Toklas's work on the second typescript changed the poem when, enraged upon detecting in it references to a former lover, she not only adjusted the typescript but insisted that Stein make revisions in the original manuscript. This edition of Stanzas in Meditation is the first to confront the complicated story of its composition and revision. Through meticulous archival work, the editors present a reliable reading text of Stein's original manuscript, as well as an appendix with the textual variants among the

poem's several versions. This record of Stein's multi-layered revisions

enables readers to engage more fully with the author's radically experimental poem and also to detect the literary impact of Stein's relationship with Toklas. The editors' preface and poet Joan Retallack's introduction offer insight into the complexities of reading Stein's poetry and the innovative modes of reading that her works require and generate. Students and admirers of Stein will welcome this illuminating new contribution to Stein's oeuvre.