Record Nr. UNINA9910822019803321 Autore Levi Neil Jonathan <1967-> Titolo Modernist form and the myth of Jewification / / Neil Levi New York,: Fordham University Press, 2014 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8232-5508-5 0-8232-6086-0 0-8232-5509-3 0-8232-5507-7 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (414 p.) REL040030LIT004170PHI001000 Classificazione Disciplina 700/.4112 700.4112 Soggetti Modernism (Art) Art criticism **Antisemitism** 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 and index.

Nota di contenuto

Machine generated contents note: -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Phobic Reading, Modernist Form, and the Fi

Introduction: Phobic Reading, Modernist Form, and the Figure of the Antisemite -- Part I: Modernist Form as Judaization -- 1. Genealogies: Judaization, Wagner, Nordau -- 2. Jews, Art, and History: The Nazi Exhibition of "Degenerate Art" as Historicopolitical Spectacle -- 3. Fanatical Abstraction: Wyndham Lewis's Critique of Modernist Form as Judaization in Time and Western Man -- Part II: Modernist Form and the Antisemitic Imagination -- 4. Straw Men: Projection, Personification, and Narrative Form in Ulysses -- 5. Images of the Bilderverbot: Adorno, Antisemitism, and the Enemies of Modernism -- 6. The Labor of Late Modernist Poetics: Beckett after Celine -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

"Why were modernist works of art, literature, and music that were neither by nor about Jews nevertheless interpreted as Jewish? In this book, Neil Levi explores how the antisemitic fantasy of a mobile, dangerous, contagious Jewish spirit unfolds in the antimodernist polemics of Richard Wagner, Max Nordau, Wyndham Lewis, and Louis-Ferdinand Celine, reaching its apotheosis in the notorious 1937 Nazi

exhibition "Degenerate Art." Levi then turns to James Joyce, Theodor W. Adorno, and Samuel Beckett, offering radical new interpretations of these modernist authors to show how each presents his own poetics as a self-conscious departure from the modern antisemitic imaginary. Levi claims that, just as antisemites once feared their own contamination by a mobile, polluting Jewish spirit, so too much of postwar thought remains governed by the fear that it might be contaminated by the spirit of antisemitism. Thus he argues for the need to confront and work through our own fantasies and projections not only about the figure of the Jew but also about that of the antisemite"--