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Autore	Fairfield John D. <1955->
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Nota di contenuto	Preface: The Public and Its Possibilities -- Introduction: Liberalism and the Civic Strand in the American Past -- Civic Aspirations and Liberal Values -- An Urban Thesis -- Civic Aspirations and Market Development in a Long Age of Revolution -- Democratizing the Republican Ideal of Citizenship: Virtue, Interests, and the Citizen-Proprietor in the Revolutionary Era -- Creating Citizens in a Commercial Republic: Market Transformation and the Free Labor Ideal, 1812-1873 -- The Short, Strange Career of Laissez-Faire: Liberal Reformers and Genteel Culture in the Gilded Age -- Popular Culture, Political Culture: Building a Democratic Public -- The Democratic Public in City and Nation: The Jacksonian City and the Limits of Antislavery --

The Democratic Public Discredited: The New York City Draft Riots and Urban Reconstruction, 1850-1872 -- Cultural Hierarchy and Good Government: The Democratic Public in Eclipse -- The Public in Progressivism and War -- The Republican Movement: The Rediscovery of the Public in the Progressive Era -- The Public Goes to War but Does Not Come Back -- A Democracy of Consumers -- From Economic Democracy to Social Security: The Labor Movement and the Rise of the Welfare/Warfare State -- Constructing a Consumer Culture: Redirecting Leisure from Civic Engagement to Insatiable Desire -- Private Vision, Public Resources: Mass Suburbanization and the Decline of the City -- Conclusion: The Future of the City: Civic Renewal and Environmental Politics

Sommario/riassunto

In his compelling reinterpretation of American history, *The Public and Its Possibilities*, John Fairfield argues that our unrealized civic aspirations provide the essential counterpoint to an excessive focus on private interests. Inspired by the revolutionary generation, nineteenth-century Americans struggled to build an economy and a culture to complement their republican institutions. But over the course of the twentieth century, a corporate economy and consumer culture undercut civic values, conflating consumer and citizen. Fairfield places the city at th
