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Autore	Akopyan Ovanes
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Sommario/riassunto

In *Debating the Stars*, Ovanes Akopyan sheds new light on the astrological controversies that arose in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries after the publication of Giovanni Pico della Mirandola's *Disputationes adversus astrologiam divinatricem* (1496). This treatise has often been held responsible for a contemporary reassessment of the status of astrology, a discipline that attracted widespread fascination in the Renaissance. Akopyan's reconstruction of the development of Pico's views demonstrates that the *Disputationes* was a continuation of rather than a drastic rupture with the rest of his legacy. By investigating the philosophical and humanist foundations for Pico's attack on astrological predictions, Akopyan challenges the popular assumption that the treatise was written under Girolamo Savonarola's spell. He shows instead how it was appropriated ideologically by pro-Savonarolan circles after Pico's death. This book also offers a comprehensive study of the immediate reception of the *Disputationes* across Italy and Europe and reveals that the debates initiated by Pico's intervention pervaded all of the European intellectual oikumene.
