Record Nr. UNINA9910825140503321 Autore Zalloua Zahi Anbra <1971-> Titolo Reading unruly: interpretation and its ethical demands / / Zahi Zalloua Pubbl/distr/stampa Lincoln, [Nebraska];; London, [England]:,: University of Nebraska Press, , 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8032-5468-7 0-8032-5465-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (443 p.) Collana Symploke Studies in Contemporary Theory Classificazione LIT004150PHI005000 840.9/355 Disciplina French literature - History and criticism - Theory, etc Soggetti Disorderly conduct in literature Literature and morals Aesthetics in literature Ethics in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese Materiale a stampa **Formato** Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Cover; Series Page; Title Page; Copyright Page; Dedication; Contents; Nota di contenuto Acknowledgments; Introduction; 1. Montaigne; 2. Diderot's Rameau's Nephew; 3. Translating Modernite; 4. Living with Nausea; 5. Intoxicating Meaning; 6. Fidelity to Sexual Difference; Conclusion; Notes; Works Cited; Index; About the Author; Series List Sommario/riassunto "Drawing on literary theory and canonical French literature, Reading Unruly examines unruliness as both an aesthetic category and a mode of reading conceived as ethical response. Zahi Zalloua argues that when faced with an unruly work of art, readers confront an ethical double bind, hesitating then between the two conflicting injunctions of either thematizing (making sense) of the literary work, or attending to its aesthetic alterity or unreadability. Creatively hesitating between incommensurable demands (to interpret but not to translate back into familiar terms), ethical readers are invited to cultivate an appreciation for the unruly, to curb the desire for hermeneutic mastery without simultaneously renouncing meaning or the interpretive endeavor as

such. Examining French texts from Montaigne's sixteenth-century

Essays to Diderot's fictional dialogue Rameau's Nephew and Baudelaire's prose poems The Spleen of Paris, to the more recent works of Jean-Paul Sartre's Nausea, Alain Robbe-Grillet's Jealousy, and Marguerite Duras's The Ravishing of Lol Stein, Reading Unruly demonstrates that in such an approach to literature and theory, reading itself becomes a desire for more, an ethical and aesthetic desire to prolong rather than to arrest the act of interpretation. "--