Record Nr. UNINA9910828810003321 Autore Reader Keith Titolo The abject object: avatars of the phallus in contemporary French theory, literature and film / / Keith Reader Amsterdam;; New York, N.Y.,: Rodopi, 2006 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 94-012-0173-0 1-4237-8913-X Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (226 p.) Collana Chiasma::17 Disciplina 840.9/353 Soggetti French literature - 20th century - History and criticism - Theory, etc. French literature - 20th century - History and criticism Gender identity in literature Gender identity in motion pictures Masculinity in literature Masculinity in motion pictures Motion pictures - France - History Penis in literature 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 Introduction -- Chapter One: The Lacanian phallus -- Chapter Two: Abjection -- Chapter Three: The abject phallus in fiction: Bataille and Adamov -- Chapter Four: Abject phalluses, abject penises: Serge Doubrovsky and Michel Houellebecg -- Chapter Five: Phallic narrative transvestism: Christiane Rochefort and Christine Angot -- Chapter Six: The abject phallus in cinema: Godard, Ferreri, Eustache, Noe, Bonello -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

This book addresses representations and constructions of masculinity in crisis in contemporary French culture by way of two important concepts - the phallus (largely but not solely in (a) Lacanian sense(s)) and abjection (Kristeva). Scrutiny of these concepts informs readings of a number of texts - literary (Bataille, Adamov, Doubrovsky, Houellebecq, Rochefort, Angot) and cinematic (Ferreri, Eustache, Godard, Noe, Bonello) - in which the abject phallus is a significant

factor. The texts chosen all describe or stage crises of masculinity and mastery in ways that suggest that these supposedly beneficent qualities - and the phallus that symbolizes them - can often be perceived as burdensome or even detestable. Abjection is a widely-used concept in contemporary cultural studies, but has not hitherto been articulated with the phallus as emblem of male dominance as it is here. The volume will be of interest to those working in the areas of French, gender and film studies.