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Autore	Pickover Clifford A
Titolo	The Zen of magic squares, circles, and stars [[electronic resource]] : an exhibition of surprising structures across dimensions / / Clifford A. Pickover
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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- CHAPTER ONE. Magic Construction -- CHAPTER TWO. Classification -- CHAPTER THREE. Gallery 1: Squares, Cubes, and Tesseracts -- CHAPTER FOUR. Gallery 2: Circles and Spheres -- CHAPTER FIVE. Gallery 3: Stars, Hexagons, and Other Beauties -- Some Final Thoughts -- Notes -- Index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	Humanity's love affair with mathematics and mysticism reached a critical juncture, legend has it, on the back of a turtle in ancient China. As Clifford Pickover briefly recounts in this entralling book, the most comprehensive in decades on magic squares, Emperor Yu was supposedly strolling along the Yellow River one day around 2200 B.C. when he spotted the creature: its shell had a series of dots within squares. To Yu's amazement, each row of squares contained fifteen dots, as did the columns and diagonals. When he added any two cells opposite along a line through the center square, like 2 and 8, he always arrived at 10. The turtle, unwitting inspirer of the "Yu" square, went on to a life of courtly comfort and fame. Pickover explains why Chinese emperors, Babylonian astrologer-priests, prehistoric cave people in

France, and ancient Mayans of the Yucatan were convinced that magic squares--arrays filled with numbers or letters in certain arrangements--held the secret of the universe. Since the dawn of civilization, he writes, humans have invoked such patterns to ward off evil and bring good fortune. Yet who would have guessed that in the twenty-first century, mathematicians would be studying magic squares so immense and in so many dimensions that the objects defy ordinary human contemplation and visualization? Readers are treated to a colorful history of magic squares and similar structures, their construction, and classification along with a remarkable variety of newly discovered objects ranging from ornate inlaid magic cubes to hypercubes. Illustrated examples occur throughout, with some patterns from the author's own experiments. The tesseracts, circles, spheres, and stars that he presents perfectly convey the age-old devotion of the math-minded to this Zenlike quest. Number lovers, puzzle aficionados, and math enthusiasts will treasure this rich and lively encyclopedia of one of the few areas of mathematics where the contributions of even nonspecialists count.

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Titolo

Policing insecurity : police reform, security, and human rights in Latin America / edited by Niels Uildriks

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Nota di contenuto

Police reform, security and human rights in Latin America : an introduction / Niels Uildriks -- Recent police reforms in Latin America / Hugo Fruhling -- On the long road to demilitarization and professionalization of the police in Brazil / Saima Husain -- Post-war violence and police reform in Guatemala / Marie-Louise Glebbeek -- International police assistance in Jamaica under escalated violence and institutionalized non-integrity / Niels Uildriks -- Police transformation and international cooperation : the Jamaican experience / Anthony Harriott -- Police and judicial reform in Chile / Lucia Dammert -- Police reform in Argentina : public security versus human rights / Mark Ungar -- Policing insecurity and police reform in Mexico City and beyond / Niels Uildriks.

Sommario/riassunto

Profound distrust commonly characterizes not only the relationship between citizens and state institutions, but also social, as well as inter- and intra-state relations. This impacts the effectiveness and quality of the service provided by state institutions. The degree to which police and judicial reforms are able to generate trust on these fronts is therefore an important yardstick to judge their relevance under varying circumstances of 'post-authoritarian rule', but this question is largely ignored in the current literature on policing and reform. From this perspective, Policing Insecurity: