

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910959546503321
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Titolo	Artificial culture : identity, technology and bodies / / Tama Leaver
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Routledge, 2012
ISBN	1-136-48123-0 1-283-45882-9 9786613458827 1-136-48124-9 0-203-13417-6
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (221 p.)
Collana	Routledge research in cultural and media studies ; ; 37
Disciplina	306.4
Soggetti	Artificial intelligence Artificial life Popular culture Science - Social aspects Technology - Social aspects Virtual reality
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	Front Cover; Artificial Culture; Copyright Page; Contents; List of Figures; Acknowledgements; An Artificial Introduction; Part I: Artificial Intelligence; 1. Early Artificial Intelligence Films: 'When are you going to let me out of this box?'; 2. 'I am a machine!': Artificial Intelligences in Contemporary Cinema; Part II: Artificial Life; 3. From Digital Genesis to the Artificial Other; 4. Diasporic Subjectivities: Not Quite 'Beyond the Infinite'; Part III: Artificial space; 5. The Fortification of Place in the Digital Age; 6. Resistance Is Spatial; 7. The Infinite Plasticity of the Digital? Part IV: Artificial People 8. Matrices of Embodiment; 9. The Symbiosis of Special Effects; Part V: Artificial Culture; 10. Before the Mourning; 11. Artificial Mourning: Spider-Man, Special Effects, and September 11; Artificial Conclusions; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	"<P><EM>Artificial Culture</EM> is an examination of the

articulation, construction, and representation of "the artificial" in contemporary popular cultural texts, especially science fiction films and novels. The book argues that today we live in an artificial culture due to the deep and inextricable relationship between people, our bodies, and technology at large. While the artificial is often imagined as outside of the natural order and thus also beyond the realm of humanity, paradoxically, artificial concepts are simultaneously produced and constructed by human ideas and labor. The artificial can thus act as a boundary point against which we as a culture can measure what it means to be human. Science fiction feature films and novels, and other related media, frequently and provocatively deploy ideas of the artificial in ways which the lines between people, our bodies, spaces and culture more broadly blur and, at times, dissolve. </P><P>Building on the rich foundational work on the figures of the cyborg and posthuman, this book situates the artificial in similar terms, but from a nevertheless distinctly different viewpoint. After examining ideas of the artificial as deployed in film, novels and other digital contexts, this study concludes that we are now part of an artificial culture entailing a matrix which, rather than separating minds and bodies, or humanity and the digital, reinforces the symbiotic connection between identities, bodies, and technologies.</P>"--

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