

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910962308203321
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Titolo	American Lazarus : religion and the rise of African-American and native American literatures // Joanna Brooks
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford ; ; New York, : Oxford University Press, 2003
ISBN	0195347722 9780195347722
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	vi, 255 p
Disciplina	810.9/96073
Soggetti	American literature - African American authors - History and criticism Christianity and literature - United States - History - 18th century American literature - Revolutionary period, 1775-1783 - History and criticism American literature - Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775 - History and criticism American literature - Indian authors - History and criticism American literature - 1783-1850 - History and criticism Hymns, English - United States - History and criticism Christian literature, American - History and criticism Indians of North America - Intellectual life African Americans - Intellectual life African Americans in literature Indians in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 229-247) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- Introduction -- 1: Race, Religion, and Regeneration -- 2: Samson Occom and the Poetics of Native Revival -- 3: John Marrant and the Lazarus Theology of the Early Black Atlantic -- 4: Prince Hall Freemasonry: Secrecy, Authority, and Culture -- 5: Black Identity and Yellow Fever in Philadelphia -- Conclusion: Lazarus Lives -- Appendix 1: Samson Occom's Collection of Divine Hymns and Spiritual Songs (1774) -- Appendix 2: Author-Unknown Hymns Original to Occom's Collection -- Appendix 3: Original Hymns by Samson

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Sommario/riassunto

The 1780s and 1790s were a critical era for communities of color in the new United States of America. Even Thomas Jefferson observed that in the aftermath of the American Revolution, the spirit of the master is abating, that of the slave rising from the dust. This book explores the means by which the very first Black and Indian authors rose up to transform their communities and the course of American literary history. It argues that the origins of modern African-American and American Indian literatures emerged at the revolutionary crossroads of religion and racial formation as early Black and Indian authors reinvented American evangelicalism and created new postslavery communities, new categories of racial identification, and new literary traditions. While shedding fresh light on the pioneering figures of African-American and Native American cultural history--including Samson Occom, Prince Hall, Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, and John Marrant--this work also explores a powerful set of little-known Black and Indian sermons, narratives, journals, and hymns. Chronicling the early American communities of color from the separatist Christian Indian settlement in upstate New York to the first African Lodge of Freemasons in Boston, it shows how eighteenth-century Black and Indian writers forever shaped the American experience of race and religion. *American Lazarus* offers a bold new vision of a foundational moment in American literature. It reveals the depth of early Black and Indian intellectual history and reassesses the political, literary, and cultural powers of religion in America.

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