1. Record Nr. UNINA9910968079403321

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Titolo La pinta: Chicana/o prisoner literature, culture, and politics / / B.V.

Olguin

Pubbl/distr/stampa Austin, : University of Texas Press, c2010

ISBN 0-292-79344-8

Edizione [1st ed.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (337 p.)

Disciplina 365/.608968073

Soggetti Mexican American prisoners

Mexican American prisoners - Political activity

Prisoners - Civil rights - United States

Mexican Americans in popular culture - United States

Prisoners in popular culture - United States

Electronic books.
United States

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

Nota di contenuto

La pinta : history, culture, and ideology in Chicana/o convict discourse

-- Toward a materialist history of Chicana/o criminality: Modesta Avila as paradigmatic pinta -- Chicana/o archetypes: Jimmy Santiago Baca and the pinto picaresque -- Declamatory pinto poetry: the masculinist poetics and materialist politics of Ricardo Sanchez's Poesia de chingazos -- The pinto political unconscious: tattoos, abjection, and agency in Raul Salinas's convict body altars -- Hollywood placas: semiotics, spectatorship, and ideology in American me -- The pinto as palimpsest: Fred Gomez Carrasco and the south Texas culture wars -- Judy Lucero's gynocritical prison poetics and materialist Chicana politics -- Writing resistance?: academic institutions, ideology, and 'prison work' -- Pinta/os, human rights regimes, and a new paradigm

for U.S. prisoner rights activism.

Sommario/riassunto In this groundbreaking study based on archival research about Chicana and Chicano prisoners—known as Pintas and Pintos—as well as fresh

interpretations of works by renowned Pinta and Pinto authors and activists, B. V. Olguín provides crucial insights into the central roles

that incarceration and the incarcerated have played in the evolution of Chicana/o history, cultural paradigms, and oppositional political praxis. This is the first text on prisoners in general, and Chicana/o and Latina/o prisoners in particular, that provides a range of case studies from the nineteenth century to the present. Olguín places multiple approaches in dialogue through the pairing of representational figures in the history of Chicana/o incarceration with specific themes and topics. Case studies on the first nineteenth-century Chicana prisoner in San Quentin State Prison, Modesta Avila; renowned late-twentiethcentury Chicano poets Raúl Salinas, Ricardo Sánchez, and Jimmy Santiago Baca; lesser-known Chicana pinta and author Judy Lucero; and infamous Chicano drug baron and social bandit Fred Gómez Carrasco are aligned with themes from popular culture such as prisoner tattoo art and handkerchief art, Hollywood Chicana/o gangxploitation and the prisoner film American Me, and prisoner education projects. Olguín provides a refreshing critical interrogation of Chicana/o subaltern agency, which too often is celebrated as unambiguously resistant and oppositional. As such, this study challenges long-held presumptions about Chicana/o cultures of resistance and proposes important explorations of the complex and contradictory relationship between Chicana/o agency and ideology.