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Autore	Wilmer S. E
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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- 1. From British colony to independent nation: refashioning identity -- 2. Federalist and Democratic Republican theatre: partisan drama in nationalist trappings -- 3. Independence for whom? American Indians and the Ghost Dance -- 4. The role of workers in the nation: the Paterson Strike Pageant -- 5. Staging social rebellion in the 1960s -- 6. Reconfiguring patriarchy: suffragette and feminist plays -- 7. Imaging and deconstructing the multicultural nation in the 1990s.
Sommario/riassunto	Theatre has often served as a touchstone for moments of political change or national definition and as a way of exploring cultural and ethnic identity. In this book Steve Wilmer selects key historical moments in American history and examines how the theatre, in formal and informal settings, responded to these events. The book moves from the Colonial fight for independence, through Native American struggles, the Socialist Worker play, the Civil Rights Movement, and up to works of the last decade, including Tony Kushner's Angels in America. In addition to examining theatrical events and play texts, Wilmer also considers audience reception and critical response.