

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910973551403321
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Titolo	Trials of Arab modernity : literary affects and the new political / / Tarek El-Ariss
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Fordham University Press, 2013
ISBN	9780823252350 0823252353 9780823252367 0823252361 9780823252800 0823252809 9780823251735 082325173X
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (248 p.)
Disciplina	892.7/09006
Soggetti	Arabic literature - 20th century - History and criticism Arabic literature - 21st century - History and criticism Literature, Experimental - Arab countries - History and criticism Modernism (Literature) - Arab countries
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 matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Note on Translation and Transliteration -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Fantasy of the Imam -- 3. Aversion to Civilization -- 4. Staging the Colonial Encounter -- 5. Majnun Strikes Back -- 6. Hacking the Modern -- 7. Conclusion -- Notes -- Glossary -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Challenging prevalent conceptualizations of modernity—which treat it either as a Western ideology imposed by colonialism or as a universal narrative of progress and innovation—this study instead offers close readings of the simultaneous performances and contestations of modernity staged in works by authors such as Rifa'a al-Tahtawi, Ahmad Faris al-Shidyaq, Tayeb Salih, Hanan al-Shaykh, Hamdi Abu Golayyel, and Ahmad Alaidy. In dialogue with affect theory, deconstruction, and

psychoanalysis, the book reveals these trials to be a violent and ongoing confrontation with and within modernity. In pointed and witty prose, El-Ariss bridges the gap between Nahda (the so-called Arab project of Enlightenment) and postcolonial and postmodern fiction.
