

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910973943403321
Autore	Kaiser Birgit Mara
Titolo	Figures of simplicity : sensation and thinking in Kleist and Melville / / Birgit Mara Kaiser
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Albany, : State University of New York Press, c2011
ISBN	9781438432311 1438432313 9781441686961 1441686967
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (172 p.)
Collana	SUNY series, intersections: philosophy and critical theory
Disciplina	813/.3
Soggetti	Comparative literature - American and German Comparative literature - German and American Senses and sensation in literature Thought and thinking in literature
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 (p. 139-145) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: on subterranean connections -- Aesthetics: sensation and thinking reconsidered -- Sentimentalities -- Affectivity -- Insistence.
Sommario/riassunto	Figures of Simplicity explores a unique constellation of figures from philosophy and literature—Heinrich von Kleist, Herman Melville, G. W. Leibniz, and Alexander Baumgarten—in an attempt to recover alternative conceptions of aesthetics and dimensions of thinking lost in the disciplinary narration of aesthetics after Kant. This is done primarily by tracing a variety of "simpletons" that populate the writings of Kleist and Melville. These figures are not entirely ignorant, or stupid, but simple. Their simplicity is a way of thinking; one that author Birgit Mara Kaiser here suggests is affective thinking. Kaiser avers that Kleist and Melville are experimenting in their texts with an affective mode of thinking, and thereby continue, she argues, a key line within eighteenth-century aesthetics: the relation of rationality and sensibility. Through her analyses, she offers an outline of what thinking can look like if we take affectivity into account.

