1. Record Nr. UNINA9910975430303321 Autore McManus Susan Fictive Theories: Towards a Deconstructive and Utopian Political Titolo Imagination / / by S. McManus Pubbl/distr/stampa New York:,: Palgrave Macmillan US:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan,, 2005 **ISBN** 9786611367695 9781281367693 1281367699 9781403966681 1403966680 Edizione [1st ed. 2005.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (VII, 227 p.) Collana Studies in European Culture and History, , 2945-6282 Disciplina 321/.07 Soggetti Political science Political science - Philosophy Social sciences - Philosophy Knowledge, Theory of World politics **Political Theory** Political Philosophy Social Philosophy **Epistemology** Political Science Political History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [171]-219) and index. Nota di contenuto Cover -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: The Politics of Fictive Theories: Reading/Writing/Theory -- Part I Speculative Beginnings -- Chapter One: Hobbes: Restraining Fictions -- Chapter Two: Rousseau: Conceiving the Inconceivable -- Excursus "Mere High-

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Sommario/riassunto

Fictive Theories is a significant and innovative intervention in key debates in political theory concerning the ways theory should be philosophically grounded, and the task that political theory should set itself. Susan McManus argues that political theory has been grounded in controlling fictions (from fictions of human nature, to morals laws) that function to close possibility. Starting by interrogating the often hidden work of fictions in political theories, she argues that all theorizing is a form of world-creating. Rather than hiding the fictions at work in political theory. McManus argues that theory should become self-consciously fictive, and that there are political and ethical advantages to so doing. She then develops a uniquely deconstructive and utopian understanding of the project of political theory grounded in the 'fictive': a creative and future-oriented imagination. Rather than seeking to provide blueprints of how a polity should be organized, fictive theories seek to fabricate futures through the anticipatory articulation of possibility. Drawing on a rich range of thinkers from the traditions of political theory (Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant), deconstructive theory (Roland Barthes, Jacques Derrida) and utopian studies (Ernst Bloch), this book will be of interest to researchers, teachers and students in the fields of political theory, utopian studies, literary theory and cultural studies.