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Autore	Powell Larson <1960->
Titolo	The technological unconscious in German modernist literature : nature in Rilke, Benn, Brecht, and Doblin // Larson Powell
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Collana	Studies in German literature, linguistics, and culture
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Soggetti	German poetry - 20th century - History and criticism German literature - 20th century - Themes, motives Nature in literature Modernism (Aesthetics)
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The limits of technocracy -- Rilke's unnatural things: from the end of landscape to the Dinggedicht -- Nature on stage: Gottfried Benn: beyond the aesthetics of shock? -- The limits of violence: Doblin's colonial nature -- Nature as paradox: Brecht's exile lyric.
Sommario/riassunto	Even after the end of modernism and postmodernism, grandiose fantasies of artifice and self-reference still resonate in the 'social constructivism' of current literary and cultural theory: in the idea that we can perform or construct 'identities' or social roles without external constraint, as if we had consumer choice of self. Larson Powell's book posits nature as a limit to such fantasies, redefining aesthetic modernity's conception of and relation to nature and therefore its relation to reality. Powell's term 'the Technological Unconscious' refers both to the intersection between psychoanalysis and theories of modernism and to the philosophical mediation between history and nature, a motif important from Kant to Adorno. The book's four chapters center on the representation of nature in German prose and - especially - poetry by Rilke, Benn, Brecht, and Doblin from the years 1900 to 1945. In connection with these works, Powell analyzes the

conceptions of 'subject' and 'system' in the theories of Adorno, Luhmann, and Lacan and their relation to their complement, nature. 'The Technological Unconscious' is thus an important polemical intervention both in the debates over interdisciplinarity and in those between eclectic 'culturalist' theories such as New Historicism and postcolonialism on the one hand and systems theory and psychoanalysis on the other. Larson Powell is assistant professor of German at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

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