

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9911026168103321
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Titolo	Fe/Male Friends : Staging Gender and Friendship in Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Spanish Literature
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Madrid : , : Iberoamericana Editorial Vervuert, , 2023 ©2023
ISBN	9783968694283 3968694287
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (272 pages)
Collana	La Cuestión Palpitante. Los Siglos XVIII y XIX en España Series ; ; v.40
Altri autori (Persone)	KomorowskaAgnieszka
Disciplina	860.8/003
Soggetti	Friendship in literature Gender identity in literature LITERARY CRITICISM / European / Spanish & Portuguese Libros electronicos.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Contiene bibliografia.
Nota di contenuto	Cover -- Halftitle -- Title -- Copyright -- Content -- Gender Matters: Historical Discourses on Friendship. An Introduction -- Staging Friendship and the Female Body Politic in Early Modern Spanish Theater -- Mi casa es su casa. The Gender Politics of Hospitality and Friendship in the Spanish comedia of the Seventeenth Century -- Instrumental Friendship in José Camerino's El pícaro amante -- The Representation of Authority in Emotional Friendships. The Letters from King Philip IV and Infanta María Teresa of Austria to the Countess of Paredes -- The Spiritual Bond of Female Friendship in Early Modern Monastic Literature (Teresa of Ávila and Marcela de San Félix) -- Two Is One Too Little. Moral Regulations of Friendship in the Spanish Eighteenth Century and its Gender-Related Implications -- Friendship as Cultural Metaphor in Cadalso's Cartas marruecas: Male Friendship and Feminized amistad universal -- Eighteenth-Century Spanish Women Writers and Models for Friendship -- Solidarity, paisanaje, or amistad? Cruz's majos and Eighteenth-Century Laboring Friendship -- "Aquel amor tranquilo y constante que tanto se parece a la amistad, y es el único que puede hacer los matrimonios felices." Conjugal Friendship in the Spanish

Sommario/riassunto

Although the traditions of *philia* and *amicitia* proclaim friendship as a universal concept, it has been an androcentric model until the emergence of the female friend in the Age of Enlightenment. This book analyzes the discursive turn from premodern to modern gendered constructions of friends in Spanish literature and sheds light on specific models of male, female, and mixed relationships in the seventeenth and eighteenth century. Our approach reveals the gendering of male friendship through the exclusion of women and shows the crucial moment when women appear capable of true friendship. The study traces the process of transition from a homosocial bond based on a feudal notion of honor in the *Siglo de Oro* to new forms of affective relations in a proto-bourgeois society that promotes equality, reason and citizenship. This book spans two centuries of friendship and scrutinizes the creation of specifically gendered social bonds in literary and theoretical frameworks ranging from political writing to poetry, and from the working classes to the intellectual elites. Through *novellas*, novels, plays, poems, moral weeklies, and letters by female and male authors, every chapter examines a specific concept of female friends related to society, politics, ethics, subjectivity, courtly culture, family and marriage structures. Thus, the book demonstrates the very act of gendering as it relates to friendship as one of the most important forms of social interaction.
