

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996237249303316
Titolo	Plato and the poets / edited by Pierre Destree, Fritz-Gregor Herrmann
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden ; ; Boston : , : Brill, , 2011
ISBN	1-283-12083-6 9786613120830 90-04-20183-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxii, 434 pages)
Collana	Brill eBook titles 2011
Altri autori (Persone)	DestreePierre HerrmannFritz-Gregor
Disciplina	881.0109
Soggetti	Classical poetry - History and criticism - Theory, etc Criticism - History Greek poetry - History and criticism - Theory, etc Literature - Philosophy - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [403]-423) and index.
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Sommario/riassunto

Plato's discussions of poetry and the poets stand at the cradle of Western literary criticism. Plato is, paradoxically, both the philosopher who cites, or alludes to, works of poetry more than any other, and the one who is at the same time the harshest critic of poetry. The nineteen essays presented here aim to offer various avenues to this paradox, and to illuminate the ways poetry and the poets are discussed by Plato throughout his writing career, from the Apology and the Ion to the Laws. As well as throwing new light on old topics, such as mimesis and poetic inspiration, the volume introduces fresh approaches to Plato's philosophy of poetry and literature.
