In a large apartment house in central Rome, two crimes are committed within a matter of days: a burglary, in which a good deal of money and precious jewels are taken, and a murder, as a young woman whose husband is out of town is found with her throat cut. Called in to investigate, melancholy Detective Ciccio, a secret admirer of the murdered woman and a friend of her husband’s, discovers that almost everyone in the apartment building is somehow involved in the case, and with each new development the mystery only deepens and broadens. Gadda’s sublime detective story presents a scathing picture of fascist Italy while tracking the elusiveness of the truth, the impossibility of proof, and the infinite complexity of the workings of fate, showing how they come into conflict with the demands of justice and love. Italo Calvino, Pier Paolo Pasolini, and Alberto Moravia all considered That Awful Mess on the Via Merulana to be the great modern Italian novel. Unquestionably, it is a work of universal significance and protean genius: a rich social novel, a comic opera, an act of political resistance, a blazing feat of baroque wordplay, and a haunting story of life and death. This cultural history of Mussolini’s dictatorship discusses the meanings of modernity in interwar Italy. The work argues that fascism appealed to many Italian intellectuals as a new model of modernity that would resolve the European and national crises. A stark departure from traditional philology, What is Authorial Philology? is the first comprehensive treatment of authorial philology as a discipline in its own right. It provides readers with an excellent introduction to the theory and practice of editing ‘authorial texts’ alongside an exploration of authorial philology in its cultural and conceptual architecture. The originality and distinction of this work lies in its clear systematization of a discipline whose autonomous status has only recently been recognised (at least in Italy), though its roots may extend back as far as Giorgio Pasquale. This pioneering volume offers both a methodical set of instructions on how to read critical editions, and a wide range of practical examples, expanding upon the conceptual and methodological apparatus laid out in the first two chapters. By presenting a thorough account of the historical and theoretical framework through which authorial philology developed, Paola Italia and Giulia Raboni successfully reconceptualize the authorial text as an ever-changing organism, subject to alteration and modification. What is Authorial Philology? will be of great didactic value to students and researchers alike, providing readers with a fuller understanding of the rationale behind different editing practices, and addressing both traditional and newer methods such as the use of the digital medium and its implications. Spanning the whole Italian tradition from Petrarch to Carlo Emilio Gadda, this ground-breaking volume provokes us to consider important questions concerning a text’s dynamism, the extent to which an author is ‘agentive’, and, most crucially, about the very nature of what we read. Past traces the roots of the twentieth-century literature and cinema of crime to two much earlier, diverging interpretations of the criminal: the bodiless figure of Cesare Beccaria’s Enlightenment-era On Crimes and Punishments, and the biological offender of Cesare Lombroso’s positivist Criminal Man. This book examines the vre of Anna Maria Ortese (1914-1998) from her first literary writings in the Thirties to her great novels in the Nineties. The analysis focusses on two interweaving core themes, loss and the Other. It begins with the shaping of personal loss of an Other following death, separation, abandonment, coupled with melancholy for life’s transience as depicted in autobiographical works and in her masterpiece Il porto di
Toledo. The book then addresses Ortese's literary engagement with social themes in realistic stories set in post-war Naples in her collection Il mare non bagna Napoli and then explores her continuing preoccupation with socio-ethical issues, imbued with autobiographical elements, in non-realist texts, including her masterful novels L'Iguana, Il cardillo addolorato and Alonso e i visionari. The book combines theme and genre analysis, highlighting Ortese's adoption and hybridization of diverse literary forms such as poetry, the novel, the short story, the essay, autobiography, realism, fairy tales, fantasy, allegory. In her work Ortese weaves an ongoing dialogue with literary and non-literary works, through direct quotations, allusions, echoes, adoption of motifs and topos. The book thus highlights the intertextual relationships with her sources: Leopardi, Dante, Petrarch, Manzoni, Collodi, Montale, Serao; Shakespeare, Milton, Keats, Blake, Joyce, Conrad, Melville, Poe, Hawthorne, Hardy; Manrique, Gongora, de Quevedo, Villalón, Bello, Cantar del mio Cid; Heine, Valery, Puccini's Madam Butterfly, folklore, popular songs, and the Bible. Ortese thus shapes her literary themes in the background of social, political and economic upheavals over six decades of Italian history, culminating in an allegorical critique of modernity and a call for a renewed bond between humans and the Other. This bibliography lists English-language translations of twentieth-century Italian literature published chiefly in book form between 1929 and 1997, encompassing fiction, poetry, plays, screenplays, libretti, journals, and diaries, and correspondence. Containing almost 600 entries, this impressive 2-volume reference presents detailed and authoritative information on the field of Italian literature, with attention both to the work and influence of individual writers of all genres and to movements, styles, and critical approaches. The seething cauldron of life, the infinite stratification of reality, the inextricable tangle of knowledge are what Gadda wants to depict. Italo Calvino At the height of Fascist rule in Italy and following the death of his mother, Carlo Emilio Gadda began work on his first novel, The Experience of Pain. This portrait of a highly educated young man whose anger and frustration frequently erupt in ferocious outbursts directed towards his ageing mother is a powerful critique of the society of his time and the deep wounds inflicted on his generation. Set in a fictional South American country, The Experience of Pain is at once richly imaginative and intensely personal: the perfect introduction to Gadda's innovative style and literary virtuosity. Translated by Richard Dixon, this groundbreaking study of Gadda's narrative form identifies Gadda's complex 'baroque' style as not merely an aesthetic conceit, but an expression of modern alienation and of loss, grief, and the need for solitude in the face of a fragmented reality. The Encyclopedia of Italian Literary Studies is a two-volume reference book containing over 4,800 distinct editions of writings by some 1,700 Italian authors. Many entries are accompanied by useful notes that provide information on the authors, works, translators, and the reception of the translations. This book includes the works of Pirandello, Calvino, Eco, and more recently, Andrea Camilleri and Valerio Manfredi. Together with Robin Healey's Italian Literature before 1900 in English Translation, also published by University of Toronto Press in 2011, this volume makes comprehensive information on translations from Italian accessible for schools, libraries, and those interested in comparative literature. Covers 1690 to the present. This volume examines the workings of digression in the novels of five major Italian authors: Manzoni, Dossi, Pirandello, Gadda and Calvino - from the birth of the modern novel in the early 19th century to the era of postmodernist experimentation. This groundbreaking study of Gadda's narrative form identifies Gadda's complex 'baroque' style as not merely an aesthetic conceit, but an expression of modern alienation and of loss, grief, and the need for solitude in the face of a fragmented reality. The Encyclopedia of Italian Literary Studies is a two-volume reference book containing some 600 entries on all aspects of Italian literary culture. It includes analytical essays on authors and works, from the most important figures of Italian literature to little known authors and works that are influential to the field. The Encyclopedia is distinguished by substantial articles on critics, themes, genres, schools, historical surveys, and other topics related to the overall subject of Italian literary studies. The Encyclopedia also includes writers and subjects of contemporary interest, such as those relating to journalism, film, media, children's literature, food and vernacular literatures. Entries consist of an essay on the topic and a bibliographic portion listing works for further reading, and, in the case of entries on individuals, a brief biographical paragraph and list of works by the person. It will be useful to people without specialized knowledge of Italian literature as well as to scholars. The Cambridge Companion to the Italian Novel provides a broad ranging introduction to the major trends in the development of the Italian novel from its early modern origin to the contemporary era. Contributions cover a wide range of topics including the theory of the novel in Italy, the historical novel, realism, modernism, postmodernism, neorealism, and film and the novel. The contributors are distinguished scholars from the United Kingdom, the United States, Italy, and Australia. Novelists examined include some of the most influential and important of the twentieth century inside and outside Italy: Luigi Pirandello, Primo Levi, Umberto Eco and Italo Calvino. This is a unique examination of the Italian Novel, and will prove invaluable to students and specialists alike. Readers will gain a keen sense of the vitality of the Italian novel
throughout its history and a clear picture of the debates and criticism that have surrounded its
development. From Rabelais's celebration of wine to Proust's madeleine and Virginia Woolf's boeuf
daube in To the Lighthouse, food has figured prominently in world literature. But perhaps
nowhere has it played such a vital role as in the Italian novel. In a book flowing with descriptions
of recipes, ingredients, fragrances, country gardens, kitchens, dinner etiquette, and even hunger,
Gian-Paolo Biasin examines food images in the modern Italian novel so as to unravel their function
and meaning. As a sign for cultural values and social and economic relationships, food becomes a
key to appreciating the textual richness of works such as Lampedusa's The Leopard, Manzoni's
The Betrothed, Primo Levi's Survival in Auschwitz, and Calvino's Under the Jaguar Sun. The
importance of the culinary sign in fiction, argues Biasin, is that it embodies the oral relationship
between food and language while creating a sense of materiality. Food contributes powerfully to
the reality of a text by making a fictional setting seem credible and coherent: a Lombard peasant
eats polenta in The Betrothed, whereas a Sicilian prince offers a monumental macaroni timbale at
a dinner in The Leopard. Similarly, Biasin shows how food is used by writers to connote the
psychological traits of a character, to construct a story by making the protagonists meet during a
meal, and even to call attention to the fictionality of the story with a metanarrative description.
Drawing from anthropology, psychoanalysis, sociology, science, and philosophy, the author gives
special attention to the metaphorical and symbolic meanings of food. Throughout he blends material
culture with observations on thematics and narrativity to enlighten the reader who enjoys the
pleasures of the text as much as those of the palate. Originally published in 1993. The Princeton
Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-
of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions
preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback
and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to
the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University
Press since its founding in 1905. Aracoeili (1982) was the last novel written by Elsa Morante
(1912-85), one of the most significant Italian writers of the twentieth century. The journey, both
geographical and memorial, of a homosexual son in search of his dead mother is a first-person
narrative that has puzzled many critics for its darkness and despair. By combining scholars from
different disciplines and cultural traditions, this volume re-evaluates the esthetical and theoretical
complexity of Morante's novel and argues that it engages with crucial philosophical and
epistemological questions in an original and profound way. Contributors explore the manifold
tensions staged by the novel in connection with contemporary philosophical discourse (from
feminist/queer to political theory to psycho-analysis) and authors (such as Emilio Gadda, Pier
Paolo Pasolini and Pedro Almodovar). The Power of Disturbance shows that by creating a
'hallucinatory' representation of the relationship between mother and child, Aracoeili questions the
classical distinction between subject and object, and proposes an altogether new and subversive
kind of writing. Manuele Gragnolati teaches Italian literature at Oxford University, where he is a
Fellow of Somerville College. Sara Fortuna teaches philosophy of language at the Universita
Guglielmo Marconi in Rome. Written by leading Gadda scholars, the essays capture the
complexities that characterize Gadda's narrative. His plurilingualism, pastiches, and narrative
entanglements are revealed both as a revolt against conventional literary style and as the
expression of a chaotic, painful, and labyrinthine world inhabited by a fragmented subject. Gadda
emerges as a transgressive novelist, a humorist, and a mannerist who continuously deforms
language through parodic and comic modes. SAGGIO DI CRITICA LETTERARIA "La cognizione del
dolore di Carlo Emilio Gadda. Consacrazione/dissacrazione della figura materna." di Susan
Sanderland (c) 2002 Questo saggio riflette sui modi in cui Gadda ne La cognizione del dolore mise
a punto una parodia del dramma borgese e del romanzo psicologico, smantellandone
l'architettura per mezzo della satira, e mantenendo allo stesso tempo un rapporto di non-sense tra
i modelli da superare e la sua proposta di romanzo sperimentale. Al contempo, questo scritto si
prefigge di esaminare due episodi distinti del romanzo in questione, in cui Gadda traccia un'analisi del rapporto patologico tra il protagonista Gonzalo ed il suo Io, tramite quello ugualmente
deviato con la propria madre. Non è facile parlare di un personaggio così negativo senza provare
un qualche disagio. La sua creazione rende possibile il seguire in diretta, attraverso la mente
ideante, il più atroce dei delitti: il matricidio. Non è possibile giustificare con l'analisi della follia
l'empietà della sua colpa. Bisogna dunque accettarla sul piano metaforico come distruzione della
radice del senso letterario in quanto tale. In tutto lo svolgimento del romanzo, Gonzalo si presenta,
a bene vedere, come un rifiuto della società borgese, che anziché coltivare i suoi valori fondanti,
l'ingiuste, negando la superiorità morale dei sentimenti connessi a tali valori. An analysis of the
confine partimento experience in Italian narrative between 1930 and 1960, covering the last years of
Fascism. Not limiting herself to prisons, Nerenberg also explores military barracks, convents, and brothels as carceral homologues. Annually published since 1930, the International bibliography of Historical Sciences (IBOHS) is an international bibliography of the most important historical monographs and periodical articles published throughout the world, which deal with history from the earliest to the most recent times. The works are arranged systematically according to period, region or historical discipline, and within this classification alphabetically. The bibliography contains a geographical index and indexes of persons and authors. By the author of two 20th Century classics of Italian prose, this short novel is set in 1922 (when the Fascists seized power in Italy) and weaves together the lives of an impoverished aristocrat's daughter and a salesman who collects antique tomes of philosophy. There are many digressions on the way - a lover lost in the First World War, the Madonna's rescue of a doctor from witches, Mr Digbens of Colchester and his philosophical correspondents - so as to arrive at a series of crafted coincidences and a twist of humour in the melodramatic denouement. "While the writing of Carlo Emilio Gadda (1893-1973) is renowned for its linguistic and narrative proliferation, the best-known works of Samuel Beckett (1906-89) are minimalist, with a clear fondness for subtraction and abstraction. Despite these face-value differences, a close reading of the two authors' early prose writings reveals some surprisingly affinitive concerns, rooted in their profoundly troubled relationship with the literary medium and an unceasing struggle for expression of an incoherent reality and a similarly unfathomable self. Situating Gadda and Beckett at the heart of the debate of late European modernism, this study not only contests the position of 'insularity' frequently ascribed to both authors by critical consensus, but it also rethinks some of Gadda's plurilingual and macaronic features by situating them in the context of the turn-of-the-century Sprachkrise, or crisis of language. In a close analysis of the primary texts which engages with the latest findings in empirical research, Wehling-Giorgi casts fresh light on the central notions of textual and linguistic fragmentation and provides a new post-Lacanian analysis of the fractured self in Gadda's and Beckett's narrative."