



**Narratives in the Anthropocene era**

Charles Travis, Vittorio Valentino (Eds.)

**Idyll and threat: man-nature relationship in the history of music, art and literature**

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**Abstract**

The aim of this paper is to retrace the history of man-nature relationship as it was conceived and experienced in the world of music, figurative arts and literature throughout the centuries. This journey through history stems from a reflection about the present time, since the unpredictable disaster of the Covid-19 pandemic has clearly led us to meditate on the real human condition with respect to nature. But the man-nature debate has far more ancient origins. Throughout history, men have always reflected on their relationship with nature, wondering whether to surrender or challenge, to consider nature simply as a frame where men can act freely or as an essential part of the universe deserving respect and worship. In the world of literature and arts, this theme has given birth to inestimable works: poets, painters and musicians have created masterpieces entirely based on the issue of man-nature relationship. The history of this relationship is a history of threat and idyll and provides us with cause for reflection on the current global situation and a possible future reading of the evolution of this indissoluble relationship, as both the present and the future are children of the past.

**Keywords:** man, nature, music, art, literature.

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