

L'arte del corpo.
Scrittura e rivoluzione corporea in
L'arte della gioia di Goliarda Sapienza

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Abstract

The Art of the Body. Writing and Body Revolution in L'arte della gioia by Goliarda Sapienza

In 1967, Goliarda Sapienza (1924-1996) began writing L'arte della gioia. During her lifetime, the novel was repeatedly rejected by Italian publishers because of its core of moral dissidence. Published posthumously in its entirety only in 1998, the novel reinvents female subjectivity through the revolutionary character of the protagonist, Modesta, and specifically through her body, whose experiences and practices are invested with a political function. Sapienza transfers her cinematic knowledge into a performative mode of writing essentially dismantling the male epistemic framework and its aesthetic assumptions. Her literary work thus intersects with political-aesthetic thrusts that are inscribed in the art of new sensibility articulated, for example, by Herbert Marcuse in his An Essay on Liberation (1969), which strongly reclaims the political agency of a liberated body.

Keywords: *L'arte della gioia*; Cultural Revolution; Body; New Sensibility; Liberation.