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978-0-521-56401-4 - The Playing Self: Person and Meaning in the Planetary Society

Alberto Melucci

Frontmatter

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The playing self is a groundbreaking new work from influential cultural sociologist and clinical psychologist Alberto Melucci, best known for his writing on social movements and collective identities. In this book, based on and developing his *Il gioco dell'io* (1991), he delves deeper still into questions first addressed there about subjectivity, intimacy, and the self as both a psychological and socio-cultural entity, particularly in the context of global interdependence and planetary delimitations.

Alberto Melucci's phenomenological approach accounts for the self as a site of highly subjective and intimate experiences, such as crying, laughing and loving, and in relation to social structural dynamics, through more shared experiences, such as that of time, and links of the self to politics. In this way, he is able to explore the increasingly critical search for meaning at the boundary of visible collective processes and individual day-to-day experience, making a highly original connection between the two which draws on his own sociological and clinical practice.

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521564014

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First published 1996

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Melucci, Alberto, 1943–

The playing self: person and meaning in a planetary system / Alberto Melucci.

p. cm. – (Cambridge cultural social studies)

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 0 521 56401 8. – ISBN 0 521 56482 4 (pbk.)

1. Self. 2. Identity (Psychology). 3. Self – Social aspects. 4. Identity (Psychology) – Social aspects. 5. Social psychology. 6. Civilization, Modern – 20th century – Psychological aspects.

I. Title. II. Series.

BF697.M453 1996

155.2–dc20 95-48270 CIP

ISBN-13 978-0-521-56401-4 hardback

ISBN-10 0-521-56401-8 hardback

ISBN-13 978-0-521-56482-3 paperback

ISBN-10 0-521-56482-4 paperback

Transferred to digital printing 2006

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