

# The Rutgers Libretto

Newsletter of the Italian Department, Volume VI n.1



Alessandro Vettori (Chair in fall 2016) and Paola Gambarota (Acting Chair in spring 2017)



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## *A message from the Chairs*

This past academic year has been filled with activities and novelties, the highlight of the year probably being the historic move to a new building. After 25 years in the old house at 84 College Ave, the Italian Department moved to 15 Seminary Place, where we occupy one section of the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, which we share with the Department of Spanish & Portuguese. The other floors host French, German & East European Languages, Comp Lit, AMESALL (African, Middle Eastern, South Asian Languages & Literatures), and various Research Centers such as the Center for Historical Analysis and the Center for Cultural Analysis. We have more space and lots of light coming through the large windowpanes, and we are very happy to be in closer proximity to colleagues in other humanities units and to be able to organize and enjoy joint activities and events.

We are very pleased with the promotion of Carmela Scala to Assistant Teaching Professor and of Sheri La Macchia to Program Coordinator, and immensely proud of the many achievements of our undergraduate and graduate students. Indeed, once again, we have a Henry Rutgers Scholar in our undergraduate program (Carol Cofone) as well as a Voorhees Cejka Fellow (Jo Ana Rivera). Our graduate students distinguished themselves in different competitive initiatives: among others, Eleonora Sartoni received the Bevier Fellowship to complete her dissertation on the expressions and effects of urban transformation in Rome (1870 to the present), Andrew Robbins was selected to participate in the summer session of the Institute for World Literature in Copenhagen, and Giuditta Cirigliaro was admitted into the summer workshop on *The Art Historical Image in the Digital Age* at the American Academy in Rome.

Our calendar of events was crowded with talks on contemporary issues of immigration, digital humanities, and avant-garde poetry, in addition to the Food for Thought Talk Series and the guests of the Italian Graduate Society. Carmela Scala and Daniele De Feo organized an extremely successful conference on "Italian as Communication and Literacy" (keynote speaker Robert Kern, Berkeley), which brought together distinguished scholars, directors of Language Centers, school administrators, and university and high school teachers in a productive and rewarding dialogue. Rutgers Day was a lot of fun, with guests identifying famous locations and Italian landmarks for a chance to win a patriotic Italian Department wristband, and stopping by to take pictures in Venice or to star in famous Italian movies. Finally, it was a great pleasure to see again many of our alumni at the yearly Reunion, where our graduate students were awarded distinctions and fellowships funded by our generous alumni and had the chance to hear from them about their past experiences on the job market and in non-academic careers, as well, during the new Career Coaching Workshop. We hope that many more alumni will decide to visit next year, but, in the meantime, we wish a pleasant and productive summer to all. And do come and visit us in our new building!

Alessandro and Paola



**Italian Night Awards**

**Maria Di Costanzo**

Stephanie Laggini Fiore Award  
for Outstanding Participation  
in a Senior Seminar

**Emily McNamara**

Best Essay in a 300 level  
Italian Course taught in English

**John Apostolakis**

Best Essay in 250

**Pina Di Martino**

Outstanding Academic  
Performance in a 300 level  
Italian course (pictured below  
with instructor, Tim Curcio)



**Teresa Arpino (on left)** is recognized with **High Honors** by Rhiannon Welch, Undergraduate Director. Teresa wrote a thesis entitled: *Influential Italian Female Writers at the Turn of the 20th Century*, Advisor: Alessandro Vettori

**Jonathan Merida – Honors** Italo Calvino's War Narratives: *Il sentiero dei nidi di ragno* and *Ultimo viene il corvo*, Advisor: Andrea Baldi

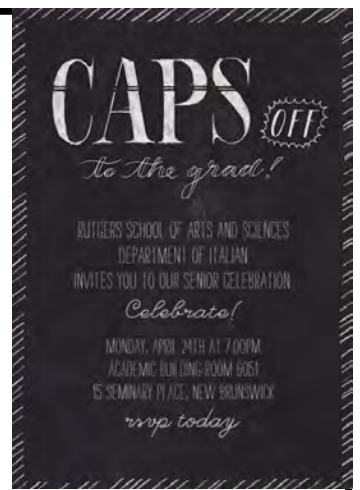
**Carol Cofone – Highest Honors:**  
*The Memory Palace at 84 College Avenue*,  
Advisor: Andrea Baldi

**Italian Language Awards:**

Maria Di Costanzo	321
Kayla Albrethsen	132
Kristen Vargas	132
Dhana Osei-Tutu	131
Nicolas Balbi	102
Caitlin Logiudice	101
Carl Costanza	101

**Class of 2017**

- Teresa Arpino
- Carol A. Cofone
- Cameron Davidson
- Maria A. Hilyard
- Jonathan Merida
- Lauren Rosso
- Matthew Salvatore
- Maria Sandoval
- Krista S. Wohlbold



# Undergraduate Students

**Jo-Ana Rivera** received the Joseph and Florence Voorhees Cejka Fellowship, awarded to a senior who will pursue an advanced degree in the humanities with preference to the study of English, history, comparative literature or philosophy.



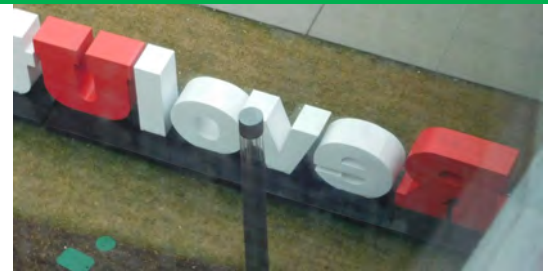
**Carol Cofone** sits amongst the ingredients of her thesis. She received her BA in Italian from Rutgers in 2017 and has a strong attachment to the Italian Department, in particular its former home at 84 College Avenue, which inspired her Honors Thesis, "The Memory Palace at 84 College Avenue." Her project, completed under the direction of Professor Andrea Baldi, explored the Memory Palace, a mnemonic system invented in Ancient Greece and revived during the Italian Renaissance. It received funding through the Aresty Research Center and was featured at the Aresty Colloquium in May. Carol graduated with Highest Honors and won a Henry Rutgers Scholar Award (see below). She will present a chapter of her thesis on the use of the Memory Palace in Italian towns devastated by earthquake at the 15<sup>th</sup> Forum of Le Vie dei Mercanti on World Heritage and Disaster in Naples and Capri, Italy, in June 2017. Her paper will be published in Abitare la Terra, an international publication on Geo-architecture.

**Congratulations!**  
Clementina & Joseph Coccia Sr. Memorial Scholarships  
**Christine Staton and Chania Harris.**

Coccia Foundation Italian Studies Scholarships  
**Annika Nungra and Rosanna Curci (pictured below.)**



**Aresty Poster Competition**  
Honorable Mention: Humanities  
**Hala Alhosh, Ashley Lameiras, and Tudor Tarina**  
*The Fall of the House of Medici*  
Advisor: Alessandro Vettori



**Carol Cofone**, Italian Major with Highest Honors, receives the Henry Rutgers Scholar Award. The prestigious award recognizes graduating seniors who have completed outstanding independent research projects leading to an interdepartmental thesis or a thesis in their major field of study.



# Italian Graduate Society

The Italian Graduate Society has been a busy bee this past academic year, organizing three guest lectures and gearing up for our upcoming biannual graduate conference, "Unsituated Knowledges: Charting Shifting Boundaries," which will take place from November 3-4, 2017.

This past November, we had the pleasure of welcoming Roberto Ludovico, Associate Professor of Italian & Program Director at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, who enlightened us on how the history of food sheds light on the current trends in gastronomic movements in Italy.

In March, Assistant Professor of Italian & Program Director of the Italian Program at Bard College, Franco Baldasso, delivered his presentation, "Against Redemption: Literary Dissent during the Transition from Fascism to Democracy in Italy" and discussed the transition from the fall of the Fascist regime in 1943 to the establishment of a new political order in 1948.

Laura Benedetti, Laura and Gaetano De Sole Professor of Contemporary Italian Culture at Georgetown University, joined us in April and gave a book presentation on her novel, *Un Paese di Carta*, which tells the story of three generations of Italian-American women from Abruzzo to Maryland.

As of now, the Italian Graduate Society is working on the 25th volume of our journal *La Fusta*. This year's edition will focus on "The Edible Complex" to enrich the discussion and examination of who we are, if we are what we eat. Gastronomy is a component of the widespread tendency to construct difference, and contributes to the production of national and local identities. Please stay tuned for its publication!

This year has been a truly fulfilling year, and we would like to thank everyone, including faculty, staff, and students of the Department of Italian for their patience and help. We would also like to thank our guests, Roberto Ludovico, Laura Benedetti, and Franco Baldasso for their visits. You keep us all moving forward, and we hope we have another successful year in the making.

Grazie mille!



## Unsituated Knowledges: Charting Shifting Boundaries

Rutgers Italian Graduate Society  
Graduate Student Conference

**November, 3-4 2017**

Eagleton Institute of Politics

Those interested in participating should email a 300-word (max) abstract and brief personal biography in PDF form, to: [italian.grad.society@gmail.com](mailto:italian.grad.society@gmail.com) by July 31, 2017. Papers may be in English or Italian, and should not exceed 15-20 minutes (approximately 7-8 pages).

### CALL FOR PAPERS.

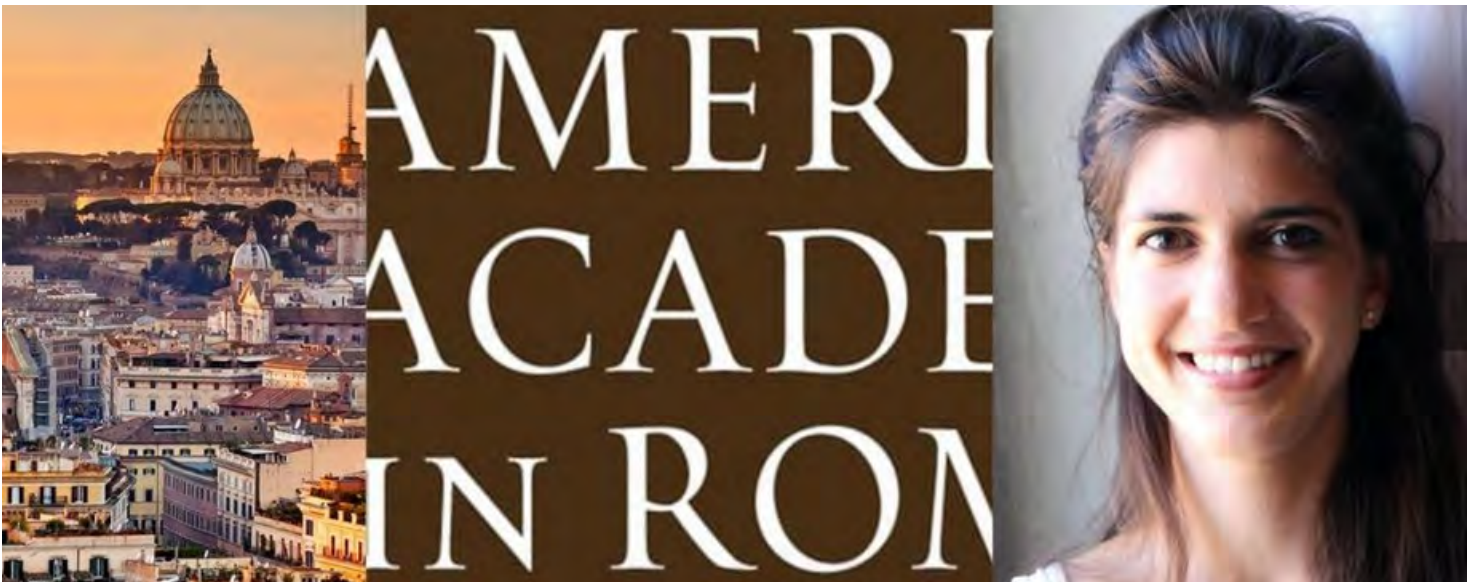
We welcome submissions from a variety of disciplines including, but not limited to: Experimental and Avant-garde approaches to literature, film, and art, migration, especially across the Mediterranean, translation studies, women and gender studies, post-/decolonialism, posthumanism, new materialisms, history of science and technology, environmental studies and ecocriticism.

## Graduate Student Spotlight

**Eleonora Sartoni** was awarded a **Bevier Dissertation Fellowship**, a university-wide, competitive fellowship, to complete her dissertation entitled "Spectacular Capitalist City. Wanderings through Rome from 1870 to the Present" - a work at the intersection of cultural and urban studies.



**Andrew Robbins** has been selected to participate in the **2017 Summer Program of the Institute for World Literature in Copenhagen**, where he will attend seminars together with other scholars from around the globe and present his research on the History of Science in early 20th century Italy and its relation to issues of translation.



**Giuditta Cirnigliaro** was admitted to the **2017 Summer Workshop on *The Art Historical Image in the Digital Age* at the American Academy in Rome**, where she will develop her research on early modern and contemporary multipart narratives and image metadata. The focus of her project is the work of Leonardo da Vinci.

# Graduate Students

## Caterina Agostini

Caterina attended the Carolina Conference for Romance Studies (March 30 - April 1, 2017) and presented a paper, "Seeing and Believing? Natural, Unnatural, and Astronomical Rhetoric in Primo Levi's *Sidereus Nuncius*." This study investigates the role of experience and intellectual communication in Primo Levi's 1984 poem, titled "Sidereus Nuncius," as inspired by Galileo Galilei's 1610 scientific writing under the same title. She also attended the 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, MI (May 11-14, 2017). Her paper, "Health Beliefs and Doctor-Patient Communication in Francesco Petrarca's *Re-rum vulgarium fragmenta*," shows classical sources and proto-humanistic standpoints on medical matters, as reflected in Petrarca's poems and letters. Caterina received the Antonio Bonnano Award for Best Essay in a Graduate Seminar and a Graduate School Pre-Dissertation Award.

## Tiziano Cherubini

This spring semester he had the pleasure of teaching the course titled "Italian Icons" for the first time. He adopted a non-chronological and thematic approach and centered each class session on a specific cultural aspect: Icons of Love, Icons of Discovery, Icons of Style, Icons of Taste and so forth. The

last class was devoted to Italian-American Icons. Students were always very active and engaged, which made the teaching experience even more enjoyable.



## Tim Curcio

This year, Tim is officially ABD. He was awarded the American Boccaccio Association Dissertation Workshop Grant. This grant supported his participation in a dissertation workshop during the ABA's Third Triennial Conference at Duke University. On a personal note, he is getting married this summer on July 15th.

## Chiara Degli Esposti

In June 2017, Chiara is going to present a paper titled "The City and the Women: *Flâne-rie Féminine* in de Beauvoir and Ferrante" at the conference "Urban Space and the Body" held at the University College Cork, in Ireland. During the Academic Year 2016-2017, Chiara was also the recipient of the William E. Roney award for Excellence in Scholarship in the Department of Italian.



## Alberto Iozzia

In 2017, Alberto presented two papers. He presented the first one last March at the NEMLA conference in Baltimore, MD, and another one at the AAIS conference in Columbus, OH. In Baltimore, he talked about post-Futurist apocalyptic fiction, and in Columbus, he presented on Dante Virgili's novel *La distruzione* (1970). This June, at the AATI conference in Palermo, Italy, he is presenting a paper on Sicilian popular theater of the late 18th century. He has been recently awarded the William E. Roney Award for Innovative Teaching.



## Graduate Students

### Hiromi Kaneda

Hiromi participated in the NeMLA conference held in Baltimore (March 23th- 26th, 2017) where she presented a paper titled "A Man in Love during the Italian Economic Miracle: *Un amore* by Dino Buzzati." She also had the opportunity to moderate a panel titled "Frantumaglia and Identity in Italian Women's Writing II" thanks to her esteemed colleague Jamison Standridge.

### Andrew Robbins

Andrew had a busy year teaching and prepping for dissertation work, but, in the meantime, he was able to present a paper "A delinquent physiognomy: The incompleteness of positivism" at the 2017 Italian Graduate Conference at Columbia University ("Great Incompletes"). This July he will participate in the Institute for World Literature in Copenhagen to learn more about the field and strengthen his theoretical knowledge.

### Eleonora Sartoni

Last November, Eleonora presented the paper "*Insomma tuta la Storia l'è una storia di fascismi: Repression, Segregation, and Homogenization in the Roman Outskirts and Borgate*" at the SCMLA held in Dallas, TX. In June, she will attend the international conference "Innovations and Tensions: Italian Cinema and Media in a Global Context" organized by the *Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies* held at the American University of Rome. There, she is going to present a paper titled "From Non-place to Poetic Space: Borderland in Gianfranco Rosi's *Sacro GRA*." This summer, she is also conducting some research at the Archivio Elsa Morante in Rome thanks to the Mellon Summer Study Fellowship and to the Joseph E. & Marie E. Laggini Memorial Endowed Graduate Scholarship. Eleonora was also awarded the prestigious University and Louis Bevier Fellowship for the academic year 2017-2018.

### Jamison Standridge

This year, in addition to teaching six courses for the Italian and Creative Writing programs, he presented a paper titled "Abandonment and Silence in Sibilla Aleramo's *Trasfigurazione*" at the "Great Incompletes" conference at Columbia University. He also presented a talk titled "Narratives of Abandonment" for the Food for Thought series at Rutgers University. At the NeMLA conference in Baltimore, MD, he presented a paper "Nomi Frantumati: Identity and Self-Discovery in *Quaderno proibito* and *I giorni dell'abbandono*," as well as organized the panels "Frantumaglia and Identity in Italian Women's Writing I & II" and served as moderator and chair of the first session. He published an English translation of Sibilla Aleramo's *Trasfigurazione*, which appeared in the *Journal of Italian Translation* (vol. XI, no. 2, Fall 2016, pp. 226-260). Lastly, he was selected to work for the Rutgers Future Scholars program during the Summer of 2017.

### Brian Tholl

Brian attended the Graduate Conference in Italian Studies at University College Cork where he presented his paper titled "Scuola di Antifascismo: Resistance and Writing in Confino." He also presented at the AAIS/CSIS Conference in Columbus, OH, where he presented a paper titled "The Evolution of Communication in Roberto Rossellini's Paisà." Furthermore, a paper he wrote titled Italy Must Be Defended: Surveillance and Biopolitics in *Una giornata particolare* was accepted to be included in the edited volume *The Cinema of Ettore Scola*, under advance contract with Wayne State University. Finally, Brian won a Pre-Dissertation Award for the summer and will be conducting research in Rome.

2017 Graduates - Masters in Teaching Italian  
Emily Halter, Lou Thomas, Rosanna Zamloot

# Rutgers Day





## Alumni



Recent Ph. D. Alumni, Rossella Di Rosa, left and Lucia Vedovi, right pose with Professor Andrea Baldi.

**Rossella Di Rosa** successfully defended her dissertation and obtained her Ph.D. in October and is currently teaching at the **University of Georgia**. In November 2016, her article "'La Questione Animale' di Anna Maria Ortese: *Alonso e i visionari e l'etica del soccorso*" appeared in the prestigious journal *Ecozon@* (Vol. 7, n. 2). She was also invited to give a talk on Elsa Morante's rewriting of Sophocles' *Oedipus at Colonus* for a seminar on Philosophy and Literature at Emory University. She presented a paper at the AAIS 2017 Convention entitled "Zoopoesi e creature teriomorfe nel *cardillo addolorato* di Anna Maria Ortese."

**Marino Forlino, Assistant Professor, Scripps College**, has been appointed Director of the Modern Language Resource Center (Harvey Mudd, CMC) for the 2017-18 academic year. He has also received a course grant award from the Sontag Center for Collaborative Creativity (The Hive).



**Deena Levy** has taken on a new role at **Penn State**, in the Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence as an Assistant Research Professor and Instructional Consultant. She still remains connected to the Italian program and is on the faculty advisory board for the Center for Language Acquisition, which keeps her connected to language teaching and learning, too. She continues to enjoy her time outdoors and has fun creating jewelry and other craft pieces.

**Michele Monserrati** published a book chapter titled "Poesia e pittura nel «Paulo Ucello» di Giovanni Pascoli" in a Festschrift for Professor Gino Tellini (Univ. di Firenze) on the occasion of his retirement. Another piece, "Cosmopolitan Possibilities in Translation. Views from the Russo-Japanese War (1904-05)," is forthcoming in *Italia e Giappone a confronto: cultura, psicologia, arti*. He was awarded a fellowship in Japan Studies at the National Library of Australia (Canberra), and in September 2017, he will take up a new position as Visiting Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at **Williams College** in Williamstown, MA.

**Emanuele Occhipinti, Drew University**, was promoted Contributing Editor for the bibliographical journal *The Year's Work in Modern Language Studies*, for the section "Novecento and the Contemporary Period." He became an official ACTFL tester, English and Italian, for the Oral Proficiency Interview-Computer (OPIC). He published the article "Tasting the Roots of Western Civilization: A Study Abroad Program in Cilento" (UTM Italian Program Publications).

**Greg Pell, Hofstra University**, is happy to report that his new book *Da-vidè Rondoni: Art in the Movement of Creation* was published by Fairleigh Dickinson University Press/Rowman and Littlefield (December 2016). He completed the manuscript of the translation of Cannavacciuolo's novel *La meccanica dell'invisibilità* and has been busy rebuilding the study abroad program and teaching in the honors college.

**Roberto Pesce** will start working at the **University of Oklahoma** as an Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) in the Fall of 2017 after having taught for four years at Baylor University. He recently co-edited *Dialogo. Studi in memoria di Angela Caracciolo Aricò* (<https://www.centrocicogna.it/>), and his critical edition of Paolino da Venezia's *De ludo scachorum* is forthcoming in 2017.

**Massimo Riva** (Royce Family Professor of Italian Studies and Modern Culture and Media, **Brown University**) was on leave this past academic year (2016-17), working on a pilot project for a digital monograph entitled *Italian Shadows. The Virtual Life of Casanova and Other Tales of Imaginary and Forgotten Media*. Part of an initiative funded by the Mellon Foundation through several university libraries, the project conceives of an archaeology of virtual reality and consists of five digital simulations of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century optical spectacles linked to contemporary developments in digital culture (virtual mobility, social voyeurism, instant history, phantasmagoric consumption). He lectured about this project in several venues, including Pisa, Bologna, Edinburgh, Oxford, Prague and Chapel Hill. In February, he was a visiting fellow at the School of Advanced Study of the University of London.

## Our Donors

While we continue to be thankful to all our donors, we want to acknowledge in particular the large contributions made by the Laggini Family, the Paragano Family, the Coccia Foundation, and Al Zdenek. We also want to express our most heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Vito De Simone for his extremely generous donation to our department, which will make a considerable difference to graduate students completing their dissertation.

### PARAGANO FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

The annual **Paragano Family Foundation Endowed Scholarship for Italian Studies** is awarded to a full-time M.A.T. student in our department who plans to start a career as a teacher of Italian language after completing his/her degree.

### LAGGINI SCHOLARSHIP

The annual **Joseph E. & Marie E. Laggini Memorial Endowed Graduate Fellowship** is given to a graduate student who has excelled academically, has been a stellar instructor, and has also demonstrated a special commitment to the Department and all its activities.

### COCCIA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Joseph, Sr. and Clementina Coccia Memorial Scholarship**, established seven years ago, is awarded to candidates who excel academically and who plan to travel to Italy to complete their proposed project during the summer.

The **Coccia Foundation Italian Studies Scholarship** is awarded to an undergraduate student who has demonstrated excellent academic performance and plans to study

Join our family of donors. <http://italian.rutgers.edu/online-giving/department-initiatives>



Dr. Vito De Simone is an alumnus of our department, who completed his Ph.D. in 2012, resuming his studies at Rutgers after many years. His persistence and dedication are a true example for all. This past year, Dr. De Simone pledged a large donation that will support the graduate program in Italian with a dedicated fellowship. The **Dr. Vito and Mrs. Carolyn De Simone Endowed Fellowship for Italian Studies** will make a huge difference to graduate students completing their Ph.D. dissertation. Thank you Vito and Carolyn!



*Alumni Reunion*  
May 5, 2017



Guest Speaker: Paolo Pucci (second from left) breaks bread with alumni.  
Fiorenza, Sara, Alberto, Frederica and Emmanuele



Alumnus William E. Roney presents William E. Roney Award for Innovative Teaching to Alberto Iozzia - (above left)  
Eilis Kierans - William E. Roney Award - Dedication to Service  
Chiara Degli-Esposti - William E. Roney Award - Excellence in Scholarship  
Caterina Agostini - Antonio Bonnano Award - Best Essay in a Graduate Seminar  
(pictured left with Professor Laura S. White)

This year we added a Career Coaching Workshop to the program of our Alumni Reunion. Our graduate students were invited to send questions on the topics that are currently of greater interest to them and the Alumni summoned their experience to address those topics. Dr. Carlo Santoro (GAIA) and alumnus Will Roney (Bloomberg) kindly agreed to field the questions concerning non-academic careers.



Career Coaching Workshop for our Graduate Students

# Alumni Reunion



Above: Raffaella Fusco congratulates Eleonora Sartoni as she celebrates with Stephanie Laggini Fiore and her daughter Francesca. Eleonora was the recipient of the Joseph E. & Marie E. Laggini Memorial Endowed Graduate Fellowship.

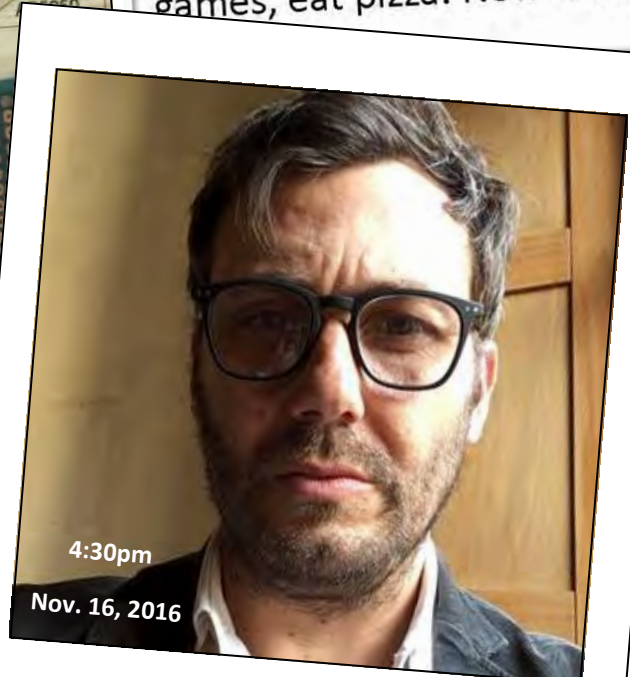
Bottom left (clockwise): Tiziano Cherubini with Professor Paola Gambarota and alumna Simona Wright; part of the audience; Elis, Christiane, and Andrew celebrate with Allie Duca (bottom right) for receiving the Paragano Family Foundation Endowed Scholarship for Italian Studies; Carol Feinberg and Hiromi Kaneda reconnect.



# Events

**LA TAVOLA ITALIANA**  
 Join the conversation, make friends, play games, eat pizza. Now that's Italian.  
 PIZZA WILL BE SERVED

**Food for Thought**  
 Representing the Economic Boom and its Anxieties: Italy and Japan  
 with: Hiromi Kaneda



4:30pm  
 Nov. 16, 2016  
**Meet Alessio Assonitis,**  
 Director of the Medici Archive Project, Florence, Italy  
**The Rebirth of Florence: Cosimo I de' Medici and the Construction of a Public/Private Archive**

Join you to join  
 na Wright  
 Lab of the Academic Building  
**Migration in Italy**  
 thousand migrants lost at sea, the Mediterranean has become  
 ve in Europe. Over the past two decades, a substantial but  
 of African and Middle Eastern men, women, and children  
 perilous crossing from their homelands to the shores of  
 ho made it, it was the end of a dreadful journey and the  
 licated uncertain existence, oscillating between "inside" and  
 and expulsion". For those who did not make it, there was  
 lity of an entry into Europe. Recapturing memories through  
 es, filmmakers and authors seek to re-materialize what lies  
 ce of the sea: the immigrant body.  
**Simona Wright, PhD**  
 in Rutgers University, Simona Wright is  
 and currently coordinates the Italian  
 New Jersey. She has published works on  
 and contemporary Italian female authors,  
 representation of Africa in Italian cinema,  
 with Fabio Orsino, the co-edited  
 book, *Cinema e Letteratura nell'Italia*  
 is an award-winning volume  
 "Leopardi". She is the co-organizer of the  
 sessions and the editor of *NAMLA Italian*  
 Italian.rutgers.edu

Take a study break and come  
 to the Italian Department's  
 Holly Jolly Christmas Party  
 It's not Italian Night, but afternoon  
**Italian Night**  
 Thursday, Dec. 15th @ 3:30pm  
 It's more than just a reading  
 Academic Building

**ITALIAN AS COMMUNICATION AND LITERACY:**  
 Bridging languages and cultures in the modern classroom

**Keynote Speakers:**  
**ANDREA DINI** (Monclair State University)  
**RICHARD KERN** (University of California, Berkeley)  
**DIANE TEDICK** (University of Minnesota)  
**Hyatt Regency**  
**New Brunswick NJ**  
**January 13, 2017**  
**Conference 8:45am-4:00pm**  
**Reception and Dinner to follow**  
 Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

**Food for Thought**  
 The Lileo Project:  
 The Material and Digital Lives of Manuscripts in Leonardo Collections  
 with: Giuditta Cirnigliaro  
 Tuesday, [redacted]  
 4:30 p.m.-6  
 Academic B  
 Room 60

The Department of Italian presents  
 Caterina Romeo of Sapienza University, Rome:  
**Once Were Emigrants**  
 REPRESENTING THE NEW ITALIAN DIASPO  
 RUTGERS School of Arts and Sciences  
 Department  
 15 Seminary Place, 1  
 New Brunswick,  
 http://italian.rutg



**WAYNE STOREY** **WAYNE STOREY & ISABELLA MAGNI**  
 "THE REVISUALIZATION OF AN ICON OF EUROPEAN LITERATURE: PETRARCH'S *Rerum vulgarium fragmenta*"  
 digital workshop  
 the petrarche project:  
 editing and digital realization  
**SEPTEMBER 26-27, 2016 @ ALEXANDER LIBRARY**

## Faculty

### **Andrea Baldi**

Andrea Baldi presented three papers at the RSA 2017 Convention, the NeMLA 2017 Convention, and the International Conference *Poesia. Dentro e fuori le avanguardie*, January 2017. He published two essays: "Trame intertestuali in *Renzo e Luciana*: da Calvino a Monicelli," *L'avventura. International Journal of Italian Film and Media Landscapes* 2.1 (2016), and "Anna Maria Ortese, tra compianto e memoria," in *Poesia. Dentro e fuori le avanguardie* (Sciascia Editore, 2017). He continued to serve as a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the NJIHC and as a member of the 'Blue Ribbon Panel,' which selected the recipient of the Coccia-Inserra Award for Excellence and Innovation in the Teaching of Italian.

### **Paola Gambarota**

Paola Gambarota continued her archival research for her book on the culture of Allied occupied Naples and prepared a new graduate seminar taught in English on the topics of "War, Resistance, and Occupation: The Experience and Its Representations," which she very much enjoyed teaching in the spring. She worked on an essay about the "Transnational Making of Italian Post-War Populism," presenting parts of her findings at the AAIS Conference in Columbus, OH, in April 2017.

### **David Marsh**

Prof. David Marsh has just completed an intellectual biography of Giannozzo Manetti (1396-1459). Forthcoming this summer are his edition of Giannozzo Manetti, *Against the Jews and the Gentiles* (Harvard University Press) and his chapter "Erasmus' *Adagia*: A Cultural Encyclopedia" (in *Renaissance Encyclopedism*, University of Toronto Press). In 2016, he gave lectures in Boston, Bryn Mawr, Philadelphia, and Vienna, and in June will speak at an Alberti conference held in Oxford.

### **Carmela Scala**

Prof. Scala organized the conference "Italian as Communication and Literacy: Bridging Language and Culture in the Modern Classroom," which was held on January 13, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and was a great success. She has also held a series of language workshops for the Italian Instructors at Rutgers: "Teaching Italian Through Musical Texts," "Teaching Italian Through Literature," Teaching Italian Through Media Texts." She has developed two new on-line courses: Italian 131 & 132. She is currently working on new versions for Italian 101 & 102. Prof. Scala has been elected as part of the MA Faculty.

### **Alessandro Vettori**

In the past year, Professor Vettori published an article "I salmi nella Commedia, ovvero la poetica dell'ascesa nel *Purgatorio*" in a Festschrift in memory of Prof. Angela Caracciolo-Aricò. He gave two talks at Baylor University in Texas, delivered two papers (one at the AAIS Conference and one at the RSA Conference), and participated in the annual Global Dante (Columbia and NYU). Prof. Vettori continues to serve on the Jury of the MLA Marrano Prize and serve as reviewer for the Italian AP Exam. He is still working on pilgrimage and prayer in Dante's *Comedy*, while starting to collect material for a new study on the Donation of Constantine and Franciscan poverty in Dante.

### **Rhiannon Welch**

Prof. Welch presented her recent book *Vital Subjects: Race and Biopolitics in Italy* (Liverpool University Press, 2016) at Trinity College (Dublin), Harvard, Cornell, NYU, and La Sapienza University of Rome. She published "Anachronism, Displacement, Trace. 'Scarred Images' and the Postcolonial Time Lag" in *California Italian Studies* (forthcoming).

### **Laura S. White**

Prof. Laura S. White's new book, *La poesia del silenzio*, was accepted for publication in the Collana Biblioteca della Rivista di Letteratura Italiana, Fabrizio Serra Editore, Pisa-Roma. She continues to serve as NJ Commissioner of the Italian Heritage Commission and as the Vice-President of IACE. In addition, she is a Member of the Advisory Council, Department of French and Italian of Princeton University. She was on sabbatical in the Spring of 2017.



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**Department of Italian**

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

15 Seminary Place, Fifth Floor

New Brunswick, NJ 08901



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