

CONTRIBUTORS / COLLABORATORI

SAMUEL AGBAMU's research focuses on Latin literature and its reception. He is especially interested in constructions of the classical tradition and their roles within projects of nationalism, imperialism, and in ideologies of 'race'. He is also currently writing a monograph, based on his Ph.D. thesis, on modern Italy's use of the history of Roman imperialism in Africa, during its imperial endeavours on the continent in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Further research interests include anti-racist and anti-colonial approaches to the literatures and cultures of ancient Greece and Rome and their receptions.

ALBERICA BAZZONI is a researcher in the fields of modern Italian literature, literary theory, feminist, queer and decolonial studies, as well as sociology of culture, with a particular interest in themes of power and subjectivity, their articulation in literary texts, and their relationship with social structures. She is the author of the monograph *Writing for Freedom. Body, Identity and Power in Goliarda Sapienza's Narrative* (2018), recently published in Italian translation in a revised edition as *Scrivere la libertà. Corpo, identità e potere in Goliarda Sapienza* (ETS 2022), and co-editor of *Gender and Authority across Disciplines, Space and Time* (2020) and of *Goliarda Sapienza in Context* (2016).

ELENA BELLINA works on autobiographical writing in confinement, focusing on unpublished diaries and memoirs written by Italian prisoners of war in British military camps in Africa during WWII. In her book *Creativity on Stage Behind Barbed Wire: Italian POWs in Africa* (2017), she investigates how Italian prisoners in Africa escaped the trauma of captivity through the performing arts, by building theaters and staging opera productions, musical theater, and plays. She is also completing *African Adventures: Palmiro Forzini in East Africa (1936–1946)*, a critical edition and translation of Forzini's memoir about his decade in Africa as a soldier and POW.

LORENZO BERNINI is the founder of the Research Centre PoliTeSse (Politics and Theories of Sexuality, <https://sites.dsu.univr.it/politesse/>) which he now directs. He is also one of the founders of GIFTS, the network of Gender, Intersex, Feminist, Transfeminist and Sexuality studies (<https://retegifts.wordpress.com/>). His interests range from classical political philosophy (especially Thomas Hobbes) and French thought of the twentieth century (especially Michel Foucault), to contemporary theories of radical democracy, critical race theories and queer theories. His books include *Queer Apocalypses: Elements of Antisocial Theory* (2017) – previously published in Italian (2013) and Spanish (2015); and *Queer Theories: An Introduction. From Mario Mieli to the Antisocial Turn* (2019) – previously published in Italian (2017), and Spanish (2018). His latest book, in Italian (and forthcoming in English) is *Il sessuale politico: Freud con Marx, Fanon, Foucault* (2019).

LICIA CANTON holds a Ph.D. from Université de Montréal and an M.A. from McGill. She is co-founder of *Accenti Magazine* and the author of *The Pink House and Other Stories* (2018), *Almond Wine and Fertility* (2008), *Vino alla mandorla e fertilità* (2015). She is editor of *Here & Now: An Anthology of Queer Italian-Canadian Writing* (2021) and director of the 28-minute documentary film *Creative Spaces: Queer and Italian Canadian* (2021). She was Visiting Professor and Writer-in-Residence at Università della Calabria (2019) and Honorary Fellow in Translation at the University of Hull (2018-21). She received the *Premio Italia nel Mondo* (2018).

MARTA CARIELLO is an expert in Mediterranean, migration, and feminist studies. With Iain Chambers she published the book, *La questione mediterranea* (2019). She is currently co-editing with Damiano Benvegnù and Matteo Gilebbi a volume on waste studies and the Mediterranean. She has also worked in feminist theory and published *Scrivere la distanza: uno studio sulle geografie della separazione nella scrittura femminile araba anglofona*, (2012), and *Corpi migranti tra le sponde delle lingue. Uno studio su tre autrici*

arabe del mondo anglofono, (2006). She has translated, edited, and written the introduction to Nathalie Handal, *Le vite della pioggia*, (2018).

CLORINDA DONATO's research addresses three distinct fields: eighteenth-century studies, the Intercomprehension of the Romance languages, and translation studies. In eighteenth-century studies she researches knowledge transfer through translation and genre adaptation in encyclopedic compilations and the prose narrative in the global eighteenth century. She also works on gender in medical and literary accounts, and book history. Her work in Romance languages focuses on multilingual competencies across the Romance language family known as Intercomprehension. On this topic, the textbook, *Juntos: Italian for Speakers of English and Spanish*, produced with co-authors Cedric Joseph Oliva, Daniela Zappador-Guerra, and Manuel Romero, was published with Hackett Publishing Company (2020). She has co-edited four collections: *Translation and Transfer of Knowledge in Encyclopedic Compilations 1680–1830s* with Hans-Jürgen Lüsebrink, (2021); *Fanny Hill Now*, and a special co-edited issue of *Eighteenth-Century Life*, with Nicholas Nace, (April 2019). Her monograph, *The Life and Legend of Catterina Vizzani: Sexual Identity, Science and Sensationalism in Eighteenth-Century Italy and England*, appeared in 2020 and won the inaugural book prize of the American Association of Teachers of Italian (AATI) in 2021.

DEREK DUNCAN's research focuses on the intersections of sexuality/gender and of race/ethnicity in modern Italian culture. He has become increasingly interested in exploring Italian cultural production as a set of vernacular global practices extending far beyond the peninsula itself. This exploration has led to an engagement with the field of Creative Humanities and the link between artistic practice and academic research. His collaboration with photographer Mario Badagliacca led to the publication of *Italy is Out* (LUP, 2021). He is the editor of the book series *Transnational Italian Cultures* with Liverpool University Press and is co-editor of *Transnational Modern Languages: A Handbook* (LUP, 2022), a collection of essays written for

undergraduates exploring key aspects of Modern Languages from a cross-cultural perspective.

PAOLO FRASCÀ (Ph.D.) is Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream in the Department of Italian Studies at the University of Toronto. He is affiliated with the Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies and co-directs two community-oriented research and educational projects at the Frank Iacobucci Centre for Italian-Canadian Studies: *Indigenous-Italian-Canadian Connections* (with Dr. Angela Nardozi) and *Queer Italian-Canadian Artists* (with Dr. Lucia Canton). Paolo teaches courses in Italian language and culture, sexuality studies, and Italian-Canadian studies and has published in these areas. He stays active outside of academia through social-justice initiatives and creative work.

SHELLEEN GREENE's research interests include Italian film, Black European studies, and digital feminist studies. Her book, *Equivocal Subjects: Between Italy and Africa – Constructions of Racial and National Identity in the Italian Cinema* (2012) examines the representation of mixed-race subjects of Italian and African descent, arguing that the changing cultural representations of mixed-race identity reveal shifts in the country's conceptual paradigms of race and nation. Shelleen Greene has recently presented at the Los Angeles Museum of Art (LACMA), the British School at Rome, University of Bologna, Italy; Queen Mary, University of London; the Calandra Italian American Institute, CUNY; the Society for Cinema and Media Studies annual conference; and the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center at Indiana University.

JESSICA L. HARRIS is a scholar of African-American History, twentieth century U.S. and the World, Black Europe, Women's History, and Modern Italy, with a particular interest in gender and race, their intersection with material culture, and the subsequent effect on group identities. Her current book project is a transnational cultural history on race and gender relations in Italy and the United States. Placing women

at the center of analysis, the book employs the methodological approaches of critical race studies, cultural studies, gender studies, and post-colonial studies to examine the presence of African American women in twentieth-century Italian television, film, music, and fashion.

LINA INSANA's research and teaching focuses on modern and contemporary Italian cultural production. Most of her work on Italian writer and Holocaust survivor Primo Levi is concerned with textual mediation, translation, and adaptation. Her first book, *Arduous Tasks: Primo Levi, Translation, and the Transmission of Holocaust Testimony* (2009) examines Primo Levi's testimonial work through the lens of translation. Her most recent research seeks to interrogate formations of transnational identity at the margins of conventionally accepted definitions of Italianness. Her current manuscript-in-progress, *Charting the Island: Sicilian Position and Belonging from Unification to the European Union*, is a geocritical cultural history of Sicilian belonging under the modern Italian State (1861-present).

HIROMI KANEDA is a Lecturer of Italian at the University of Virginia and a Ph.D. candidate at Rutgers University. Her research interests include gender studies, masculinity, Italian and Japanese cinema, and cultural studies. She received her B.A. in English and American Literature, majoring in Linguistics at the Soka University of Japan. After working a few years as a translator, an interpreter, and an instructor at the Italian Cultural Institute in Tokyo, she went back to study to earn an M.A. in Italian Literature at the University of Virginia. In her dissertation, titled "Representing the Economic Boom and its Anxieties: Italy and Japan," she investigates the momentous post-World War Two shifts in Italian and Japanese societies during the so-called "Economic Miracle" (1958-1965), which generated changes in gender roles, perceptions, identifications, practices, and interaction-relational issues. Using different approaches like cultural studies, gender studies, and theories of masculinity and space, she aims to analyze the changes in gender roles and their implications in Italian and Japanese novels and films.

HIJU KIM is a Ph.D. candidate of European Languages and Transcultural Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. She has received her B.A. and M.A in Italian and Film, Television, and Digital Media at the University of California, Los Angeles. She has researched on a range of art, film and media topics, including Arte Povera and the Watts Towers. She has worked for curatorial and education departments at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles and the Wende Museum of Cold War. She is also an editor and translator for online Korean American media outlets.

AKASH KUMAR is Assistant Professor of Italian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. His research focuses on medieval Italian literature through the lens of Mediterranean and global culture, from the history of science to the origins of popular phenomena such as the game of chess. His recent work on a global Dante has appeared in the *Blackwell Companion to World Literature* (2020), the volume *Dante Beyond Borders* (Legenda, 2021), and a special issue of MLN dedicated to Charles S. Singleton (2022). Akash is currently completing a book entitled *Dante's Elements: Translation and Natural Philosophy from Giacomo da Lentini to the Comedy*.

KARINA MASCORRO is Adjunct Faculty III in the Department of Modern Languages and Coordinator for the Office of International, Immigrant, Undocumented, DACAmented, and Refugee Services at the Rhode Island College. As a modern languages professor her teaching and research objectives are two-fold: to enhance speaking, reading, and listening abilities in second languages (Italian and Spanish), and to develop a sensibility attuned to diversity, equity, and inclusion practices vis-a-vis language, literature, and culture. In her role as coordinator for the Office of International, Immigrant, Undocumented, and Refugee Services, she is able to directly create cultural bridges between local and global communities. One of the office's main goals is to help students develop a global citizenship mindset that aids them in understanding their positionality in this world in order to better navigate it.

VALERIE MCGUIRE is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research interests are in cultural identity, citizenship, and the interlocking histories of colonialism and postcolonialism in Italy. She is the author of *Italy's Sea: Empire and Nation in the Mediterranean, 1895-1945*, which argues that the Italian empire-state pivoted on the construction of the myth of a Mediterranean region, one rooted in nostalgia for Roman and Venetian imperialism and attempting to resolve the crisis of nationalism that ensued Italy's contested unification in the nineteenth century. She is a co-editor of a forthcoming volume on Italian Fascism and the Holocaust in the Aegean. She is also interested in global approaches to area studies and has a new research project on representations of Italian toxicity and global imaginaries of environmental catastrophe.

HEATHER MERRILL is a Professor of Africana Studies at Hamilton College, in Clinton N.Y. A critical cultural geographer, anthropologist, and anti-racist scholar, she specialises in the African Diaspora in Italy. Her research examines the lived experiences of immigrants, refugees, and Black Italians in relation to racialised structures of power. In *Black Spaces: African Diaspora in Italy*, she develops a social theory of the intersection of space, race, perception, and experience in the Modern West. Merrill's *An Alliance of Women: Immigration and the Politics of Race* explores the transformation of Italy into a country of immigration, focusing on its first women's intercultural center. She also co-edited *Spaces of Danger: Culture and Power in the Everyday*.

KOMBOLA T. RAMADHANI MUSSA was Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at Cardiff University. She holds a Ph.D. in Italian Studies from Reading University. Her Ph.D. examines several of the different forms taken by orality and explores the relationship between orality and literacy in some migrant writers' work. Her recent project investigates the history of the Zigula, one of the major linguistic groups in Tanzania, as a distinctive and instructive example of African diasporic identity. In particular, it focuses on the case of the Italian Zigula, exploring the creation of post-colonial and multicultural Italian identities in the context of widespread racial prejudice.

ELEANOR PAYNTER's work bridges transnational Italian studies and critical refugee studies. Through literary and ethnographic methods, she considers experiences and representations of migration, asylum, and human rights. Focused on the Black Mediterranean, her research and public writing respond to anti-immigrant racism and postcolonial border dynamics. Her current book project examines migration from Africa to Europe via the Mediterranean Sea, drawing on migrant testimonies produced in Italy to reconsider the common framing of precarious migration as a crisis or emergency. At present she is an ACLS Fellow and a Migrations Fellow with Cornell University's Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, where she also hosts the podcast *Migrations: A World on the Move*.

LOREDANA POLEZZI's work concentrates on multiple forms of mobility, their history, their representation, and theorisation. Her recent work focuses on diasporic Italian cultures (especially Italian American and Italian Australian cultural production) and on multilingual education in Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa. Her books include *Translating Travel: Contemporary Italian Travel Writing in English Translation* (2017), *Transcultural Italies: Mobility, Memory and Translation* (co-edited with Charles Burdett & Barbara Spadaro, 2020), *Transnational Italian Studies* (co-edited with Charles Burdett, 2020), as well as *In Corpore: Bodies in Post-Unification Italy* (co-edited with Charlotte Ross, 2007). She is the current president of the International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies (IATIS) and co-editor of the leading international journal *The Translator*.

FRANCESCO RICATTI is a leading scholar of Italian migration to Australia and has also researched on the role of sport in informal processes of transculturation. His most recent research focuses on decolonial approaches to transcultural studies and on art and design-driven participatory projects with young people in Italy and Australia. He taught at Monash University where he was also the Deputy Director and Interim director of the Monash Migration and Inclusion Centre. His main role within that flagship research centre was to develop projects and networks centered on creative, participatory, and

multilingual approaches to research within superdiverse communities. His books include *Italians in Australia: History, Memory, Identity* (2018), the volume *Politica ed emozioni nella storia d'Italia a oggi* (2012) co-edited with Penelope Morris and Mark Seymour, and *Embodying Migrants: Italians in Postwar Australia* (2011).

GIULIA RICCÒ is Assistant Professor of Italian in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan. In 2019, she received her Ph.D. from Duke University, where she was trained in both Italian and Brazilian Studies. Her book manuscript, tentatively titled “New World Italians: The Invention of a Brazilian Identity”, traces the discursive production of a modern, racialised Italian identity in São Paulo, Brazil. Her articles, book chapters, and essays have appeared in *Cultural Dynamics*, *Forum Italicum*, *Radical History Review*, *Literature and (Im)migration in Brazil*, and *Public Books*. She is the co-founder of the Transnational Italian Studies Working Group; the co-editor of H-Net TransItalian Studies and of the Peter Lang series Transnational Cultures. In 2021 she won the RnB4Culture Award, the inaugural Italian Scientists and Scholars in North America prize for innovation in the study of Italian culture.

MAYA ANGELA SMITH is an Associate Professor in the Department of French and Italian Studies at the University of Washington, having earned her doctorate in Romance Languages and Linguistics from the University of California, Berkeley. Her scholarship broadly focuses on the intersection of racial and linguistic identity formations among marginalized groups in the African diaspora, particularly in the postcolonial francophone world. Her award-winning book, *Senegal Abroad: Linguistic Borders, Racial Formations, and Diasporic Imaginaries* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2019) uses qualitative, ethnographic data to critically examine the role of language in the formation of national, transnational, postcolonial, racial, and migrant identities among Senegalese in Paris, Rome, and New York.

SANTINO SPINELLI (Founder of the Associazione Nazionale “Thèm Romanò” and Commander of the Order of Merit for the Italian Republic). He is Italian Rom and belongs to the oldest established settlement (which arrived in Italy during the 15th century). He is a musician of international recognition and performs under the name Alexian. He is also a writer, poet, university instructor and a Rom activist. He directs the scientific and literary series *Romanò Barvalipen* and has a forthcoming publication in Italian and in English with Menabo Edizioni. He was nominated for the Commander of the Order Merit of the Italian Republic by President Sergio Mattarella; he is the first and only Rom to receive this prestigious nomination.

ALESSIA VALFREDINI is a Senior Lecturer at Fordham University, where she is the Language Program Director for the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures; she also coordinates the Italian Language Program. She studies world language education in higher education contexts, with a focus on engaged/liberation pedagogies, racial and social justice, and civic engagement. A founding member of the Cosmopolitan Collective, a constellation of multidisciplinary, transnational public intellectuals promoting and cultivating epistemic justice, she recently contributed to the volume “Diversity in Italian Studies” edited by Gibby and Tamburri (2021).

GAOHENG ZHANG is Associate Professor of Italian Studies at the University of British Columbia. His first book, *Migration and the Media: Debating Chinese Migration to Italy, 1992-2012* (University of Toronto Press), is the first detailed media and cultural study of the Chinese migration from both Italian and Chinese migrant perspectives. A second book is tentatively titled “Chinese Recipes, Italian Designs, American Sensibilities: Food and Fashion Cultures between Italy and China via the United States”, and examines cultural representations and dynamics pertaining to food and fashion mobilities between China and Italy that migration and tourism help deepen.

INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS / INFORMAZIONI PER I COLLABORATORI

Italian Studies in Southern Africa is published bi-annually and aims at providing a forum for academic discussion on all aspects of Italian culture. The journal features articles on the Italian language and literature and, since it is one of the primary aims of the journal to foster multi- and inter-disciplinary study and communication, contributions are invited from all writers interested in Italian culture, irrespective of their specific disciplines. Contributions of a less theoretical nature which provide an insight into Italian culture, especially as it manifests itself in Southern Africa, will also receive attention.

Each article will be critically evaluated by two referees. Notice of acceptance or rejection will be communicated in writing to the author with reasons for the readers' decision.

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Potter, A.M.	2010	‘Religion and the literary critic.’ <i>Literator</i> , 10(1):66-76. April.
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A.P.I.
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ATTI / PROCEEDINGS

- 1) **XV Convegno Internazionale/International Conference:**
Storia e letteratura: un difficile connubio/History and Literature:
An Uneasy Kinship (Ortigia 2-4 luglio/July, 2019)
Numero speciale/Special issue, vol. 33, no 2 (2020). Articoli scelti tra le relazioni presentate al convegno/Selected articles from the papers presented at the conference.

- 2) **XIV Convegno Internazionale/International Conference:**
Postcolonialismi italiani ieri e oggi/Italian Postcolonialisms: Past and Present (Johannesburg 10-12 agosto/August, 2017).
Numero speciale/Special issue vol. 31, no 1 e/and no 2 (2018). Articoli scelti tra le relazioni presentate al convegno/Selected articles from the papers presented at the conference.

- 3) **XIII Convegno Internazionale/International Conference:**
Antichi moderni. Gli apporti medievali e rinascimentali all'identità culturale del Novecento italiano/The contribution of Middle Ages and Renaissance to Italian cultural identity in the 20th century (Città del Capo/Cape Town, 4-5 Settembre/September 2014).
Numero speciale/Special issue, vol. 28, no 2 (2015). Articoli scelti tra le relazioni presentate al convegno/Selected articles from the papers presented at the conference.

- 4) **XII Convegno Internazionale/International Conference:**
Finis Terrae Finis Mundi. L'Apocalisse nella cultura e nella letteratura italiana/The Apocalypse in Italian culture and literature (Durban, 26-27 Settembre/September 2013).
Numero speciale/Special issue, vol. 27, no 2 (2014). Articoli scelti tra le relazioni presentate al convegno/Selected articles from the papers presented at the conference.

- 5) **XI Convegno Internazionale/International Conference:
Tempo e spazio nella cultura italiana e oltre/Time and space in
Italian culture and beyond** (Città del Capo/Cape Town, 7-9
Settembre/September 2000).
Numero speciale/Special issue, vol. 14, no 2 (2001). Articoli scelti tra le
relazioni presentate al convegno/Selected articles from the papers
presented at the conference.
- 6) **Identità e diversità nella cultura italiana
Identity and Diversity in Italian Culture**
Atti del X Congresso internazionale A.P.I. / Proceedings of the X
International A.P.I. Conference (Pretoria, 1998).
Apparso solo in formato elettronico/Appeared in electronic format only
(www.unisa.ac.za/dept/rom/api).
- 7) **Power and Italian Culture and Literature
Potere cultura e letteratura italiane**
Atti del IX Congresso internazionale A.P.I. / Proceedings of the IX
International API Congress (Johannesburg, 1995).
Numero speciale/Special issue *Donne, scrittura e potere*, vol. 9, no 2
(1996).
- 8) **Immagini letterarie italiane della donna / Immagini dell'Africa nella
letteratura italiana**
Atti dell'VIII Congresso Internazionale dell'API (Città del Capo, 1993).

**Italian Literary Images of Woman / Images of Africa in Italian
Literature**
Proceedings of the VIII International API Congress (Cape Town, 1993).
- 9) **Novella e racconto nella letteratura italiana**
Atti del VII Congresso Internazionale dell'API (Pretoria, 1991).

Novella and short story in Italian Literature
Proceedings of the VII International API Congress (Pretoria, 1991).

- 10) **I minori**
Atti del VI Congresso Internazionale dell'API (Johannesburg, 1989).
Questi Atti sono usciti in un numero speciale doppio della rivista
(n.4/1990 - n.1/1991).
- The minor writers**
Proceedings of the VI International API Congress (Johannesburg, 1989).
These Proceedings have appeared in a special double issue of this journal
(n.4/1990 - n.1/1991).
- 11) **Letteratura e mitologia / Rapporto fra la letteratura e le altre arti**
Atti del V Congresso Internazionale dell'API (Città del Capo, 1987).
- Literature and Mythology / The Relation between Literature and the
Other Arts**
Proceedings of the V International API Congress (Cape Town, 1987).
- 12) **Atti del IV Congresso dell'API** (Grahamstown, 1985).
Proceedings of the IV API Conference (Grahamstown, 1985).
- 13) **Atti del III Convegno dell'API** (Johannesburg, 1983).
Proceedings of the III API Conference (Johannesburg, 1983).
- 14) **Atti del II Convegno dell'API** (Pretoria, 1982).
Proceedings of the II API Conference (Pretoria, 1982).
- 15) **Atti del I Convegno dell'API** (Johannesburg, 1981).
Proceedings of the I API Conference (Johannesburg, 1981).

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The purpose of A.P.I. (Association of Professional Italianists/Associazione Professori d'Italiano), established in 1981, is to promote cultural exchanges and discussions on didactic and literary topics concerning the preservation and teaching of the Italian language and literature in Southern Africa both at school and university level, and to keep abreast with international developments in this field.

Congresses and Round Tables alternate every second year at various universities and cultural associations where Italian is taught. All teachers and students of Italian, as well as anybody interested in Italian culture are invited to participate.

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