

La Vendemmia

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ITALIAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

BELLO, NO?

- A new annual tradition is born.
- Students enjoyed delicious snacks from Mona Lisa of Charlottesville.
- Current Italian Studies majors talked about their experiences with their peers.
- An opportunity to learn all about Italian Studies at UVA.

A LOVELY EVENING FOR AN APERICENA

The best part of being a student in Italian Studies at UVA just might be the parties!

Majors, minors, and language students of all levels came to another one on September 17th at The Shea House: the first annual “apericena.”

This relatively new tradition in Italy is a merger of the late afternoon *aperitivo* (cocktail hour) and the evening meal, *cena* (dinner). It is especially popular in the summertime in Italy’s many *lidi*, or beachside resorts.

Although central grounds is far from the beach, Italian students and faculty were still able to enjoy a nice evening talking about all the many opportunities that UVA under-



Everyone had fun at the apericena!

graduates, interested in Italy have to learn about the boot-shaped land.

Italian Studies majors Andrew Wells, Ali Zwicker, Nathan Maizels, and Nick Mattia spoke to the group about their

experiences studying Italian at UVA. Their comments were followed by a brief presentation by Director of Undergraduate Programs in Italian, Prof. Enrico Cesaretti, and lecturer of Italian Studies, Dr. Francesca Calamita, which highlighted the many interesting opportunities that prospective majors and minors have to deepen their knowledge of Italian culture.

Local eatery Mona Lisa provided delicious *antipasti*, which students washed down with an assortment of fruit-flavored drinks.

If you missed it, don't worry, there will be another chance for you to attend next year!

-Sarah Annunziato

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Prof. Cesaretti talks to Andrew Wells, '16



Nathan Maizels, '18 and Nick Mattia, '16 talk.



Signor Puiatti enjoys a tasty beverage.

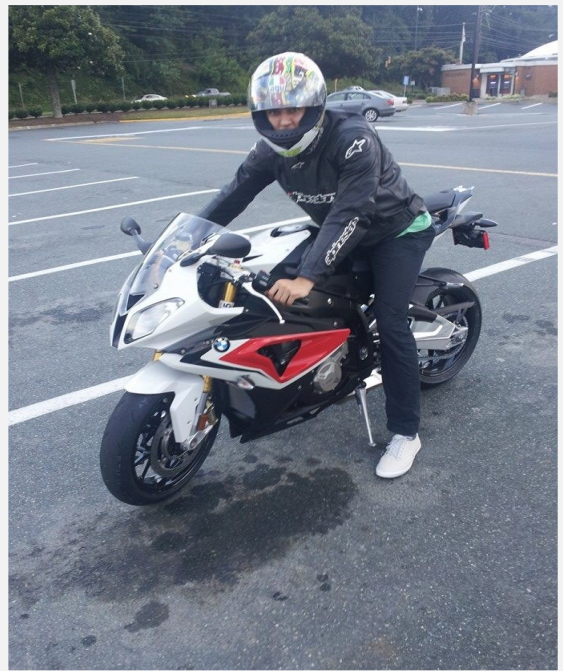
BRAND, SPANKING NEW MAJOR!

Hi, my name is Philip Wilson. I was fortunate enough to be born in the beautiful city of Florence, Italy to an Italian mother and an Italian-American father. Even though I was born in Italy, I grew up in Sarasota, Florida before moving to Charlottesville, Virginia at the age of eleven.

My hobbies include participating in any competitive sport that I possibly can. I am currently on my fraternity's inter-mural softball team. Football and baseball are my two favorite sports. I played quarterback and center field, respectively in high school, but my favorite hobby by far is riding my motorcycle. The comforts and joy associated with being free on an open road is like nothing else you will ever experience.

My personal claim to fame is that I am the great-great-grandson of Italian avant-garde writer Giovanni Papini (google him!).

Even though I was raised in the United States since infancy, there has always been a strong connection to Italian life and culture. Traditions were always closely followed, especially in terms of cuisine thanks to my mother. Growing up around the language, and visiting family in Florence on occasion, has given me a taste of what being Italian is like without ever feeling fully engaged with Italian society. In choosing to be an Italian major, I have chosen to discover more of my roots, as well as develop a greater appreciation of my birthplace.



New major in Italian Studies, Philip Wilson.

WELCOME TO THE O.C.



Il Mafioso (1962), is featured in the Italian Film Series

On September 10th, the Program in Italian Studies at UVA inaugurated the first installment of its brand new film series. The series will be held every semester, and it will feature an array of films from Italy, which will all focus on a different theme each term.

This fall, students are enjoying a variety of movies all about Organized Crime, through the "Welcome to the O(rganized) C(rime) film series. The films are shown on alternating Thursdays in Wilson 301 from 5-7. Each movie receives a detailed introduction from one of our faculty members, with discussion to follow.

The series is free and open to the public, so if you are a lover of Italy and movies, come in and enjoy a night of Italian cinema!

-The Editors

OUR STUDENTS ARE BUSY BEES!

For three weeks this summer (June 22-July 10), Prof.ssa Deborah Parker and Prof. Mark Parker (James Madison University) engaged high school teachers from around the country in an intensive seminar on Dante's *Inferno* and the many works of art that it has inspired throughout the centuries since Italy's national poet first penned it.

The seminar, entitled "Dante's *Inferno*: Influence, Adaptation, and Appropriation," allowed participants to closely study the original text and then, to apply the knowledge they learned from that experience to an analysis of other artistic works that were influenced by, or adapted from, Dante's poem. The seminar also examined the topic of "appropriation," and how this concept might apply to some texts and artwork that are based on the *Inferno*.

Students were able to speak with author Matthew Pearl (*The Dante Club*, 2003) during a visit to Washington DC, and they also discussed and analyzed "The Divine Comedy," a contemporary art exhibit at the Savannah College of Art and Design in which 40 African artists brought themes from all three volumes of Dante's poem to life.

The seminar was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. It is the fruit of many years of collaboration and research into this topic by the Professors Parker. UVA Italian Studies hopes to see many other projects like it in the future!

-Sarah Annunziato



Participants in the Dante seminar.



In June of 2015, "Moons and Bonfires: An Archive of Italian-American History" was born to all of the students enrolled in ITRR 4559, "Italian-American Cinema." After spending the fall of 2014 closely studying how the American cinema has historically depicted the experiences of Italian immigrants to the USA and their descendants, participants in the course created an online archive documenting important moments, movements and figures in Italian-American history. Their final product includes a series of essays on topics such as The National Origins Act, the case of Sacco and Vanzetti, Italian-Americans during World War II, and Italian immigrants in the arts, among others. Their site also features a regularly updated blog, select bibliography, and select filmography. Curious readers can find it at <http://moonsandbonfires.weebly.com/>.

-The Editors

WELCOME TO FALL

- 14 ottobre, 2:30-3:30..... Caffè italiano,
New Cabell Hall
4th Floor**
- 22 ottobre, 5-7..... Italian Film Series
The Sicilian Girl
Wilson Hall 301**
- 30 ottobre, 2:30-3:30..... Caffè italiano,
New Cabell Hall
4th Floor**
- 5 Novembre, TBA..... Special Talk
Fred Kuwornu**
- 7 novembre, 1:00 Virginia Film Festival
Daydreaming
Vinegar Hill Theater**
- TBA Novembre, 5-7..... Italian Film Series
I cento passi
Wilson Hall 301**
- 17 Novembre, 2:30-3:30..... Caffè italiano
New Cabell Hall
4th floor**
- 19 Novembre, 5-7..... Italian Film Series
Gomorra
Wilson Hall 301**



PROFESSOR NEWS...



UNA STELLA CADENTE A CHARLOTTESVILLE

The program in Italian Studies at UVA welcomes new lecturer Stella Mattioli. Stella received her laurea from the University of Florence in 2005, after which she worked as a reporter for Prato's newspaper, *Metropoli*. Stella has also worked extensively as a translator and proofreader. Additionally, she is the co-author of *Dulce est pro patria mori: I caduti di Carmignano e Poggio a Caiano nella grande guerra, 1915-1918*.

In 2015, she earned her MA in Italian Studies from The University of Virginia. Stella is currently teaching Intermediate Italian and she is *La vendemmia's* new copy editor.

Welcome to Stella!

-The Editors

SAY HI TO SANDRO

Sandro Puiatti is also a new lecturer in Italian Studies this fall. Sandro earned his laurea in lettere from the Università Ca' Foscari in 2007 and then went on to receive an MA from Florida State University in 2009. Sandro is currently finishing his PhD in Italian at Indiana University.

Sandro is a specialist in Medieval and Renaissance Italian literature. Sandro's interests include the transition from Medieval to Humanistic culture, and the relationship between manuscript and print culture.

Sandro is currently teaching Elementary Italian and co-organizing the Italian coffee club, *il caffè italiano*.

Welcome Sandro!

-The Editors



Dr. Francesca Calamita passed a restful, yet busy summer in 2015. In June, Dr. Calamita attended the Canadian Society for Italian Studies conference in Sorrento, where she presented a paper entitled "*Peccatrici di gola: Representations of Femininities in Present-day Italian Food Advertisements*," and then she headed off to participate in the American Association for Italian Studies Conference in Siena. At AAIS, Dr. Calamita contributed to a roundtable entitled "Bridging the Gap: Facilitating Interaction Between U.S.-Based and Study Abroad Students Through Onsite Learning Activities." Next she went home for some actual vacation. *Che vita!*

-The Editors

AND NOW, A WORD FROM OUR STUDENTS

HOW TO EAT LIKE AN ITALIAN IN CHARLOTTESVILLE

Italian cuisine is no foreign taste to Charlottesville residents. Charlottesville ranks 14th on Huffington Post as the most restaurants per capita next to major metropolises, such as New York City and San Francisco. Before heading back for your regular American cheeseburger, consider immersing yourself in the rich Italian cuisine the town of Charlottesville offers. Below are some of the top authentic Italian restaurants in the area.

Bella's Restaurant

If you're looking for an authentic, Roman Italian restaurant, Bella's Restaurant may be the place for you. Its warm and inviting atmosphere revolves around the motto of "Family, Food, Happiness." Meals range from pasta al forno, a real Roman Lasagna, to, my personal favorite, the insalata caprese (mozzarella, tomato, basil). Bella's hearty portions and savory wines are sure to keep you coming back.

Location: 707 West Main St, Charlottesville, VA 22903

Website: <http://www.bellas-restaurant.com/menu/lunch-menu/>

Sal's Caffe Italia

This Italian restaurant places great care into creating the most authentic Italian dining experience. Pizza dough is homemade, and the produce is the best in the marketplace. Furthermore, Sal's Caffe includes a wine collection with bottles from various regions of Italy. For more than 25 years, this family-owned restaurant has been serving locals and tourists alike. To top it off, Kevin Spacey (AKA Frank Underwood from the Netflix original series *House of Cards*) ate dinner here when he visited Charlottesville last fall.

Location: 221 East Main St, Charlottesville, VA 22902

Website: <http://www.salscaffaitalia.com/>

Tavola

Known for their rustic Italian atmosphere, Tavola offers a similar dining experience to one in Italy, including a "piatto di formaggi" (artisanal Italian cheeses) on their dessert menu. Tavola does not take reservations, but reviews state that it is well worth any wait. Since recent renovations to the restaurant, the wait may be more bearable. Tavola offers a craft cocktail lounge and cicchetti bar for a more social atmosphere with drinks and smaller dishes.

Location: 826 Hinton Ave, Charlottesville, VA 22902/Website: <http://tavolavino.com/> (continued on next page).

Fellini's

Fellini brings more to the table than simply Italian cuisine. Regular pianist and jazz collective performances daily bring a lively, yet elegant, atmosphere to Fellini's. Handcrafted cocktails, wines, and beers on tap are sure to guarantee a good night at this restaurant!

Location: 200 Market St, Charlottesville, VA 22902

Website: <http://www.felliniscville.com/>

Splendor's Gelato

For something quick and sweet, order a delicious gelato in Downtown Charlottesville offering 24 to 36 flavors daily. All dessert lovers will enjoy this tasty treat made by hand daily.

Location: 317 East Main St, Charlottesville VA 22902

Website: <http://www.splendoras.com/>

Mix Italian flavor into your life- Buon appetito!

-Selin Ulkuatam, ITAL 2010

A NIGHT ON THE TOWN IN FLORENCE

One of many age-old Italian traditions, **La Festa della Rificolona** convened once again earlier this September in the heart of Florence. Florentines of all ages proudly paraded through the streets displaying their exquisite paper lanterns, chanting ancient songs, and enjoying popcorn, *zucchero filato* (cotton candy), and other sweet treats. After activities and games in **Piazza della Santissima Annunziata**, the night ended with an impromptu bonfire in the middle of the piazza.

-Mary Philpot, ITAL 2010

THINGS TO KNOW FOR YOUR VISIT TO THE BOOT



One of the most appealing aspects of studying abroad in Italy is the opportunity it offers you to learn the incredibly beautiful Italian language. When in Italy you become immersed in the culture on a daily basis, thus it is the perfect setting in which to enhance your learning and absorption of the language. As for those who have varied interests in other subject areas such as History, Art, Religion and Architecture, Italy offers limitless possibilities to nurture and feed these passions. For instance you can visit the ancient ruins of Greece and Rome and even the world's oldest bank which still exists in Siena. From there, you may choose to visit Vatican City, considered the heart of Catholicism, in this area surrounded by the boundaries of Rome, though an independent state, one will find a rich presence of Religious history. There are also a multitude of sites dedicated to various saints and martyrs of the Catholic faith. For those with a greater fascination in the arts Italy serves as an ideal place to visit as there is a rich artistic presence there. The country is home to numerous original works of art and buildings, for instance there are churches that are so intricate in their designs that one may spend hours in a single one marveling at its detail and beauty.

Another very important detail about studying abroad in Italy is that this country offers international students great hospitality. Naturally, going to a new place with a foreign language and a culture you are not all too familiar with can be a nerve wracking experience. This makes it all the more crucial to ensure that wherever it is you choose to venture you will be surrounded by individuals who welcome you with open arms. This is exactly what you can expect during your Italian study abroad experience.

Upon completion of their study abroad trip most students return home having absolutely loved the experience. Their speaking and understanding of the language has improved and their knowledge on the Italian culture expanded. The experience often goes down as one of the greatest they've had. In the words of fourth year student Michaela B. "In a few short months, I have fallen in love with a place that has taught me that it's okay to eat gelato every day, that vespa is the best form of transportation, that meals should be hours long with multiple courses and amazing conversations, that you can never get tired of walking through a city that is also a living piece of art, and that no matter how hard you try, seeing the Duomo or crossing the Arno will always take your breath away." In summary, a study abroad experience in Italy is the opportunity of a lifetime, and if given this opportunity every Italian student should seize it.

-Chantal Carty, ITAL 2010



A PROPOSITO DEL VATICANO...

La religione è molto importante per la gente italiana. Infatti, l'88% degli italiani pratica il cattolicesimo al giorno di oggi.

(ARDA). La Pasqua e il Natale sono le feste più importanti nella religione cristiana.

Nella primavera del 2012, la mia mamma, la mia bisnonna, mio fratello, ed io siamo andati in Italia. Quando l'aereo è atterrato, la mia famiglia ha preso un taxi all'albergo. Eravamo in fretta perché era la Pasqua e noi abbiamo voluto vedere il Papa! Abbiamo preso la metro dalla Roma alla città del Vaticano. Quando noi siamo arrivati, c'erano molte persone nella piazza. Mentre io stavo lì, mi sono resa conto di quanto importante la religione era per l'Italia. Ogni persona era lì per lo stesso motivo—vedere il Papa e festeggiare la morte e la resurrezione di Gesù. La Pasqua rappresenta Gesù che morì per la sua gente per salvarla dai suoi peccati. Nella Bibbia, dice "Perché Dio amava talmente il mondo, dette il suo unico Figlio, quindi chiunque crede in Lui non perirà, ma avrà la vita immortale" (Radmacher).

Durante il discorso del Papa, mi sono venuti i brividi. Lui ha parlato in latino, come il modo del passato. Era difficile a comprendere che stava dicendo, ma sapevo che il messaggio era importante e forte. Tutti erano molto emozionati a sentire le sue parole. Ha parlato di Gesù e della fiducia e della speranza. Queste persone avevano viaggiato in Italia da tutto il mondo. Nel 2014, il Papa Francesco ha attratto una folla di sei milioni di persone (Allen). Tutta l'Italia si interrompe per la festa. Tutti i ristoranti, tutte le banche, tutte le scuole, e tutti gli uffici del governo sono chiusi. La mia famiglia è stata molto fortunata di essere stata nella Città del Vaticano per la Pasqua. Io non dimenticherò mai i miei ricordi di questo viaggio.

-Matilda Sullivan, ITAL 2010



L'EMIGRAZIONE E LA SICILIA

Io ho un padrino siciliano che si chiama Sebastiano Santostefano. Lui scherza sempre di telefonare ai suoi cugini, ma non è un mafioso. Io penso... Lui è emigrato con i cinque fratelli nel 1937, e è rimasto negli Stati Uniti. Quando si era sposato con la mia madrina, Susan, lei ha provato a imparare l'Italiano. Ma non si può usare l'Italiano con il mio padrino perché il dialetto siciliano è troppo diverso dall'Italiano. Allo stesso tempo, l'emigrazione dalla Sicilia è molto diversa dall'emigrazione da altre zone dell'Italia.

L'industria del Nord era troppo competitiva, e l'industria del Sud e della Sicilia non potevano essere allo stesso livello. Quindi, dopo l'unificazione in poi, la Sicilia riguardava le tasse, e la leva in modo molto negativo, e poi, l'economia della Sicilia ebbe dei problemi. Queste difficoltà costrinsero molte persone a emigrare.

Più tardi, durante gli anni venti, Benito Mussolini creò il Fascismo, ed era molto duro contro la Sicilia e la mafia. Allora, durante la seconda guerra mondiale Mussolini provò a rovinare gli alleati che accampavano in Sicilia. A causa di queste questioni, molti cittadini emigrarono di nuovo.

Specificamente durante la seconda guerra mondiale, c'era molta violenza. Il 10 luglio 1943, gli alleati arrivarono in Sicilia, e cominciarono a combattere contro i tedeschi. George S. Patton condusse le truppe americane, e Bernard L. Montgomery condusse le truppe britanniche.

L'attacco durò per cinque settimane – trentotto giorni in totale. Il 24 luglio, gli alleati arrestarono Benito Mussolini, un evento che cambiò la storia della Sicilia. Quando il Fascismo si concluse con l'arresto di Mussolini, le ragioni per l'emigrazione dalla Sicilia cambiarono. Prima della seconda guerra mondiale, le ragioni erano per i problemi in Sicilia, in particolare, la povertà ed il fascismo. Dopo la fine del Fascismo, le ragioni erano per la scuola o la carriera.

L'emigrazione dall'Italia si cambiò durante i decenni, ma gli Italiani saranno sempre un buon popolo!

-Phoebe Clark, ITAL 2010



GLI IMMIGRATI DI OGGI

La crisi degli sfollati in Italia e la guerra civile in Siria hanno provocato milioni di persone a lasciare i loro paesi. Questi rifugiati vanno in Grecia, Germania, Austria, nei Paesi Bassi e Italia. Nel 2014, più di 87,000 persone sono arrivate in Italia dal Mar Mediterraneo. Quest'anno, più di 50,000 persone sono arrivate solo nel primo tempo del 2015. L'Italia ha 4,700 miglia di coste, così molti rifugiati viaggiano in barca. Però, l'Italia non è la destinazione finale per molte persone. Le autorità italiane spesso non registrano i rifugiati perché loro sanno che i rifugiati vogliono vivere in altri paesi. Anche, gli italiani non vogliono che molti rifugiati abitino in Italia perché il tasso di disoccupazione è il 12%. Però, le Nazioni Unite sono preoccupate che i terroristi possono entrare di nascosto, allora l'Italia sta iniziando a registrare i rifugiati. C'è anche un nuovo programma per trasferire 66,000 rifugiati dall'Italia e la Grecia in altri paesi. Ci sono molti modi in cui i cittadini italiani possono aiutare. Loro possono donare i soldi alle organizzazioni, per esempio, Save the Children, Migrant Offshore Aid Station (MOAS) e UNHCR, specificamente attraverso questo sito web: <https://www.unhcr.it/dona>. Anche possono dare le forniture ai centri dei rifugiati, come i vestiti, le scarpe, lo shampoo, le tende e i libri. Finalmente, i cittadini possono fare volontariato ai centri dei rifugiati. La Siria e il Medio Oriente sono in crisi, ma l'Italia può aiutare i rifugiati a vivere una vita migliore.

-Audrey Jackson, ITAL 2010



CIAO!



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CHI SIAMO?

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Virginia is for lovers of Italian!