



Tutti i colori dell'autunno....

Cari lettori e care lettrici,

As another semester comes to a close, we are pleased to present a new issue of our newsletter to all of our students, colleagues, and friends of the Italian Studies program.

This fall has been an especially busy one for all of us! From movies to game nights, our newly re-born Italian Club has offered something for every Italophile on grounds to enjoy this semester. They have been assisted in these efforts by the Italian Honor Society, which initiated several new members during the month of December.

Also in December, we welcomed scholars from around the nation to UVA to participate in a Mellon symposium entitled, "Post-Humanism in the Anthropocene." This event featured three panels where issues related to the field of Environmental Humanities were discussed and debated by presenters and audience members alike.

You can read all about these and other scintillating fall adventures in these pages. So, please pour yourself a coffee and curl up with our newsletter for a while!

-Prof. Enrico Cesaretti,

Director of the Undergraduate Program in Italian

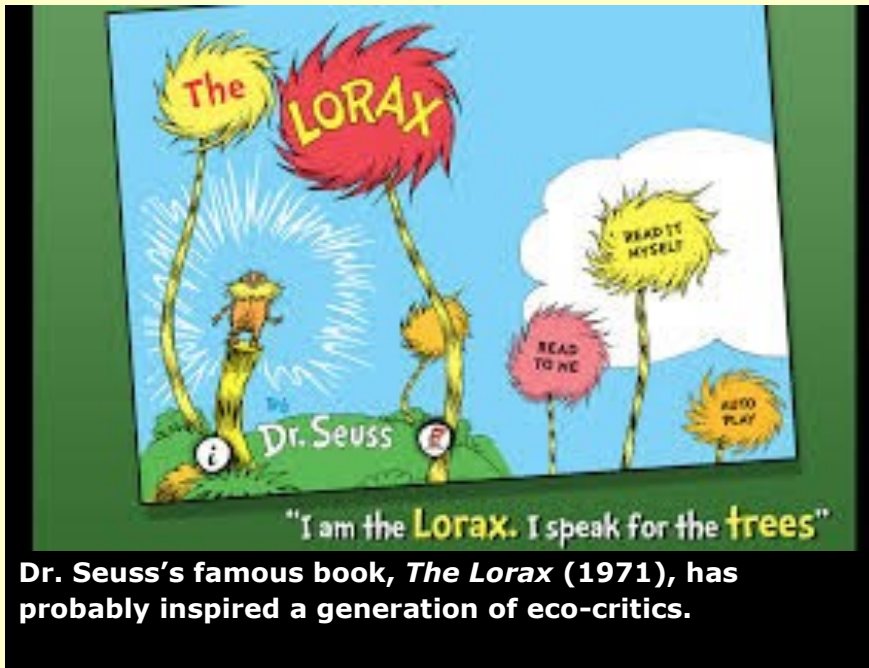


"Fall is an active time in Italy too. It is during this season that the annual vendemmia occurs. This is the harvest of the year's grapes, which are soon turned into delicious wine. In Italy's various wine-making regions the grapes may be ready for harvest as early as August or as late as November."

-The Editors

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Dr. Seuss's famous book, *The Lorax* (1971), has probably inspired a generation of eco-critics.

As the Earth Turns

On 2 December 2016, the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese and the Institute for Humanities and Global Cultures welcomed nine scholars from around the United States to participate in a Mellon symposium dedicated to Environmental Humanities. The event, entitled *Post-Humanism in the Anthropocene*, was organized by our own fearless leader, Prof. Enrico Cesaretti. It featured lively discussions of many important issues pertaining to our planet's future.

An Impressive Roster

Of course, what made the event truly memorable were the presenters, who visited grounds from as far away as California and as nearby as Williamsburg. They discussed a variety of topics such as "petro-texts," combating pollution in southern Italy, and animism in the works of Italian authors such as Pier Paolo Pasolini and Primo Levi. Lively debates with audience members took place after each panel.

Stay Tuned

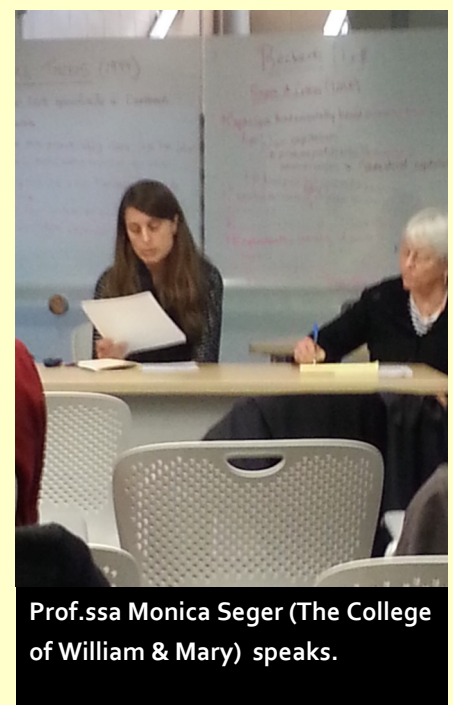
The symposium resulted from a Mellon grant that Prof. Cesaretti received in the spring of 2016. It provided funding not only for this event, but also to assist with Prof. Cesaretti's upcoming book. Additionally, he will be able to design and offer a brand new course based on his research in the field of ecocriticism. To learn more about all of his upcoming ventures, please keep an eye on *La vendemmia*, until then you can learn more about the symposium here: <http://ihgc.as.virginia.edu/news/post-humanism-anthropocene-ihgc-mellon-symposium>

-Sarah Annunziato

To Learn More

Did our description of this month's symposium pique your interest? If that's the case, then you can read more about some of the topics discussed in the books below. There is really something for everyone!

- * Elena Past and Deborah Amberson (eds). *Thinking Italian Animals: Human and Posthuman in Modern Italian Literature and Film*. Palgrave-MacMillan, 2014.
- * Karen Pinkus. *Fuel: A Speculative Dictionary*. University of Minnesota Press, 2016.
- * Monica Seger. *Landscapes in Between: Environmental Change in Modern Italian Literature and Film*. University of Toronto Press, 2015.
- * Louise Westling. *The Logos of the Living World: Merleau-Ponty, Animals, and Language*. Fordham University Press, 2013.



Prof.ssa Monica Seger (The College of William & Mary) speaks.

Da Guardare...

If you enjoy horror movies, mysteries, suspense, or thrillers, Il Club Italiano can recommend some other great films for you to binge on this holiday season. Check out some of their favorites below:

For Horror Fans:

- ◆ *The Vampires*. Mario Bava & Riccardo Freda, 1957.
- ◆ *Kill, Baby, Kill*. Mario Bava, 1966.
- ◆ *The Bird with the Crystal Plumage*. Dario Argento, 1970.
- ◆ *The House with the Laughing Windows*. Pupi Avati, 1976.
- ◆ *Suspiria*. Dario Argento, 1977.
- ◆ *Tenebrae*. Dario Argento, 1982.
- ◆ *Demons*. Lamberto Bava, 1985.

Suspenseful Movies:

- ◆ *Investigation of a Citizen Above Suspicion*. Elio Petri, 1970.
- ◆ *I'm Not Scared*. Gabriele Salvatores, 2003.

-The Editors



***Tenebrae* (1982) is a classic horror film from Italy. In October, friends of Il Club Italiano gathered to watch it in celebration of Halloween.**

The Italian Club is Where it's At:

Club Italiano had a very fun and successful semester! The club hosted 3 major events. First, for Halloween, we screened the classic horror film, *Tenebrae* (*Tenebre*), and we were pleased with the mix of club members and non-members in attendance! In early November, we had an Italian Game Night, where we played Jeopardy with categories including "La geografia italiana," "Gli italiani famosi", e "La storia italiana." Attendees also played Mad Libs in Italian, which was great for those who aren't very advanced in their Italian language skills. Finally, in late November, we came together to cook a dinner of chicken parmesan and pasta.

We look forward to a full calendar of events in the spring semester, and always welcome new members! Please contact our President, Sarah Mondejar (som4qh@virginia.edu) if you are interested! Ci vediamo al prossimo evento!

-Sarah Mondejar

Benvenuti/e!

On 2 December the society had its second induction ceremony, and 9 students became new members:

- * Alecia Zwicker
- * Kalin Agoglia
- * Matilda Sullivan
- * Mary Collins
- * Tyler Jones
- * Eric Petruzzo
- * Ellen Thomas
- * Moira Hull
- * Sarah Mondejar

The Honor Society would like to thank the Italian Program for its support, and all the students that participated in the activities and the events and all the students that are going to join us in the activities and the events for next semester.

-Stella Mattioli



The Italian Honor Society at UVA welcomed 9 new members on 2 December 2016.

With Honors!

Gamma Kappa Alpha, the Italian Honor Society, recently inducted its new members for 2016. GKA is a newly created CIO that is dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding of the Italian language and culture within the University and the Charlottesville community. The students and professors involved in the society meet for social events twice a month, such as movie nights with Benny's Pizza or Trivia Nights at Mellow Mushroom, which are only possible because of the generous sponsorship of the UVA Parents Fund. For the spring semester, the society has plans for growth and outreach to the Charlottesville community by partnering with local chefs and business owners, to foster closer relationships within the society by sponsoring more social events, and for creating a conversation series for those who speak the Italian language. Members are excited to become more involved in the UVA and Charlottesville community, and they welcome suggestions for events and of course, those interested in joining are always encouraged to apply.

Contact the president, Avery Morrison at akm6wy@virginia.edu for more information.

-Avery Morrison



Prof. Ward (center) and Signor Puiatti (left) welcome Alecia Zwicker (right) to GKA.

We ♥ Tuscany

During your term abroad in Tuscany, there are many sites to see. So many in fact, that we thought you might like a few recommendations to help organize your trip:

MUSEI/MUSEUMS:

- ◆ The Uffizi Gallery (Florence)
- ◆ La Galleria dell'Accademia (Florence)
- ◆ Il Bargello (Florence)
- ◆ Palazzo Pitti (Florence)
- ◆ Palazzo Vecchio (Florence)
- ◆ Stibbert Museum (Florence)
- ◆ Civic Museum (Siena)
- ◆ Pinacoteca Nazionale (Siena)

CHIESE/CHURCHES:

- ◆ Il Duomo (Florence)
- ◆ Santa Croce (Florence)
- ◆ Santa Maria Novella (Florence)
- ◆ Santo Spirito (Florence)
- ◆ Il Duomo di Siena
- ◆ Santa Maria dei Servi (Siena)

EVENTI:

- Lo scoppio del carro (Florence)
- Il Palio (Siena)



Prof.ssa Ward visits our study abroad programs in Italy. (From Left) ISO Senior Advisor Stacey Hansen, Layna Jansen, Kimberley O'Keeffe, Katherine Griesedieck, Kristin Cugini, and Prof.ssa Ward.

Some News From Our Friends in Italy

This October, Prof.ssa Ward travelled to Italy to visit our study abroad programs in Florence and Siena. She reports that there are many happy Hoos who are currently enjoying their time in the boot-shaped land.

If you are also interested in studying in Italy, there is no shortage of opportunities for you to take the plunge. Lovers of Italian can perfect their language skills and learn more about Italy's rich history and culture while living and attending classes in the heart of Tuscany.

Those of you who feel drawn to big cities may elect to spend a semester or a summer in Florence at the Palazzo Rucellai, where you can marvel at some of the most famous works of art and architecture in the entire world. The Palazzo Rucellai is situated in central Florence and allows students easy access to all of the city's major points of interest. You can take courses in language, art, architecture, and more!

If big city life is not for you, try our program in Siena. You can choose fall, spring or summer terms in this charming Tuscan town. The Siena program also offers direct credit for UVA students. You can study a variety of areas, such as language, history, art, architecture, or film, and you are in close proximity to all of Tuscany's splendors. You might want to see the historic Palio, spend a day in Florence, or even plan a weekend getaway to the island of Elba-you can do it all during your term in Siena.

Serious art lovers should also consider the Gori Internship, available to advanced Italian students each year. For more information on all of these options, please contact Prof.ssa Ward (aw7h@virginia.edu).

-Adrienne Ward



Spring Fever!

As the fall semester draws to a close, most people are busy thinking about holiday preparations, vacation plans, and of course final exams! We on the other hand are gearing up for spring, with a slate of exciting activities. Here is a list of some upcoming events, so mark your calendars in advance!

FEBBRAIO/FEBRUARY:

- * Talk by Prof.ssa Irene Zanini-Cordi (Florida State University).

⇒ Prof. Zanini-Cordi specializes in Italian culture of the eighteenth and nineteenth-century. She is particularly interested in women writers of those periods, and issues of gender in all kinds of cultural endeavors. Her current book project, *Women Before Facebook*, discusses the women who animated Italian salons from just before the French Revolution to the unification of Italy. Be on the lookout for her talk in early February!

- * Research Night: Presentations by UVA undergraduates.

⇒ Come to hear your friends and fellow Italian students present their research projects carried out in ITAL 3010! You'll learn fun facts about Italian culture on all sorts of interesting topics, from the changing Mediterranean diet to Italian car museums, from the top sports in Italy (after calcio, of course) to the effect of Air Bnb on tourism in Venice.

- * *From Page to Screen Film Series* begins.

MARZO/MARCH:

- * Applications are due for the Gori Internship.
- * Submissions for the **Lola Pelliccia Undergraduate Essay Prizes** are due.

APRILE/APRIL:

- * *Dolcissimo!*
- * Annual Garden Party & Prize Ceremony

-The Editors

Learn Italian!

Have you been yearning to learn Italian? Do you already speak Italian, but want to learn more about the Boot? If so, consider taking an Italian Studies course this spring. We have many offerings to choose from in both language and cultural studies, so there is something for everyone:

IN ITALIANO:

- ◆ *Elementary Italian II*. MTWTh. Sig.ra. Mattioli & Sig. Puiatti.
- ◆ *Intermediate Italian II*. MWF. Dott.ssa Annunziato, Dott.ssa Calamita, & Sig.ra Mattioli.
- ◆ *Advanced Italian II*. MWF. Prof. Cesaretti.
- ◆ *Growing Up Italian-Style: Children's Culture*. MWF. Dott.ssa Annunziato.

IN INGLESE:

- ◆ *Eve's Sinful Bite: Foodscapes in Women's Writing*. MWF. Dott.ssa Calamita.
- ◆ *Acting Italian: Goldoni, Benigni, and Fo*. TTh. Prof.ssa Ward.
- ◆ *The Drama of Marriage*. TTh. Prof.ssa Ward.

-The Editors

Notizie Hoo:

Much like Martese, other alumni of our program have been up to some interesting things since graduating. Here's a look at some of their new ventures.

- * Stefania Mazza ('16): Currently interning at The Gori Collection in Tuscany.
- * Jacob Shirley (MA, '15): Published his first novel, *The Carver* in July.
- * Zachary Vogt ('14): Teaching Italian at The College of William and Mary, (Williamsburg, VA).
- * Zoe Kemp ('13): Pursuing a PhD in Comparative Studies in Literature & Culture at USC, (Los Angeles, CA).
- * Rachel Midura ('13): Pursuing a PhD in History at Stanford University, (Palo Alto, CA).

-The Editors



Martese Johnson ('16) graduated with a BA in Italian Studies. This fall, he finally made it to Italy through his new job. Here he is at Rome's historic Colosseum.

Martese in Italia

Cari/e Hoo,

I just wanted to reach out and update you all on post-graduate life so far! I am living in New York City with a couple of other UVA graduates and loving the experience. I work at an innovation and brand strategy consultancy (sylvainlabs.com) with a bunch of unique individuals from all over the world, and it is such a humbling and rich learning opportunity.

This past week, I was able to tag along with my CEO on *un viaggio a Roma*! It was surreal to see some of the many things you all shared about Italy and its culture appear right in front of me. During college, my involvements and some hiccups along the way prevented me from studying abroad. While this trip was not the same experience, it was the first of what I hope will be many visits to a country I've grown to admire through your teachings!

So thank you, and I hope that all is well during Finals season at UVA. Please send updates and keep in touch!

-Martese Johnson



Behold the Power of Words!

If you are currently studying the Italian language here at UVA, you probably cannot wait to use it beyond the classroom walls. So, our question to you is this: why wait, when you can do it right now?

To this end, Dott.ssa Calamita, with the assistance of Dott.ssa Annunziato, has designed a new activity for students of Intermediate Italian II.

During *The Project on Gender and Language*, students will spend a semester analyzing newspaper headlines from Italy to understand how the nation's quest for gender parity influences the evolution of its language and vice versa. We will also discuss the linguistic issues that our increasingly deeper understanding of gender identity creates in Italian.

Participants in this initiative will not only read short excerpts from Italian sources, they will also blog about them with their classmates. Ultimately, you will be able to discuss, debate, and read deeply about these and other related topics.

We look forward to sharing this interesting and innovative new venture with you!

-Francesca Calamita

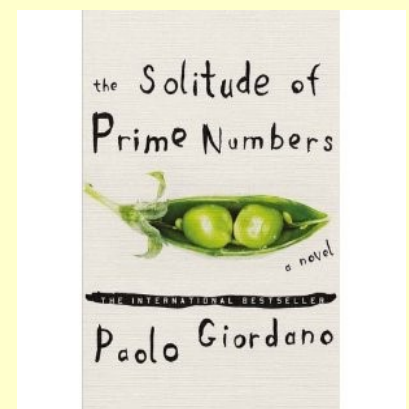
Dott.ssa Calamita is a Busy Bee!

Dott.ssa Francesca Calamita's scholarship has recently attracted the interest of the Research Network on Male Anorexia, based at the University of Nottingham, and funded by Arts Humanities and Research Council, UK. She has been invited to join the collective and selected to speak as keynote contributor at two workshops. Last July she travelled to the UK for the first one and she enjoyed debating about the representation of eating disorders in European women's writing.

While across the Atlantic, Dott.ssa Calamita also presented at the American Association of Teachers of Italian, from which she was awarded a grant to organize a panel on Foodscapes in Women's Writing, which was inspired by her ITTR/WGS 3680 course. In Italy she also attended the Perugia Food Conference 2016, a biannual event she makes sure to never miss!

Eventually, dott.ssa Calamita also rested, but not for long!

-Sarah Annunziato



The Solitude of Prime Numbers is included in Dott.ssa Calamita's research.

Dante's Quest for an Emmy:

Many modern-day authors delight in seeing their works transformed into movies or television shows. Of course, there are also writers who enjoy seeing allusions to their books in these formats as well. Although Italy's national poet, Dante Alighieri, produced his masterpiece *The Divine Comedy* more than 700 years before the birth of television, he still makes regular appearances on the small screen, and not just in Italy.

In fact, allusions to Dante's *Inferno* abound on American television of the 21st-century. Most of the time these occur in reference to male anti-heroes.

Are you asking yourself why right now? If so, you should check out Dott.ssa Annunziato's most recent article, "Guest-Starring Dante Alighieri: References to *Inferno* on American Television," which was recently published in *Americana: The Journal of American Popular Culture*.

After that, you may feel like Dante deserves an Emmy, or like binge-watching every season of *Mad Men*.

-Francesca Calamita



The Adventures of Mattioli & Puiatti

Meanwhile, Sig.ra Mattioli and Sig. Puiatti spent the fall presenting their research at professional conferences throughout the land.

In October, Sig.ra Mattioli attended the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference, where she participated in a roundtable entitled, *Using e-Portfolios in the Second Language Classroom: The UVA Experience*, then in November, she gave a talk at the Regional ePortfolio Conference in Blacksburg, VA. The title of her presentation was "The ePortfolio in the Foreign Language Classroom: Uses and Possibilities."

While Sig.ra Mattioli was off on these adventures, Sig. Puiatti was attending some conferences of his own. In late October, he presented his paper "The Making of a Classical Anthology: Boccaccio's Anthology of Dante," at the conference on "The Pre-Modern Book in a Global Context: Materiality and Visuality." Sig. Puiatti's talk is part of his ongoing research on the transition between manuscript and print cultures in Italy.

Molto bravi!

-Sarah Annunziato

The Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese offers two kinds of specialization in Italian Studies: a major in Italian Studies leading to the B.A. or B.A. with distinction; and a minor in Italian Studies.

For information on becoming a major or a minor in Italian Studies, please contact Professor Enrico Cesaretti (efc4p@virginia.edu).



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