



La Vendemmia Turns 5!

Cari lettori e care lettrici,

Although it may not seem like it, 2016 marks the fifth year that our glorious newsletter, *La Vendemmia*, has been in existence here at The University of Virginia.

La Vendemmia was born in October of 2011 through a collaboration between Prof.ssa Adrienne Ward and Dr. Sarah Annunziato. Over the years, it has grown from a simple four-page newsletter to nearly three times that length!

We have happily featured interviews with our professors, news of our alumni, as well as artwork, photography, and articles by our wonderful students. We are perhaps most proud of the April 2012 issue, which was entirely written in Italian by our majors and minors that year.

As you can see, we have decided to celebrate *La Vendemmia's* birthday with an all-new design developed by Prof.ssa Deborah Parker and Dott.ssa Annunziato.

Please enjoy this "Spring Preview" issue of the new and improved *La Vendemmia*, and keep an eye on our pages for news of all things Italy-related here at UVA and in Charlottesville.

-Enrico Cesaretti



"The initials of our University, UVA, also spell the Italian word for grape. Each fall in Italy's wine regions, vintners harvest the annual grape crop to produce that season's wines. The name of this harvest is La Vendemmia."

-The Editors

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Big Night (1996) is featured in the Italian Studies film series.

The Italian Film Series Returns

On 3 February 2016, the Italian Studies Film Series triumphantly returned to grounds with six more movies from the boot-shaped land.

The Film series began in the fall of 2015 as an activity that could bring students of the Italian language closer to the Italian culture. The "Welcome to the O(rganized) C(rime) Film Series" explored six movies about the Mafia, spanning from the 1960s to the 21st-century. Each film was presented by one of our faculty members in Italian Studies.

This spring, "The Snack and a Movie Film Series," is organized around the theme of food. It too, will feature six movies, one from the United States, and five from Italy. We will host introductions by UVA professors as well as a brief discussion afterwards. Of course, you cannot watch movies about food without having something to eat by your side, so "The Snack and a Movie Film Series" also includes something to munch on. The movies screen every other week at 5:30 in Maury Hall 209.

All Are Welcome

Although "The Snack and a Movie Film Series" is officially part of the course curriculum for Elementary and Intermediate Italian, the movies are open to all who love food and films.

Sneak Peek

If food movies aren't really your thing, you can always join us in the fall for the "Green, White, Red, and Blue Film Series," featuring three movies from Italy about the USA, and three American movies all about Italy. Ci vediamo al cinema!

-Sarah Annunziato

What's Playing

Big Night (1996)

Stanley Tucci & Campbell Scott

3 February

La grande abbuffata (1973)

Marco Ferreri

17 February

Io sono l'amore (2009)

Marco Guadagnino

2 March

Lezioni di cioccolato (2007)

Claudio Cupellini

23 March (@6:30 in Minor Hall 125)

Pranzo di ferragosto (2009)

Gianni Di Gregorio

6 April

La solitudine dei numeri primi (2010)

Saverio Costanzo

20 April



Tilda Swinton in *Io sono l'amore*

Da Leggere...

This year, contestants at *Dolcissimo* will research and prepare recipes that are featured in Clara Sereni's book, *Casalinghitudine*.

This 1987 novel scrutinizes the members of an Italian family through the food that they eat, and their relationship to it.

Recipes for a variety of sumptuous dishes appear throughout the novel's pages.

Students of ITAL 2020, who will face off for title of UVA's best pastry chef, will learn all about this acclaimed work of contemporary literature this spring.

In the meantime, you too, can read this fascinating novel. It is available on reserve at Clemons library and also at many book sellers, such as: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Audible, AbeBooks, and Google Play.

-The Editors

DOLCISSIMO: *Live the Sweet Life*

An Italian dessert-cooking competition and second language acquisition project

Sponsored by the Institute of World Languages



Whip up a sweet creation, wow the V&J judges, speak Italian and win a lot of prizes!

Friday, March 25, from 4 to 7 pm

Lorna Sundberg International Center



For more info please contact Dr. Francesca Calamita fcf@virginia.edu



Dolcissimo returns this March. Be there for all the drama and desserts!

Dolcissimo: The Chefs Awaken

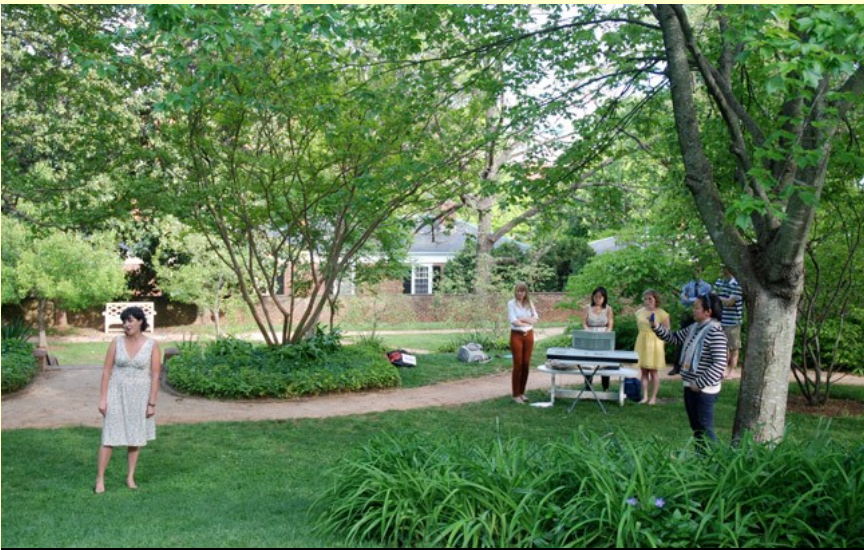
On 25 March, *Dolcissimo: Live the Sweet Life* will join *The Godfather Part II* and *The Empire Strikes Back* in the pantheon of sequels that are just as good, if not better, than the originals!

Of course, that original was *Dolcissimo: A Dessert-Style Competition*, which took place for the first time at UVA in March of 2015. *Dolcissimo* was founded and coordinated by Dr. Francesca Calamita. As its name implies, it is a bake-off featuring sweets from Italy. Students in our Italian language courses form pairs, select a recipe, and compete to see which couple can win the title of best dessert. However, as in the case of all great narratives, there is a twist: contestants must speak only in Italian both while cooking, and while presenting their concoctions to the judges. Prizes are awarded for best sweet, best use of language, and best apron (because fashion is important).

This year's second installment of *Dolcissimo* was made possible in part through a grant from the Institute for World Languages at The University of Virginia. It will take place on the afternoon of 25 March at the Lorna Sundberg International Center.

La Vendemmia's Special Events Correspondent, Avery Morrison (ITAL 2020), will be on hand to cover all the drama! Stop by so that you don't miss a minute of it.

-Sarah Annunziato



The annual Garden Party and Awards reception is an important spring tradition. Prizes are given for excellence in Italian and Opera singers perform (above). Mark your calendars now for 14 April 2016.

News for Students

If you are a student of Italian at The University of Virginia, or simply a dedicated Italophile, there is no shortage of ways to satisfy your passion for Italy this spring.

Students should keep in mind that they can sign up for one lunchtime conversation hour (see schedule below) if they are looking for even more opportunities to speak Italian! If you cannot make lunch, don't despair, for there is always the Caffè Italiano, which meets regularly on the fourth floor of New Cabell Hall.

Also, dare to be bold and participate in this year's Lola Pelliccia Essay contest.

Finally, do not forget to see Gabriele Rausse on 25 February.

-The Editors

Una Primavera all'italiana!

- 5 February: Gori Internship deadline
- 10 February, 5.00pm, NCH 398: Prof. Francesca Calamita presents her book *Linguaggi dell'esperienza femminile*
- ITALIAN LUNCH CONVERSATION HOUR:
 Mon. Feb 15th 12.00 pm with Sarah Annunziato @ Garden Room
 Thur. Feb. 25 12.00pm with Sandro Puiatti @ Garden Room
 Fri. March 18 1.00pm with Enrico Cesaretti @ Garden Room
 Wed. March 30 10.00 am, breakfast with Stella Mattioli, The White Spot
 Mon. April 11 12.00 pm with Adrienne Ward @ Garden Room
 Wed. April 27 3.00 pm, snack with Francesca Calamita @ Grit Coffee
- 25 February, 5.00pm GUEST SPEAKER. Gabriele Rausse "Jefferson and Wine" - Minor Hall 125 (Reception to follow)
- CAFFÉ ITALIANO Central Stairs Lounge, NCH 4th floor 2.30-3.30: Wed. Feb. 24; Mon. March 14; Tue. April 5; Thur. April 28
- 21 March: Deadline to submit your essay for consideration for the Lola Pelliccia Undergraduate Essay Prize
- 14 April: Annual Garden Party, 4:00-6:00 in the garden of Pavillion VIII

Jefferson & Wine
 Gabriele Rausse
 Director of Gardens and Grounds,
 Monticello

**February 25
 5 pm**

Minor Hall Auditorium 125
 Reception to follow

Parking
 Central Grounds Parking Garage
 400 Emmet Street

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Gabriele Rausse will speak at UVA on 25 February. Come and enjoy his talk on Jefferson and wine.

An Author is Born

We are thrilled to announce some very exciting news from Jacob Shirley (MA, 2015).

Jacob has written a new novel entitled *The Carver*, which will be published this July by Blaze Publishing.

The Carver is a work for young adult readers that provides a modern-day take on many of the beloved fairytales of childhood, and we are told that the main character is the teenage son of Italy's own Pinocchio!

Prior to arriving in Virginia, Jacob studied early childhood education and Italian at the University of Arizona. While a student in our MA program, Jacob wrote his thesis about the male characters in Italo Calvino's novels and their struggles with growing up.

He put all of this to good use for his first novel. Keep an eye out for it this summer.

-The Editors



Zachary Vogt, at Expo Milano. Zachary is currently pursuing an MA in Italian at NYU, with plans to continue his studies at a PhD program.

Zachary in Italia

Ciao Hoos! Sono Zachary Vogt, e mi sono laureato dall'Università della Virginia nel dicembre del 2014, con una laurea di lingua italiana. Ora ho 25 anni e sono originariamente di Purcellville, Virginia (nella contea di Loudoun).

Il mio major in Italiano mi ha portato molto lontano da Charlottesville...fino nel Bel Paese, prima a Milano per l'Expo l'anno scorso, e adesso a Firenze, dove sto perseguendo un Master in Italianistica presso la New York University a Villa La Pietra. All'Expo ho lavorato al Padiglione degli Stati Uniti per tre mesi come uno Student Ambassador, spiegando i temi dell'esibizione e la visione della nostra nazione per come possiamo cercare di sfamare il mondo e adottare nuovi metodi più efficienti di coltivazione. È stata un'esperienza che capita una volta nella vita e sono orgoglioso di aver contribuito--se solo indirettamente--a un momento così storico. A NYU sto per cominciare il secondo e ultimo semestre del programma, mentre inizio a scrivere la mia tesi, che consegnerò ad agosto. La tesi parlerà delle spiegazioni del crollo della nascita in Italia e come la percezione della maternità italiana è cambiata completamente dal ventesimo al ventunesimo secolo.

Sono appena tornato a Firenze per ricominciare il mio lavoro di Peer Advisor, che coinvolge essere responsabile per 35 studenti undergraduate e aiutare l'amministrazione con eventi per gli studenti e lavori in ufficio. Il nuovo semestre inizierà fra due settimane, e sono emozionato! Non vedo l'ora di cominciare il mio corso all'Università di Firenze--sarà una vera esperienza del mondo accademico italiano! Quando finisco a NYU ad agosto, sto pensando di spostarmi a Richmond (VA) e cercare una posizione come istruttore o docente alla VCU o l'Università di Richmond mentre faccio domande per programmi di dottorato a NYU e Yale.

Per sapere di più dei miei percorsi in Italia, controllate il numero di Marzo de *La vendemmia*.

-Zachary Vogt, with Stella Mattioli

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).



Contact Us!

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