Lingue Migranti
The Global Languages of Italy and the Diaspora

ANNUAL CONFERENCE
APRIL 26-27, 2013
Italy as a cultural zone developed throughout the centuries with a plethora of distinct languages. Regionally based Romance languages—e.g., Neapolitan, Sicilian, Tuscan, Venetian—and their local variants were the numerous languages spoken by illiterate peasants as well as professionals, scholars, and creative writers. In the aftermath of unification in 1861, the state sought to impose the Tuscan dialect as the national standard in an attempt “to make Italians” in the same period that mass emigration began in earnest. Tensions emerged during that time and, with the onset of a more recent immigration, continue to inform the interrelated spheres of language and migration, from issues concerning standard Italian versus dialects, especially along a north-south divide; to representations of “Italian” as the esteemed language of the Renaissance versus the marginalized language of working-class emigrants and their descendants; to responses to “foreign” influences of vocabulary and literatures. This conference seeks to build on the growing literature dealing with language and migration as it concerns Italy and the diaspora.
THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013

6–8 PM

Welcome & Reception
ANTHONY JULIAN TAMBURRI, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute
JAMES MUYSKENS, Queens College, CUNY
LUCIA PASQUALINI, Consulate General of Italy in New York

Video Interlude
JOSEPH SCIORRA, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute
• Quentin Tarantino, *Inglourious Basterds* (excerpt), 2009
• *RAI* advertisement, “L’Unità d’Italia,” 2010
• Josefa “Fita” Craichik, “Canta en Cocoliche,” 2011
• Eduardo “Farfariello” Migliaccio, *The Movie Actor* (excerpt), 1932

Presentation
Pragmatic and Intercultural Competence in Learning Italian: A Cross-Cultural Approach
ROBERTO DOLCI, L’Università per Stranieri di Perugia

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2013

9–9:30 AM
Coffee & pastries

9:30–10:45 AM

DIALECT AND PERFORMANCE  Conference Room
Chair: Anthony Julian Tamburri, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute

Multiple Dialects on the Italian Stage: Commedia Techniques in Vergilio Verucci’s *Li diversi linguaggi*, STEFANO BOSELLI, Independent Scholar

Performing the Sicilian: Angelo Musco in Nino Martoglio’s *L’aria del continente*, JANICE CAPUANA, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

Staging Immigration: The Dramatic Dialect of Cocoliche, ELISA LEGON, Baruch College, CUNY
11 AM–12:15 PM

JUDEO-ITALIAN IN THE CIRCUM-MEDITERRANEAN  Conference Room
Chair: Siân Gibby, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute

Italian Varieties in Mediterranean Areas and in the Sephardic World from the Seventeenth to the Twentieth Century, FABRIZIO FRANCESCHINI, Università di Pisa

The Italian/Italophone Jewish Trauma of “Forced Repatriation”: The Case of Victor Magiar, ROSARIO POLLICINO, University of Connecticut

“Submerged” Italian in Tunis: Italian and Its Dialects as Heritage Language, ALESSANDRO ORFANO, Università di Pisa

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE  La Galleria
Chair: Rosangela Briscese, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute

Language, Class, and Politics: The Use of Sicilian and Italian by Luigi Capuana in Gli “americani” di Ràbbato, ‘Ntrrugatori, and ‘U Cavaleri Pidagna, SANTI BUSCEMI, Middlesex County College

Theorizing Migration: Realismo magico and Massimo Bontempelli’s Giro del sole, AMELIA MOSER, Italian Poetry Review

12:15–1:30 PM

Lunch on your own

1:30–2:45 PM

MINORITY LANGUAGES IN ITALY  Conference Room
Chair: Joseph Sciorra, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute

Examining Current Griko Identity through Oral Tradition, Folklore, and Cultural Manifestations, ANGELYN BALODIMAS-BARTOLOMEI, North Park University
Albanian Linguistic and Cultural Islands in Central and Southern Italy, 
VINCENZO BOLLETTINO, Montclair State University

German as a Minority Language in Italy with Special Emphasis on Cymbrian/Zimbrisch/Cimbro, ERMEUGILDO BIDESE, Università degli Studi di Trento, and JAMES R. DOW, Iowa State University

[IN] TRANSLATION La Galleria
Chair: Fred Gardaphè, Queens College, CUNY

John Fante Was not an Outlier, MARY-FAITH CERASOLI, Mercy College

Ties That Bind: Translation and the Development of an Intergenerational Literary Tradition, GIL FAGIANI, Italian American Writers Association

3–4:45 PM

IMMIGRANT LITERATURE IN ITALY Conference Room
Chair: Teresa Fiore, Montclair State University

The Limits of the Italian Language for Immigrants’ Acceptance into Italian Society: Amara Lakhous’s Scontro di civiltà per un ascensore a piazza Vittorio, ELIZABETH VENDITTO, University of Minnesota

The Language In-Between: The Interplay of Albanian and Italian in Gëzim Hajdari’s Poetry, ANITA PINZI, Graduate Center, CUNY

Amara Lakhous’s Clash of Civilizations over an Elevator in Piazza Vittorio and Defining Italian Identity in a Globalized Italy, GRACE RUSSO BULLARO, Lehman College, CUNY

Folktale, Legend, and the Novel in the Works of Ornella Vorpsi, VIKTOR BERBERI, University of Minnesota

JOHN D. CALANDRA ITALIAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE, QUEENS COLLEGE, CUNY
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2013

9–9:30 AM
Coffee & pastries

9:30–10:45 AM
LANGUAGE AND EVOLVING ITALIAN-AMERICAN IDENTITIES
Conference Room
Chair: Donna M. Chirico, York College, CUNY

Authenticity and Inauthenticity in Italian-American Cultural Manifestations: Youth Reactions to Guido Culture, JEFFERSON TRIOZZI and ANNA DE FINA, Georgetown University

The New Wave of Italians: Linguistic Practices and Attitudes, LUCIANA FELLIN, Duke University

Evolving Linguistic Identities among Second-Generation Italian-American Youths, HERMANN W. HALLER, Queens College/Graduate Center, CUNY

11 AM–12:15 PM
POSTCOLONIAL LANGUAGES Conference Room
Chair: George de Stefano, Independent Scholar

Language as a Means of Resistance in Gabriella Ghermandi’s Regina di fiori e di perle, MELINA MASTERSON, University of Connecticut

Re-Embracing Italian National and Linguistic Identity in Africa, ANNEMARIE TAMIS-NASELLO, Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY

“Tripoli era dolce, per gli italiani”: Postcolonial Italian Writers in Tripoli and Benghazi, DANIELE COMBERIATI, Université Libre de Bruxelles
**DIALECTS IN EVERYDAY COMMUNICATION IN ITALY**  
La Galleria

Chair: Robert Oppedisano, Editor

Narrative and Argumentative Discourse between Dialect and Italian: An Analysis of the Linguistic Atlas of the Sicilian Corpus, GIUSEPPE PATERNOSTRO, Università degli Studi di Palermo

Performing Eloquence in Public: The Interplay of Veneto Dialect and Standard Italian, SABINA PERRINO, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Dialect in Peer Interaction in a Sicilian Elementary School, ANNA DE FINA, Georgetown University

**12:15–2:45 PM**

Lunch on your own

**3–4:15 PM**

**EVERYDAY USE**  
Conference Room

Chair: Roberto Dolci, L’Università per Stranieri di Perugia

Linguistic Sustainability: A Look into the Venetian Dialect and Its Importance to Cultural and Regional Identity, CARMELINE MORRIS, Goucher College

Blended Mind and Voice: Use of Italian and English—Hybridization, Italianization, Local Accents, Regional Dialects, JANE MCCALL POLITI, Independent Scholar

Gender Assignment and the Italo-Romance Mass/Count Distinction: Perspective from Language Contact, ANNA L. MORO, McMaster University
ITALIAN ABROAD  La Galleria
Chair: Nancy C. Carnevale, Montclair State University

Lingua Esule: The Risorgimento Exiles and the Teaching of Italian in the United States, STEFANO LUconi, Università degli Studi di Padova

Is Italian on the Move in Toronto?, NAOMI NAGY, University of Toronto

4:30–5:45 PM

THE LANGUAGE OF MUSIC  Conference Room
Chair: Joseph Sciorra, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute

“You must always protect the dialects”: Roy Paci in siciliano, GEORGE DE STEFANO, Independent Scholar

“Non si capiscono le parole”: When Italian Lyrics Deal with Italian Audiences in Subsonica’s Music, SIMONA MARTINI, Università degli Studi di Milano

The Intersection of Languages and Cultures in Roberta Torre’s Tano da Morire, FRANCESCA DE LUCIA, Independent Scholar