



Cari Amici,

Welcome to volume 11.1 of the Calandra Institute's *il Bollettino*! We hope you enjoy its contents, and please do not hesitate to contact us for any additional information.

In this issue you will find exciting news about what we do at the Calandra Institute and what is happening in our communities. I ask at the outset that you mark your calendars for April 27–28, 2018, our tenth annual conference, devoted to “Corporeal Restrictions, Embodied Freedoms: Italian Interventions on the Body.”

We continue to enjoy support from many. Much still needs to be done, and our future activities will address many concerns of our community as we move forward.

As always, we are extremely appreciative of the unyielding support of Chancellor James Milliken's Office of CUNY and President Félix Matos Rodríguez's Office of Queens College. They and their staff continue to facilitate our greater development in all aspects.

So, again, I wish you all a *buona lettura* and look forward to seeing you at future events.

*Alla riscossa!*

Anthony Julian Tamburri

Dean and Distinguished Professor

## ITALIAN DIASPORA STUDIES SUMMER SEMINAR IN FOURTH YEAR

The Calandra Institute is pleased to announce the fourth edition of the Italian Diaspora Studies Summer Seminar. The program was launched in 2015 as a collaborative agreement between the University of Calabria and John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, City University of New York.

This year's seminar will take place June 11–29, 2018, at Roma Tre University. The three-week summer program introduces advanced graduate or doctoral students and professors to cultural studies of the Italian diaspora and fosters the development of individual projects in literature, film, and the social sciences. Professors from Roma Tre University, the Calandra Institute, and other institutions will comprise the teaching faculty for the program.

This year's application deadline was February 24, 2018. To inquire about future programs contact Dean Anthony Julian Tamburri at 212-642-2094 or [anthony.tamburri@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:anthony.tamburri@qc.cuny.edu).

## Voices in Italian Americana

CALL FOR PAPERS

*VIA: Voices in Italian Americana* is seeking critical and creative works that reflect on two sides of identity, experience and tradition. Experience explores what it means to be between two cultures, two ways of life, two habits, two languages, two genders, two heritages, two selves. Tradition reflects on particular customs, cultural touchstones, and figures that have come from Italy or have grown out of traditionally Italian American neighborhoods. *VIA* is interested in fiction, essays, poetry, critical studies, creative nonfiction, comic strips, and other works that delve into these facets of identity. The call for papers is open to all individuals.

For submissions, questions, or more information, email us at [info@bordigherapress.org](mailto:info@bordigherapress.org).



Cover art: *Six Feet Above Ground in a Hollow Log*, acrylic on linen with fabric and bamboo, 83 x 80 inches, by Angela Valeria.



## TELEVISION FOR THE ITALIAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

*Italics* premieres  
the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 pm  
and is rebroadcast the following  
Wednesday at 10:30 am and 3:30 pm,  
Saturday at 7:30 am, and Sunday at 6:30 pm  
on CUNY TV Channels 25.3, 75, 77, and 30,  
in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens,  
Staten Island, and the Bronx.

*Italics* can be viewed on demand at





# DIASPORE ITALIANE: ITALY IN MOVEMENT

CALL FOR PAPERS

A SYMPOSIUM ON THREE CONTINENTS

Melbourne, Australia, April 2018 • New York, United States, November 2018 • Genova, Italy, June 2019

Presented by Co.As.It, Melbourne; Calandra Institute, New York; and Galata Museo del Mare, Genoa, with the patronage of the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism

“Transnationalism and Questions of Identity,” the second session of the international conference *Diaspore Italiane: Italy in Movement*, will take place November 1–3, 2018, at the Calandra Institute in New York City, to explore ideas of identity in the twenty-first century. Possible themes include:

- How do ideas of identities in motion compare with traditional ways of understanding cultural identities as fixed essences, typically anchored to metaphysical notions such as blood, the land, family, or divinity?
- What can be said about the creation of and challenges to generational concepts and constructions of identity?
- What is the role of memory, both individual and collective, in the creation of senses of belonging to one culture or another?
- How do migration, diaspora, and colonial studies create, adapt, and challenge changing ideas of race, class, gender, and ethnicity?
- How do the arts and formal education affect individual and collective senses of belonging or not to one culture or to many cultures?

The call for papers is open until April 1, 2018. Acceptances will be announced June 1, 2018. Submissions for individual papers and panel sessions must be delivered electronically, including a 250-word abstract and 100-word biography, by email to [calandra@qc.edu](mailto:calandra@qc.edu).

For more information visit [www.diasporeitaliane.com](http://www.diasporeitaliane.com)

## HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS OF ITALIAN

The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, in collaboration with Queens College and the Department of European Languages and Literatures, offers a summer study abroad in Perugia, a medieval city in the Umbria region of Italy. College students can enroll for six credits in Italian. The month-long program, in June or July, is offered at the renowned Università per Stranieri di Perugia.

High school and college students who are currently enrolled in Italian language classes are invited to submit their writings and essays for *Il Giornalino*, a Calandra Institute publication that showcases the work of students studying Italian.

For more information about these programs, contact Joseph Grosso by email: [joseph.grosso@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:joseph.grosso@qc.cuny.edu), or phone: 718-997-5769. Information can also be found on the Institute website at [calandrainstitute.org](http://calandrainstitute.org), under Education > Summer in Perugia, or Publications > Newsletters > *Il Giornalino*.



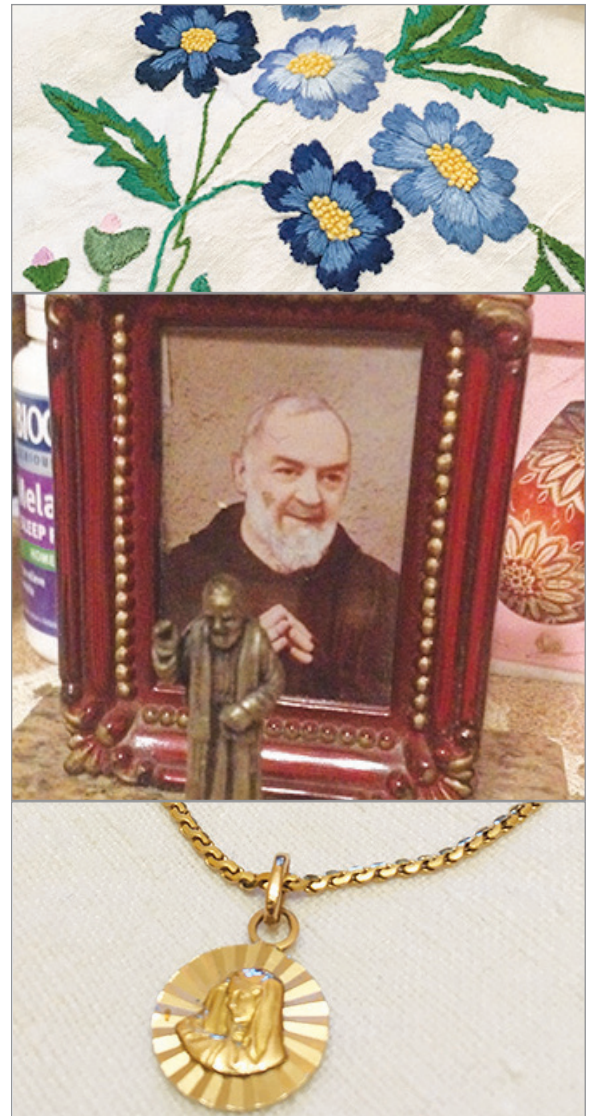
### The Making of Home in a New Land: A Study of the Significance of Personal Objects and Cultural Practices of Aging Italian and Greek Migrants in South Australia within a Transnational Context

Daniela Cosmini, Diana Glenn, Maria Palaktsoglou, and Eric Bouvet

In diasporic contexts, objects brought by migrants to the host country play a significant role in helping overcome the often traumatic experience of dislocation. They can be highly evocative and symbolic of the relationship between culture and identity and between places of origin and places of resettlement.

This study examines objects related to religious practices and dowry traditions. Furthermore, it investigates the ways in which personal objects brought to South Australia by post-Second World War Italian and Greek migrants convey cultural meaning as well as a sense of identity and belonging in the transnational space. The study is based on an oral history approach and draws on qualitative in-depth interviews with migrants as well as on secondary sources such as archival material. It is part of a larger investigation, the Migrants' Belongings Project, which seeks to explore what motivates the selection of particular objects in the context of cultural practices; how the chosen objects function as markers of identities, values, and rituals; and how the meaning of these objects has changed over time as a result of migration.

The study's results suggest that the home functions as a repository for practices and traditions embodied by personal material artefacts. Objects play an important role in the construction of migrants' cultural identity and sense of belonging. They highlight the complexity of the reconnection, not only with familial practices and customs, but also with the regional, social, and cultural realities of the migrants' experiences before emigration to a new land.



### "Fresh Water Triumphs": The Italian American Wine Industry's Struggle Against Prohibition in California

Pietro Pinna

In the early decades of the twentieth century, California faced the onset of the Prohibition movement. The rise of the dry front was parallel to the development of the winemaking business and of the arrival of Italian immigrants in the state. Italian winemakers, being concerned that the winegrowing business might be damaged by the Prohibition movement, started to organize. Andrea Sbarboro, founder of the Italian Swiss Colony, was one of the most prominent anti-prohibitionists in California. He committed himself to defending wineries and vineyards; his views were widely reported in articles and pamphlets. Sbarboro was not alone in his struggle against Prohibition; in San Francisco his words were echoed by *Il Monitore Californiano*, an Italian-American journal openly supporting the winemakers. Italians of California generally presented wine as a product of culture, consumed in countries such as Italy and France, where it was held as a key element of tradition and nutrition. Their opposition to the Prohibition laws was not only due to the interests of the industry, it was also a cultural statement, promoting the consumption of wine instead of teetotalism as the solution to the perceived problem of alcohol in the United States. Even if the struggle against Prohibition was unsuccessful, the Italian Americans of California contributed to the development of a new wine culture, largely based on a positive idea of Italy.



## THE ART OF ANGELA VALERIA

"The images I compose explore the indivisible link between the human race, nature, and our reciprocal evolution with all the life forms that share this planet. Inspired by deities of ancient religions, myths, and folklores, and the ability of nature to nurture us spirituality, I like to combine and juxtapose animal and human features to let the spirits, hidden from our eyes, emerge into existence.



*Linked*, acrylic and oil stick on canvas with fabric border, 59 x 57 inches.

I grew up in Brighton Beach in sight of the vast horizon of the Atlantic Ocean and the carnival atmosphere of Coney Island and surrounded by the supportive tribe of a large Italian immigrant family. I was enchanted by my mother's dancing and her ability to sew fantastic gowns, costumes, and clothes, by my father's deco furniture designs, stage sets, and opera records, my grandparent's practice of Italian voodoo, and my younger brother's talent for making a joke out of almost anything.

I studied fine art at Hunter College in the 1960s. At that time my deepest influences were abstract expressionism, jazz, dance, and the civil rights and women's liberation movements. I later spent two years at the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence and Bologna where I saw amazing art, architecture, and design, and fell in love with Fellini's films. I learned about the Renaissance, surrealism, dada, and figurative painting. Now, three children, four grandchildren, and many years later, I continue to make images and create, explore, play, and discover wherever this ancient practice leads me or I choose to go."

[www.angelavaleria.com](http://www.angelavaleria.com)

## STAFF NEWS

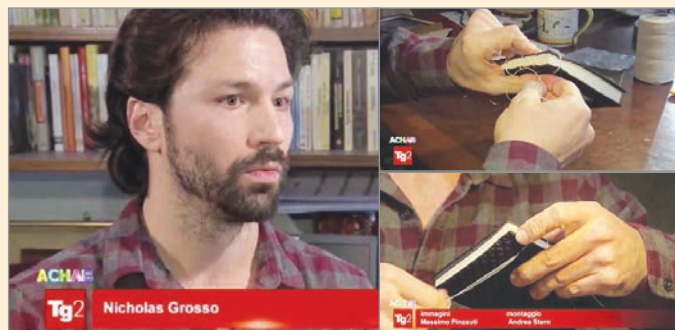
Three staff members from the Calandra Institute delivered papers reflecting original research at the "Italy in Transit" annual symposium at Florida Atlantic University February 2–3, 2018 in Boca Raton, Florida. ANTHONY TAMBURRI presented "Food as Identity Deliverer in Dinner Rush," JOEPH SCIORRA examined "The Transnational Intimacy of WOV-AM's La Grande Famiglia," and SIÂN GIBBY discussed "Emanuele Artom: The Diaries of an Italian Jewish Partisan."

Also in February, NICHOLAS GROSSO and literaturhaus were awarded the 2018 New York State Council on the Arts Regrant for NYS Literary Magazines and Presses. This regrant serves an interim step toward applying effectively to NYSCA in the future as well as to accommodate those excellent publishers with budgets too small to apply to NYSCA directly.

## BOOKCRAFT

IN PIAZZA

On January 14, Nicholas Grosso and literaturhaus were featured on a national book program in Italy—Rai TG2's Achab. Discussing literary trends and books in the news, Achab's recent episodes have featured political prisoner, journalist, and human rights activist Asli Erdogan and Strega Prize finalist Diego De Silva. The segment highlighted Grosso's book *Rhapsody in Letters* and literaturhaus's commitment to creating handcrafted volumes in the tradition of Italian artisans. Learning from and working with Alessandra Liberato, a skilled bookbinder and book conservationist, Nicholas has applied these time-honored practices on literaturhaus books in a callback to beginnings of publishing.



## FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018

9:30–10:45 am

### Corporeal Inscriptions

The Body Damned, the Body Saved, the Body Glorified: Portrayals of the Body in Dante's *Commedia*, ALFRED CRUDALE, University of Rhode Island / Paola Masino's Short Story "A Modo Loro": A Critique of the Effects of Fascism's Gender Policies and the Demographic Campaign on Italian Women, TRISTANA RORANDELLI, Sarah Lawrence College / A Shade of Black in Italian Women's Writing: Body, Food, and Identity in Igiaba Scego's "Salsicce," FRANCESCA CALAMITA, University of Virginia

11 am–12:15 pm

**Keynote:** Colonial Heritage, Aspirations, and Embodied Representations in Martina Melilli's *Mum, I'm sorry* (2017), GIULIA GRECHI, Academy of Fine Arts of Naples

1:30–2:45 pm

### Italian Biopolitical Tales of Contamination, Migration, and Colonialism

Fascist Bodies on the Fourth Shore: Societal Entanglement within the Imperial Space, ROBERTA BIASILLO, Rachel Carson Center / Belgian Carbon Metabolism and Coal Lives: Italian Miners' Corporeal Experience and Their Bodily Resistance Practices, DANIELE VALISENA, Royal Institute of Technology / Toxic Bios: Storytelling as Subversive Bodily Experience, MARCO ARMIERO and ILENIA IENGO, KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory

3–4:15 pm

### Italian Women: Their Bodies Are Our Bodies

*Quando Sono Italiana* (When I am Italian), JOANNA CLAPPS HERMAN, Author / The Cripple, EDVIGE GIUNTA, New Jersey City University / The Body and Blood, NANCY CARNEVALE, Montclair State University

### In/animate Bodies

Pio Fedi's Tomb of Giovanni Battista Niccolini and the Creation of National Sentiment in Post-Risorgimento Italy, CATERINA PIERRE, Kingsborough Community College, CUNY / Animating the Inanimate: Fortunato Depero's Futurist Toys and Marionettes, SOPHIA MAXINE ABRAMS FARMER, University of Wisconsin-Madison

4:30–5:45 pm

### Bodies On and Off Screen

The Racialized Body: *Under the Southern Cross* (1938), ANNEMARIE TAMIS-NASELLO, Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY / Disembodied Dubbing: The Hybrid Body or the Myth of Aristophanes, ANTONELLA SISTO, Brown University / The Italian Actor as Body in American Cinema, GIULIANA MUSCIO, University of Padua

## SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

9:30–10:45 am

### Performing Bodies

Tattoos, Italians, and *Italianità*, JOANN LUHRS, Brooklyn College, CUNY / Italian American Performance, Healing, and Hip Hop, NATALIE MARRONE, Duke University / Me, Myself, and I: Defining the Individual According to Vito Acconci, ANTHONY CAVALUZZI, SUNY Adirondack

11 am–12:15 pm

### Bodies in History and Memory

Material Intimacies and Remembrance as Embodiment: Women and Transnational Migrancy between Appalachia and Calabria, JOAN SAVERINO, University of Pennsylvania / Illegal Bodies? Unauthorized Italian Immigration to the United States and Adjustment of Status in the Twentieth Century, DANIELLE BATTISTI, University of Nebraska Omaha / Embodied Memory and Oral History: The Bronx Italian American History Initiative, JACQUELINE REICH and KATHLEEN LAPENTA, Fordham University

1:30–2:45 pm

### Violations and Resistance

The Violation of a Nation: Rosetta and Cesira in Vittorio De Sica's *La ciociara*, CHIARA DE SANTI, Farmingdale State College / "I Do Not Love You!" How Franca Viola Used Her

Body To End the Medieval Code of *Matrimonio Riparatore*, LION CALANDRA, Journalist / The Practice of Infibulation Among Migrant Baby Girls in Italy, MICHELA VALMORI, Notre Dame University

3–3:50 pm

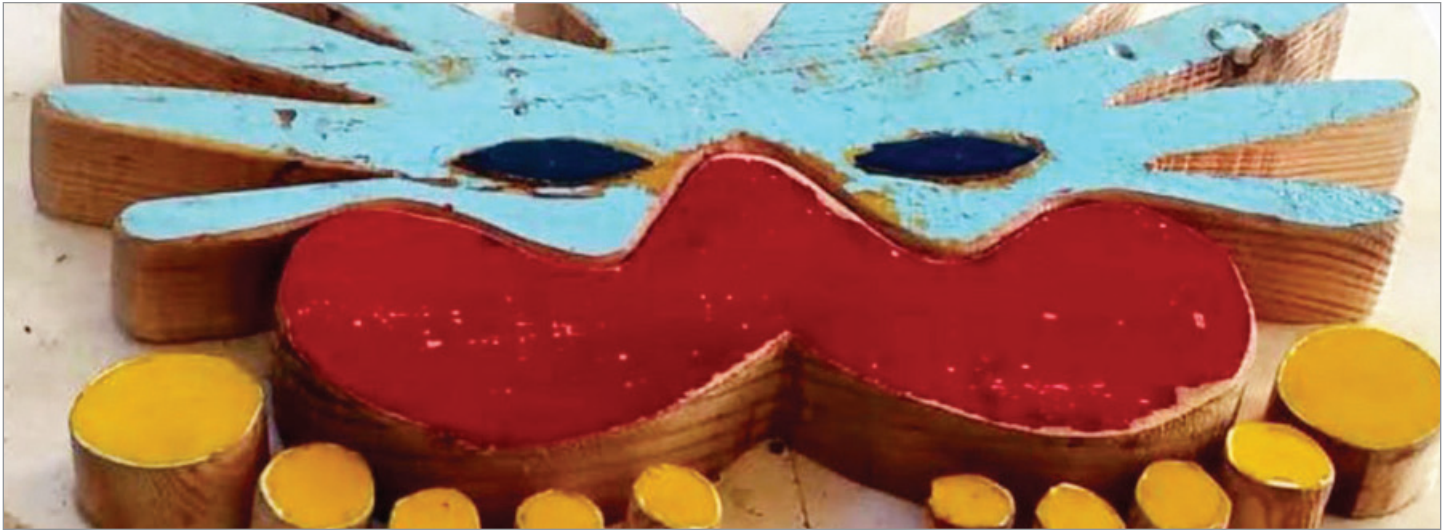
### Sexuality and Gender

The Scandalous Bodies of Guglielmo Plüschow: Constructing a Homoerotic Mediterranean through Photography, GEORGE DE STEFANO, Author / *WinxClub*, or the "Angelification" of Girls: A Neoliberal-Catholic Project, NICOLETTA MARINI-MAIO, Dickinson College, and ELLEN NERENBERG, Wesleyan University

4:05–5:20 pm

### Written on the Body: Intersectionality in Italian American Women's Narratives

Traces of Trauma: Disability and Maternity in Tina De Rosa's Archive, MARY JO BONA, Stony Brook University, SUNY / "The Very Tenuousness of Every Moment": Maternal (Inter)subjectivity and the Body of the Beloved Child in Joelle Biele's *Broom*, CHRISTA BAIADA, Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY / "The Time Bomb Sitting Inside my Own Body": How Corpo-reality Defies Death in Stories by Rita Ciresi, COLLEEN MARIE RYAN, Indiana University



### Highlights from the fall 2017 semester Fuori Collana events at the Calandra Institute:

OCTOBER 19–22, 2017 The Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Tourism, in collaboration with the Calandra Institute, Italian Consulate in New York, Rai Cinema, Casa Italiana Zerilli Marimó, New York University, and Stony Brook University, under the aegis of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, presented Italy on Screen Today, four days of film screenings and events. The film festival took place in multiple locations in New York City and Long Island and showcased new directors and current Italian films to American audiences.

NOVEMBER 3, 2017 The Italian American Faculty and Staff Advisory Council and the Calandra Institute, in partnership with the Italian Language Intercultural Alliance, hosted a conference “Mediterranean Hospitality

from Magna Grecia to the Twenty-first Century” at John Jay College, CUNY.

NOVEMBER 13–14, 2017 The Calandra Institute hosted a series of events in which H.E. Ambassador Sebastiano Cardi, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, and Piero Bassetti, President of Globus et Locus, discussed perspectives on Italy’s cultural memory of the past and its global impact today and tomorrow. The speakers delivered an afternoon presentation, “Italics as a Global Commonwealth,” to an audience at the United Nations. The following day a symposium at the Institute, “Cultural Heritage Memory—Negotiating the Past in Order to Build on the Future,” discussed the notion of cultural heritage and its relevance to today’s concept of Italian identity.

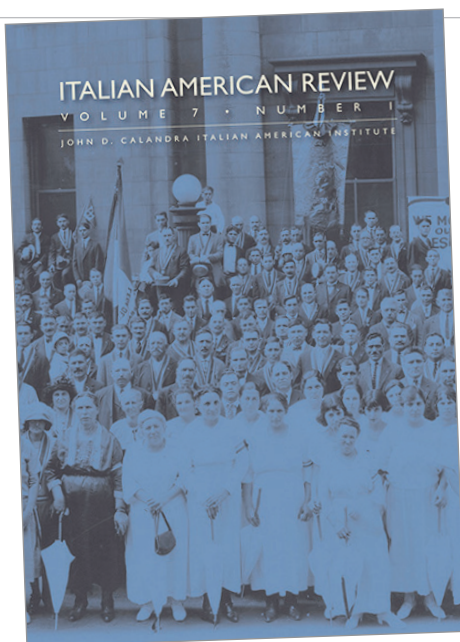
### The Francesco and Mary Giambelli Foundation Lecture Series presented two lectures:

NOVEMBER 29, 2017 “In Education Begin Responsibilities or ‘They don’t know what they don’t know’” was presented by Fred Gardaphé, Distinguished Professor at Queens College, based on more than forty years of reading, studying, teaching, and writing about Americans of Italian descent. Gardaphé surveyed the education of Italian Americans in the United States and the development of Italian American studies, to explore the tension created between the conscious and unconscious of Italians in the process of becoming American.

DECEMBER 12, 2017 “Sambuca: A Digital Return” was presented by Donna Gabaccia, Professor at University of Toronto. This discussion reviewed research conducted in Sicily and

the United States in the 1970s, which formed the basis for Gabaccia’s publications *From Sicily to Elizabeth Street’s Housing and Social Change Among Italian Immigrants 1880–1930* (1984) and *Militants and Migrants: Rural Sicilians Become American Workers* (1988), and chronicled the process of transforming traditional archives on 3,500 migrants from Sambuca di Sicilia into a digital, relational database. Gabaccia analyzed the ready availability of digital archives and new digital communication tools and their impact on roots-seeking researchers, and identified new possibilities for scholars to collaborate with the families and descendants of Sambuca’s migrants, which can potentially significantly alter both groups’ understanding of the past.





## ITALIAN AMERICAN REVIEW

The *Italian American Review* (IAR) features scholarly articles about Italian American history and culture, as well as other aspects of the Italian diaspora. The journal embraces a wide range of professional concerns and theoretical orientations in the social sciences and cultural studies. The IAR publishes book, film, and digital media reviews and is currently accepting article submissions.

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 1 includes:

- The Making of Home in a New Land: A Study of the Significance of Personal Objects and Cultural Practices of Aging Italian and Greek Migrants in South Australia within a Transnational Context, by Daniela Cosmini, Diana Glenn, Maria Palaktsoglou, and Eric Bouvet
- “Fresh Water Triumphs”: The Italian American Wine Industry’s Struggle Against Prohibition in California, by Pietro Pinna

For more information, go to [qc.edu/calandra](http://qc.edu/calandra). Under the publications menu, click on *Italian American Review*.

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## SPRING 2018 PUBLIC PROGRAMS

### PHILIP V. CANNISTRARO SEMINAR SERIES IN ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

**Monday, March 26, 2018**

*New Italian Migrations to the United States: Vol. 2: Art and Culture since 1945*, LAURA E. RUBERTO, Berekeley City College, and JOSEPH SCIORRA, Calandra Institute

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

*American Cicero: Mario Cuomo and the Defense of American Liberalism*, SALADIN AMBAR, Rutgers University

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018**

*Global Tarantella: Reinventing Southern Italian Folk Music and Dances*, INCORONATA INSERRA, Virginia Commonwealth University

### WRITERS READ SERIES

**Thursday, February 22, 2018**

OLIVIA KATE CERONE reads from *The Hunger Saint* (Bordighera Press, 2017), and CAMILLA TRINCHERI reads from *Seeking Alice: A Novel* (SUNY Press, 2016)

### DOCUMENTED ITALIANS FILM AND VIDEO SERIES

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**

*Frank Serpico* (2017), 95 minutes  
ANTONIO D'AMBROSIO, dir.

### ITALIAN BROOKLYN PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARTHA COOPER

On view April 19–August 31, 2018

Gallery hours: Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm

**Opening reception: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 6 pm**

ALL EVENTS BEGIN AT 6 PM, ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, AND TAKE PLACE AT:  
John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, 17th floor, New York NY 10036.  
RSVP by calling (212) 642-2094. Seating is limited; seats cannot be reserved in advance.

