



# ITALIAN DIASPORA STUDIES SUMMER SEMINAR

June 12 – June 30, 2023 • Rome, Italy

Dipartimento di Lingue, Letterature e Culture Straniere

Università degli Studi Roma Tre

&

John D. Calandra Italian American Institute

Queens College, The City University of New York

## 7 YEARS!

2015-2019, 2022-2023

*Un caloroso grazie a tutti!*

Corsisti, sostenitori, colleghi,  
amministratori, università!

*Senza di voi, non sarebbe  
stato possibile!*





**T**he Italian Diaspora Studies Summer Seminar is a three-week summer program at the Università degli Studi Roma Tre that takes place June 12 through June 30, 2023. The Seminar is designed to introduce participants to cultural studies of the Italian Diaspora from a variety of academic perspectives and to foster development of individual projects responding to the materials covered in the series of seminars in literature, film, and the social sciences.

All of the courses are taught by leading scholars in the field. Faculty includes David Aliano, Donna Chirico, Roberto Dolci, Daniele Fiorentino, Fred Gardaphé, Joseph Sciorra, Anthony Julian Tamburri, Sabrina Vellucci.

#### PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Dr. Fred Gardaphé	Dr. Anthony Julian Tamburri
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Dr. Sabrina Vellucci  
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#### PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

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**W**e wish to thank the many organizations that have contributed to making this seminar possible. First, our two home institutions, Università degli Studi Roma Tre and the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York, have made it possible for us to work on the notion of an Italian diaspora summer seminar and put it into effect.

None of this could be possible without substantial support. Italian American organizations and colleges and universities have offered the opportunity in the form of fellowships for many of the participants to attend this year. This is no small deed, to be sure. Thus, we offer a heart-felt thanks to the numerous organizations that have contributed to this year's seminar.

Queens College President Frank Wu and the former Rector of Roma Tre University Luca Pietromarchi have offered their unmitigated support of this seminar, an historical understanding within the greater realm of Italian-American and Italian Diaspora studies.

*Un caloroso grazie a tutti quanti!*

*The Program Directors*

## FELLOWS



## FACULTY

David Aliano, History and Italian, Mount Saint Vincent College: david.aliانو@mountsaintvincent.edu.

Donna Chirico, Dean, Arts and Science, York College, The City University of New York: dchirico@york.cuny.edu.

Roberto Dolci, Dipartimento di Scienze umane e sociali. University for Foreigners in Perugia: roberto.dolci@unistrapg.it.

Daniele Fiorentino, Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche. Roma Tre University: daniele.fiorentino@uniroma3.it.

Fred Gardaphé, Department of English and John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York: Fred.Gardaphe@qc.cuny.edu

Joseph Sciorra, Director, Academic and Cultural Programs, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York: joseph.sciorra@qc.cuny.edu.

Anthony Julian Tamburri, Dean, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York: anthony.tamburri@qc.cuny.edu.

Sabrina Vellucci, Dipartimento di Lingue, Letterature e Culture Straniere, Roma Tre University: sabrina.vellucci@uniroma3.it.

## FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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## WEEK 1

Seminar meetings last 1 hour 15 minutes

	June 12	June 13	June 14	June 15	June 16
8:00 — 9:45	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
10:00 – 11:15	<i>Italian American Literature</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Fred Gardaphé	<i>Identity in the Italian Diaspora: Psychological Perspectives</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Donna Chirico	<i>Italian American Literature</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Fred Gardaphé	<i>Identity in the Italian Diaspora: Psychological Perspectives</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Donna Chirico	
11:30 — 12:45	<i>Language and the Italian Diaspora I</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Roberto Dolci	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Joseph Sciorra	<i>Italy / US Relations in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Daniele Fiorentino	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Joseph Sciorra	
13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
14:30 – 15:45	<i>Italian Diaspora Cinema</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>History of the Italians in the Diaspora</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. David Aliano	<i>Italian Diaspora Cinema</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>History of the Italians in the Diaspora</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. David Aliano	
16:00	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	
	GROUP DINNER  20:00 @ Hotel		GIAMBELLI LECTURE  BLACK ITALY? 17:30 @ Hotel		

## WEEK 2

	June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22	June 23
8:00 — 9:45	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
10:00 – 11:15	<i>Italian American Literature</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Fred Gardaphé	<i>Identity in the Italian Diaspora: Psychological Perspectives</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Donna Chirico	<i>Italian American Literature</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Sabrina Vellucci	<i>Identity in the Italian Diaspora: Psychological Perspectives</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Donna Chirico	
11:30 — 12:45	<i>Language and the Italian Diaspora I</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Roberto Dolci	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Joseph Sciorra	<i>Italy / US Relations in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Daniele Fiorentino	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Joseph Sciorra	
13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
14:30 – 15:45	<i>Italian Diaspora Cinema</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>History of the Italians in the Diaspora</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. David Aliano	<i>Italian Diaspora Cinema</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>History of the Italians in the Diaspora</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. David Aliano	
16:00	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	
	GROUP DINNER  20:00 @ Hotel		DE LUISE / ILICA LECTURE SERIES  BLACK ITALY? 17:30 @ Hotel		

### WEEK 3

	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29	June 30
8:00 — 9:45	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
10:00 – 11:15	<i>Italian American Literature</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Sabrina Vellucci	<i>Identity in the Italian Diaspora: Psychological Perspectives</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Donna Chirico	<i>Italian American Literature</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Sabrina Vellucci	<i>Identity in the Italian Diaspora: Psychological Perspectives</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Donna Chirico	
11:30 — 12:45	<i>Language and the Italian Diaspora I</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Roberto Dolci	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Joseph Sciorra	<i>Italy / US Relations in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Daniele Fiorentino	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Joseph Sciorra	
13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
14:30 – 15:45	<i>Italian Diaspora Cinema</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>History of the Italians in the Diaspora</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. David Aliano	<i>Italian Diaspora Cinema</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>History of the Italians in the Diaspora</i> Lecture & discussion Prof. David Aliano	
16:00	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	<i>Free to roam Rome; or return to hotel</i>	
	GROUP DINNER  20:00 @ Hotel		NIAF / ILICA LECTURE SERIES  BLACK ITALY? 17:30 @ Hotel		

## FACULTY

All courses are taught by leading scholars in the field, who, besides their scholarship, are also part of editorial boards of major journals (*Italian American Review*, *Letterature d'America*, *Voices in Italian Americana*) and book series (Bordighera Press, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, Fordham University Press, Franco Cesati Editore, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, SUNY Press) both in the United States and in Italy.

**DAVID ALIANO** is Associate Professor of History and Italian and Chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in New York City. He holds a Ph.D. in History from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. His areas of research include Modern Italy and Latin America; Italian transnational and comparative studies; National and ethnic identities; and Italian fascism and anti-fascism. He is the author of *Mussolini's National Project in Argentina* (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2012), which was awarded the annual book award of the *National Association for Ethnic Studies*. He has also published widely on Italian emigration to other parts of the Americas as well as notions of citizenship and the Italian vote abroad and he is associate editor of the *Ethnic Studies Review*. His current book project examines American travel encounters with Italy's changing political landscape from fascism through postwar reconstruction.

**DONNA CHIRICO** is Professor of Psychology, York College/CUNY, and Resident Faculty, The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY. Her field research is Ladakh, India studying moral and spiritual development constitutes the foundation for her ongoing research program exploring the nature of imagination as it relates to aspects of psychological development. One implication is the role of the imaginative process in educational attainment among Americans of Italian descent. The objective of this work is to understand the function of esoteric or transcendent imagination in personal development, attainment of valued goals, and psychological well-being. Related to this, matters of personal identity formation are explored to understand how ethnic identity contributes to the psychological development of the self, specifically within the Italian Diaspora. She has published numerous papers on these topics and is a sought-after speaker on these matters vital to the Italian diaspora.

**ROBERTO DOLCI** is Associate Professor of Educational Linguistics at the University for Foreigners in Perugia. He is also visiting Scholar at the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, CUNY, New York. His main research interests are plurilingualism, pluriculturalism and language policies. He is co-editor of the journal TILCA (*Teaching Italian Language and Culture Annual*). He has extensively written on Educational Linguistics and Teacher Education. He has co-edited with Anthony Julian Tamburri of *Why Study Italian: Diverse Perspectives on a Theme* (2013); *Intercomprehension and Plurilingualism. Assets for Italian Language in the USA* (2015), both published by the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute. His most recent book is *Il Giornalino di Preziosi. La lingua Italiana tra promozione e propaganda nella New York degli anni '30 e '40* (Franco Cesati Editore, 2018).

**DANIELE FIORENTINO** is Professor of U.S. History and Chair of the Department of Political Sciences at the Roma Tre University in Italy. He is also director of CISPEA (The Italian Center for the Study of Euro-American History and Politics) and sits in the Board of the Center for American Studies in Rome. He serves on the editorial board of "American Studies with American Studies International." He was a Fulbright student and scholar at the University of Kansas, at the National Archives, and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. Currently, he is the chief editor of a series on the United States and the process of Ital-

ian unification published by the Center for American Studies of which he was the director between 1995 and 2002. His most recent volume is: *Gli Stati Uniti e il Risorgimento d'Italia, 1848-1901* (2013; *The United States and the Italian Risorgimento, 1848-1901*). He taught for many years at the University of Macerata and managed American university programs in Italy. A specialist of the relations between the United States and Italy in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, he has also written extensively about American Indian history and culture. Fields of interest include: 19<sup>th</sup> century U.S. History and culture, U.S.-European Relations, Multiculturalism, Native American Studies.

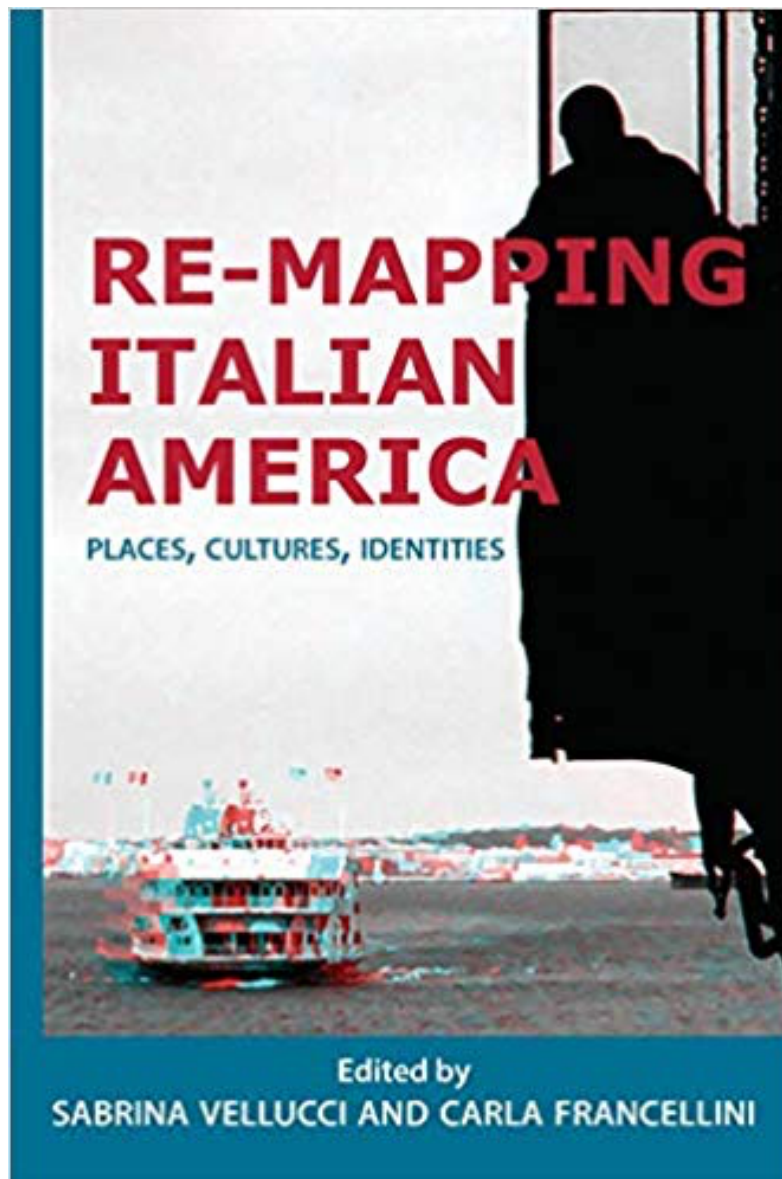
**FRED GARDAPHÉ** is Distinguished Professor of English and Italian American Studies at Queens College and the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute. He is director of the Italian/American Studies Programs at Queens College. His books include *Italian Signs, American Streets: The Evolution of Italian American Narrative* (Duke UP, 1996), *Dagoes Read: Tradition and the Italian/American Writer* (Guernica, 1997), *Monstache Pete is Dead!* (Bordighera, 1997/ 2010), *Leaving Little Italy* (SUNY, 2003), *The Art of Reading Italian Americana* (Bordighera, 2011), *From Wiseguys to Wise Men: Masculinities and the Italian American Gangster* (Routledge, 2013), and *Read 'em and Reap: Gambling on Italian American Writing* (Bordighera, 2017). With Paul Giordano and Anthony Julian Tamburri, he is co-founding, co-editor of Bordighera Press, with, publisher of *VIA: Voices in Italian Americana*, and editor of the Italian/American Culture Series of SUNY Press.

**JOSEPH SCIORRA** is Director of Academic and Cultural Programs at Queens College's John D. Calandra Italian American Institute. He received his PhD from the Department of Folklore and Folklife at the University of Pennsylvania. As a folklorist, Joseph has conducted ethnographic research with numerous New York City communities, in particular Italian Americans, implementing public programming such as museum exhibitions, concert series, and video documentaries, as well as publishing on religious practices, material culture, and vernacular music, among other topics. He was the editor (2011-2016) of the social science and cultural studies journal *Italian American Review* and of *Italian Folk: Vernacular Culture in Italian-American Lives* (Fordham UP, 2010), co-editor of *Embroidered Stories: Interpreting Women's Domestic Needlework from the Italian Diaspora* (UP of Mississippi, 2014) and *Graces Received: Painted and Metal Ex-votos from Italy* (Calandra Institute, 2012). Sciorra is the author of *R.I.P.: Memorial Wall Art* (Henry Holt & Co., 1994; Thames & Hudson, 2002) and *Built with Faith: Italian American Imagination and Catholic Material Culture in New York City* (U Tennessee P, 2015). Together with Laura E. Ruberto he has co-edited *New Italian Migrations to the United States. Vol. 1: Politics and History since 1945* (U Illinois P, 2017) and *New Italian Migrations to the United States. Vol. 2: Art and Culture since 1945* (U Illinois P, 2017).

**ANTHONY JULIAN TAMBURRI** is Dean of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute (Queens College, CUNY) and Distinguished Professor of European Languages and Literatures. He is past president of the Italian American Studies Association and of the American Association of Teachers of Italian. His authored books on Italian/American studies include: *Una semi-otica dell'etnicità: nuove segnalature per la letteratura italiano/americana* (Cesati, 2010); *Re-viewing Italian Americana: Generalities and Specificities on Cinema* (Bordighera, 2011); and *Re-reading Italian Americana: Specificities and Generalities on Literature and Criticism* (Fairleigh Dickinson, 2014). His book on Italian writing in the U.S. is *Un bi-culturalismo negato: la letteratura "italiana negli Stati Uniti* (Cesati, 2018). Also recent are: *Scrittori italiano[-] americani: trattino sì trattino no* (MnM Print Edizioni, 2018); *The Columbus Affair: Imperatives for an Italian/American Agenda* (Casa Lago, 2021); and *Signing Italian/American Cinema: A More Focused Look* (Ovunque Siamo, 2021). He is co-editor,

with Robert Viscusi and James Periconi, of the English version of *Italoamericana: The Literature of the Great Migration, 1880-1943* (Fordham UP, 2014), Francesco Durante, ed; and with Giordano and Gardaphé, *From The Margin: Writings in Italian Americana* (Purdue, 1991/2000). He is the director of the Italian Studies Series for Fairleigh Dickinson University Press; he is also executive producer of *Italics*, produced in collaboration with CUNY TV.

[SABRINA VELLUCCI](#) is Associate Professor of Anglo-American Literature at Roma Tre University. Her research interests focus mainly on Italian/American literature and culture, women's writing, cinema, and intermediality. She is the author of *New Girls. Adolescenti nella cultura statunitense, 1865-1890* (Loffredo, 2008), and has co-edited, among others, *Re-Mapping Italian America: Places, Cultures, Identities* (Bordighera Press, 2018) and *Circolazione di persone e di idee. Integrazione ed esclusione tra Europa e Americhe* (Bordighera Press, 2020). She has published essays on, among others, Carole Maso, Louise DeSalvo, Sandra M. Gilbert, Kym Ragusa, Nancy Savoca, Marylou and Jerome Bongiorno, Don DeLillo, Rudolph Valentino. Since 2004, she has been Assistant Editor of the international quarterly *Letterature d'America*. She directs the Seminar on American Literature, History and Culture of the Center for American Studies in Rome and is Vice President of the Italian Association for North-American Studies (AISNA). She is the recipient of the Romeyne Robert and Uguccione Sorbello Fellowship (2021) and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellow at The Huntington Library (2022).



Working from an interdisciplinary standpoint, and taking as basis the latest developments in the field, the essays in this volume are meant as a contribution to the ongoing, collective effort at expanding and updating knowledge concerning Italian/American literature, cinema, and culture in their various articulations. They explore the effects that the texts' imaginary—often linked to the idea of space, mobility, and change--produces on our understanding of Italian/American culture. This knowledge can help construct a new narrative of Italian/American life, as well as provide a more complex understanding of American history and culture in a transnational context.

Saggistica 26 • Bordighera Press, 2018 • ISBN 978-1599541167. Pp. 398



**Seminario** Il gruppo di studiosi che si è riunito nelle aule della Scuola di Lettere, Filosofia e Lingue

## La Diaspora Italiana tra storia e cinema Tamburri e il dibattito con 16 accademici

La Diaspora Italiana, tra storia, letteratura, cinema, folclore. A Roma un gruppo di sedici tra accademici e studenti con PhD arrivati da tutto il mondo, si è riunito nelle aule della Scuola di Lettere, Filosofia e Lingue dell'Università degli Studi Roma Tre per approfondire i contorni di quel processo migratorio che coinvolse dalla fine dell' '800 alla metà del '900 milioni di italiani diretti verso Stati Uniti, Germania, Svizzera, Francia.

Proprio ieri, l'ultima giornata di incontri (e l'arrivederci al prossimo anno, sempre nella Capitale). «Sono state tre settimane intense» ha commentato Anthony Julian Tamburri, a capo del Calandra Italian American Institute (Queens College, CUNY): «Siamo a Roma Tre innanzitutto perché l'Università ha una lunga tradizione di Studi Americani, e la nostra co-direttrice, Sabrina Vellucci, è fra i migliori studiosi di letteratura italiano/americana (si legga, "italoamericana"). Inoltre, nel 2018 Roma è il fulcro di tutte le discussioni in merito alla diaspora italiana, sia quella uscente che quella entrante».

Nel suo corso «Italian American Film» Tamburri ha affrontato il tema partendo dalla vi-

sione di capolavori come «The Godfather» di Coppola, «Mean Streets» di Scorsese, «True Love» di Nancy Savoca: dopo un primo intervento sulla struttura e sulla semiotica, la discussione delle tematiche sociali rappresentate nella pellicola.

«Il seminario ha accolto una serie di esperti studiosi di queste discipline, che hanno avuto l'opportunità di approfondire i loro progetti di ricerca e perfezionare la loro didattica per insegnare in corsi di livello universitario» ha spiegato il terzo direttore del programma Fred Gardaphé (Calandra Italian American Institute).



Gardaphé (sin.), Vellucci, Tamburri

Insieme agli altri docenti Mary Jo Bona, Nancy Carnevale, Laura Ruberto, Joseph Sciorra, si sono confrontati nell'arco dei 21 giorni con John M. Ryan (University of Northern Colorado), Charlotte Fressilli (Washington University),

Antonia Cucchiara (The New School) e il romano Tommaso Caiazza, per citare alcuni degli iscritti.

In agenda anche i nodi dell'attualità, con un focus sulle nuove migrazioni, dalla 'fuga di cervelli' alle doppie immigrazioni.

**Roberta Petronio**

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# TRANSCENDING BORDERS, BRIDGING GAPS

ITALIAN AMERICANA, DIASPORIC STUDIES,  
AND THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM

EDITED BY  
ANTHONY JULIAN TAMBURRI  
FRED L. GARDAPHÉ

Studies in Italian Americana 10

JOHN D. CALANDRA ITALIAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
QUEENS COLLEGE, THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

*Transcending Borders, Bridging Gaps: Italian Americana, Diasporic Studies, and the University Curriculum.* Anthony Julian Tamburri and Fred L. Gardaphé, eds.  
New York: John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 2015.

## NOTES

*Generous funding for the Seminar is also provided by*

# *FRANCESCO AND MARY GIAMBELLI FOUNDATION*



## *THE ALEXANDRA DE LUISE GIFT*

