

JOHN D.
CALANDRA
ITALIAN
AMERICAN
INSTITUTE

Annual Report
2024–2025

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Dear Friends,

Since 1979 the Calandra Institute has advanced its mission to document, preserve, and promote the Italian American experience; this year we mark the forty-fifth anniversary of our founding. The decades of growth since the Institute's inception have more than demonstrated our capacity to achieve these goals. The Institute engages in academic research, counseling services, and public programming, and these pages highlight our latest efforts.

Notable new and continuing projects in the 2024–2025 academic year include the Data Snapshot, a monthly interactive graphic presenting the latest statistical information about Italian America, and the acquisition of Bordighera Press as an imprint of the Institute. International programs include the Italian Diaspora Studies Summer Seminar in Rome and the co-organized Diaspore Italiane conferences across four continents. This year's annual conference, "The Bitter Bread of War," gathered scholars from around the world. The theme was supplemented by the exhibit *Creativity and World War II Italian POWs in the United States* and a series of seminars.

We extend our thanks to Queens College President Frank Wu for consistently supporting the Calandra Institute and to CUNY Chancellor Félix Matos Rodríguez for his invaluable encouragement. It is impossible for us to adequately express our gratitude to them and to all beyond The City University of New York for helping us sustain our mission.

Please join us as we look toward a bright future.

Sincerely,



Cav. Anthony Julian Tamburri, PhD
Dean and Distinguished Professor

Introduction

The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute of The City University of New York (CUNY) began as the Italian American Institute to Foster Higher Education. In 1978, New York State Senator John D. Calandra, then chairperson of the Italian Legislative Caucus, called for the creation of an institute for Italian Americans, the largest European ancestral group in New York, to address historical, sociological, political, and cultural issues specific to the demographic group.

The New York Conference of Italian American State Legislators funded the institution in 1979 to respond to the educational needs and concerns expressed by Italian American students, faculty, and staff at CUNY. In 1986, the Institute was renamed the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute in honor of the late senator. In 1995, the CUNY Board of Trustees officially placed the Institute under the aegis of Queens College and designated it as a university-wide research institute devoted to the Italian American experience.

The Institute's mission is in keeping with that of The City University of New York: to foster higher education among future generations. The Institute seeks to heighten awareness of the immigrant experience and broaden the understanding of the history of Italian Americans in the United States. The Institute fulfills its mission through its commitment to:

- Conduct, sponsor, and publish empirical, theoretical, and analytical research that will expand critical understanding of the Italian American experience.

- Operate specialized counseling programs in areas of outreach, student retention at CUNY, and career aspirations.
- Publish a peer-reviewed biannual journal, *Italian American Review*.
- Serve as a central hub for the dissemination of research to academia, government, industry, and the civic community.
- Organize conferences, lectures, seminars, and symposia on Italian America and the Italian diaspora.
- Administer a CUNY/Italy Exchange Program between CUNY and Italian universities.
- Maintain a resource library of printed and video material pertaining to Italian America.
- Maintain databases regarding Italian American students and faculty at CUNY as well as faculty, scholars, and professionals at other universities.
- Produce and distribute a television program, *Italics*, to disseminate news about Italian America and feature influential figures in related fields.

RESEARCH

Annual Conference

Since 2008 the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute has hosted an annual interdisciplinary conference attended by

participants from around the globe.



The 2025 conference theme was “The Bitter Bread of War: Multidisciplinary Perspectives from Italy and the Diaspora.” Scholars from Australia, Italy, and the United States presented their research findings to an audience of academics, students, and the public.

Cultural Studies

Research in the arts and humanities examines Italian American culture in historical, social, economic, cultural, and political contexts. Areas of exploration include literature, music, cinema, theater, the interdisciplinary fields of migration and diasporic studies, literary and film criticism, media, popular culture, folklife, and vernacular culture.

Italian Diaspora Studies

Summer Seminar

The Italian Diaspora Studies Summer Seminar was established in 2015 as a three-week professional development seminar conducted primarily for college professors and advanced graduate students. It is held annually in Rome in collaboration with Roma Tre University.

Fellows from around the world have participated in the program. IDSSS provides attendees with a foundation of knowledge of the Italian diaspora. The material provides templates for curricula on Italian migration, its impact on host countries, and its relation to geopolitics. Scholars have gone on to develop coursework and lead courses based on research conducted during the seminar.

The Seminar is the recipient of a recurring gift from Alexandra de Luise and Normand Tourangeau and a five-year grant from the Francesco and Mary Giambelli Foundation. Additional supporting institutions include the American Association of Teachers of Italian, Italian American Studies Association, Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance, National Italian American Foundation, Order Sons of Italy Grand Lodge of New York, Unico Brookhaven, Unico National, and CUNY's Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Library

The Institute's research library contains books, journals, magazines, and newspapers pertaining to Italian American and Italian history and culture, including unique holdings on economics, literature, and politics. The Institute also maintains a bibliography on Italian American and Italian diaspora topics, which currently lists more than 2,000 titles.

In addition to its general holdings, the library has four significant collections:

IL PROGRESSO ITALO-AMERICANO

A nearly complete collection of the most widely circulated, longest-running Italian-language daily newspaper (1880–1988) in the United States, archived on microfilm.

THE SARACENO COLLECTION

This 13,500-volume collection, a gift from the estate of Pietro Saraceno (University of Rome), contains books and periodicals from the eighteenth-century Kingdom of Italy—including rare volumes of the *Leggi e Decreti*—to the Italian Republic up to 1959.

THE CAMMETT COLLECTION

This 5,500-volume collection, a gift from the estate of John M. Cammett (John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY), includes the complete works of Antonio Gramsci and books on Italian Communism and anti-Fascism.

THE CANNISTRARO COLLECTION

This 2,000-volume collection, a gift from the estate of Philip V. Cannistraro (Queens College, CUNY), contains books on Italian Fascism.

Sociodemographics

Quantitative analyses in sociodemographic fields interpret the lives of Italian Americans in the United States. Research in the disciplines of demographics, linguistics, political science, psychology, and sociology highlights the cultural presence, economics, educational achievements, family structures, life cycles, and occupational participation of Italian Americans. Reports provide the basis for Italian American affirmative action accountability at The City University of New York.

ITALIAN DIASPORAS: DATA SNAPSHOTS

The Italian Diasporas: Data Snapshots series in demographics, research, and analysis presents data on various characteristics of the Italian diaspora and on issues of assimilation and accommodation. In academic year 2024–2025, topics in the series include:

DS4: College Majors

DS5: Occupations, Income, Class of Worker, Class and
Income, Gender Income Gap

DS6: Population Change

DS7: Voting in 2024, Neighborhoods and Percentage of Italian
Americans

DS8: Living Arrangements across Age Groups

DS9: Women in the Workplace

DS10: Italian Americans and Race

DS11: Italian Americans and The City University of New York

Staff Publications

STEPHEN J. CERULLI

“Italy, Italians, and Italian Americans Are Multifaceted,” with Louis Mendola. *American Italian Cultural Roundtable*, Volume 3, Issue 2. October 2024.

DONNA CHIRICO

“Revisiting Educational Attainment among Americans of Italian Heritage: A New Look at the Importance of Leonard Covello.” In *Educazione migrante tra passato, presente e futuro: Saggi in onore di Leonard Covello*, edited by Antonella Cagnolati, Donna Chirico, Carmen Petruzzi, and Anthony Julian Tamburri. Clueb, 2024.

“Steering Us Off Course: When Leadership Becomes the Point of Contention.” *Italian Americana*, Volume XLII, Issue 1-2, Summer 2024.

FRED GARDAPHÉ

“Afterword.” In *Between Two Worlds: Navigating “Italian” Studies in the United States*, by Paolo A. Giordano, edited by Anthony Julian Tamburri. Casa Lago Press, 2025.

“Migrating Words on a Migrating Writer: Is Luigi Fontanella an Italian/American Writer?” In *Living Biculturalism, Writing Transculturalism: Essays in Honor of Luigi Fontanella*, edited by Anthony Julian Tamburri. Casa Lago Press, 2025.

“Truth and Lies about Italian American Culture: A Response to Rev. Williams’s Call.” In *The Italian Immigrant Experience: Between Black and White*, edited by Vincent Bocchimuzzo, Elena Daniele, and Anthony Julian Tamburri. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 2024.

“Modernismo transnazionale italiano e italiano/americano negli Stati Uniti,” with Anthony Julian Tamburri. In *Cross-Disciplinary Dialogues: Festschrift in Honour of Michael Lettieri. Dialoghi interdisciplinari: Studi in Onore di Michael Lettieri*. Legas, 2024.

NICHOLAS GROSSO

Editor, *VIA: Voices in Italian Americana* 35.2 and 36.1.

JOSEPH SCIORRA

“The Visual Culture of Italian Migrant Return: Snapshots at the Crossroads of Home Visits and Touristic Itineraries.” In *Rituals of Migration: Irish and Italians on the Move*, edited by Kevin Kenny and Maddalena Marinari, New York University Press, 2025.

“Italian Americans, Confederate Whiteness, and Commemorative Landscapes in New Orleans and Beyond: A Reply to John Gennari’s 2022 Tulane University Keynote.” In *The Italian Immigrant Experience: Between Black and White*, edited by Vincent Bocchimuzzo, Elena Daniele, and Anthony Julian Tamburri, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 2024.

“The Sacred Arts of Lucani Religious Life in New York City/ Le arti sacre nella vita religiosa dei lucani a New York/Las artes sagradas de la vida religiosa de los lucanos en Nueva York.” In *Basilicatë: Una celebrazione della cultura Lucana nel mondo* [exhibition catalogue], edited by Fabio Ciaravella and Mimi Coviello, LetteraVentidue Edizioni, 2024.

Review of *The Sicilian Puppet Theater of Agrippino Manteo (1884-1947): The Paladins of France* by Jo Ann Cavallo Anthem Press, 2023, in *Altreitalie* 69, 2024.

ANTHONY JULIAN TAMBURRI

2024 Award: Italian American Culture Award. Castellammare del Golfo Social Club.

A Politics of [Self-]Omission: The Italian/American Challenge in A Post-George Floyd Age. Casa Lago Press, 2025.

Editor, with Antonio Vitti, *Mediterranean Studies: Beauty and Mystery.* Casa Lago Press, 2024.

“Il Controfigura di Luigi Fontanella: un divertimento desiderato e una ri-considerazione di paradigmi.” In *Studi Italiani* 70.2, 2024.

“What the Italian/American Community Can Learn Today from Leonard Covello’s Writings of Yesteryear.” In *Educazione migrante tra passato, presente e future.* Clueb, 2024.

PROGRAMS

Counseling

The Institute has provided counseling services to Italian American students and the community since 1979, employing licensed clinicians trained in and sensitive to the history, culture, and experience of Italians in America. The critical goal of student retention and development is accomplished primarily through academic advising, career development, personal counseling, and workshops to foster psychosocial wellness. The Institute delivers an array of services to help students develop and refine their educational plans, from associate degrees to doctoral and professional levels. During academic year 2024–2025, counseling services were administered to eighty-five CUNY students at Queens College.



International Study

The Institute's international study programs place undergraduate and graduate students, research fellows, and visiting scholars at various universities. Advisers attend student fairs and other venues to promote these programs.

CUNY/ITALY EXCHANGE

The CUNY/Italy Exchange Program is designed for undergraduate and graduate students interested in coursework and research. The program provides participants with an individualized focus in their academic discipline and opportunities to gain international perspectives and skills to support their career goals. Participating universities include Roma Tre University and University of Perugia. In academic year 2024–2025, Italian students attended CUNY's Baruch College, John Jay College, and Queens College.

STUDY ABROAD IN ITALY

The Italian Language and Culture program provides American students the opportunity to study Italian language and culture in the medieval city of Perugia. In 2025, ten CUNY students attended the University for Foreigners of Perugia.

The Study Abroad in Sorrento program offers students a variety of courses including Italian language, archaeology, cinema, history, literature, and more, at the Sant'Anna Institute. In 2025, seven CUNY students attended the winter program, and seven attended the summer program.

Italics

Italics: Television for the Italian American Experience is a monthly half-hour magazine-format presentation in the CUNY Presents timeslot featuring prominent Italian Americans in academia, the arts, business, government, sports, and more. Each episode explores the Italian diaspora, Italian American history and traditions, and contemporary Italian American life. *Italics* has been in production since 1988, serving the Italian American community and those interested in Italian American culture.



2024–2025 SEASON ON CUNY TV

AUGUST

In Sardinia in New York

SEPTEMBER

Mario the Maker Magician

OCTOBER

Bordighera Press

NOVEMBER

Italea; Columbus Day Parade; National Italian American Foundation

DECEMBER

Joseph Tusiani Collection; Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance

JANUARY

Edward E. Boccia; Best of 2024

FEBRUARY

Dr. Georganne Vartorella

MARCH

DJ Mica; National Organization of Italian American Women's Three Wise Women

APRIL

Maria Lai: A Journey to America

MAY

POWs in the United States; National Italian American Foundation

JUNE

Italian American Culture; National Organization of Italian American Women

JULY

Open Roads: New Italian Cinema



Public Programs

DOCUMENTED ITALIANS FILM AND VIDEO SERIES

Film screenings documenting the Italian diasporic experience

OCTOBER 9, 2024

Il mondo è troppo per me: La storia di Vittorio Camardese
(2023), 63 minutes

Vania Cauzillo, director

In conjunction with the exhibition *BASILICATÉ: A Celebration of Lucanian Culture in the World*. Post-screening discussion led by Joseph Sciorra.

MARCH 11, 2025

Relative (2023), 71 minutes

Tracey Arcabasso Smith, director

Post-screening discussion led by Olivia Tursi.

MARCH 31, 2025

Summer Within (2023), 71 minutes

Summer Minerva and Adam Golub, directors

Post-screening discussion led by Fred Gardaphé.

MAY 20, 2025

Fedeltà: Soldati. Prigionieri (2024), 80 minutes

Stephen Mancini, director

In conjunction with the exhibit *Creativity and World War II Italian POWs in the United States*. Post-screening discussion led by Joseph Sciorra.

PHILIP V. CANNISTRARO SEMINAR SERIES IN ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

A forum where scholars present their research to the public

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

“Rocco Scotellaro’s Transnational Basilicata,” Isabella Livorni,
New York University

In conjunction with the exhibition *Basilicatè: A Celebration of Lucanian Culture in the World*.

NOVEMBER 21, 2024

Gastrofascism and Empire: Food in Italian East Africa, 1935–1941, Simone Cinotto, University of Gastronomic Sciences
Pollenzo

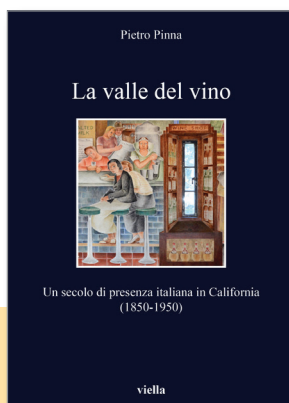
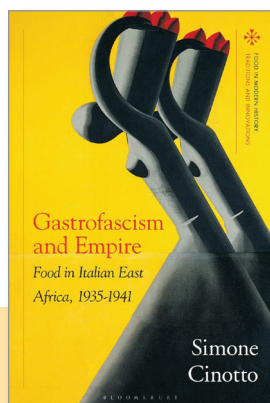
FEBRUARY 27, 2025

“Transatlantic Modern Consumerisms: Italian Goods and
Commercial Cultures in Postwar America, 1949–1972,”
Simone Cinotto, University of Gastronomic Sciences

Sponsored by the National Interest Research Project “Transatlantic Transfers: The
Italian Presence in Postwar America”—Polytechnic of Milan, Roma Tre University,
University of Eastern Piedmont, University of Gastronomic Sciences Pollenzo.

APRIL 14, 2025

*The Valley of Wine: A Century of Italian Presence in the
California Wine Industry (1850–1950)*, Pietro Pinna,
University of Turin



WRITERS READ SERIES

Presentations by creative writers reading from recently published works

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

Three Creative Women Roundtable: Penny Arcade, Joanna Clapps Herman, and Helene Stapinski

In conjunction with the exhibition *Basilicatè: A Celebration of Lucanian Culture in the World*.

OCTOBER 23, 2024

Juliet Grames reads from *The Lost Boy of Santa Chionia: A Novel* (Knopf, 2024)

Camilla Trinchieri reads from *The Road to Murder* (Soho Crime, 2024)

NOVEMBER 13, 2024

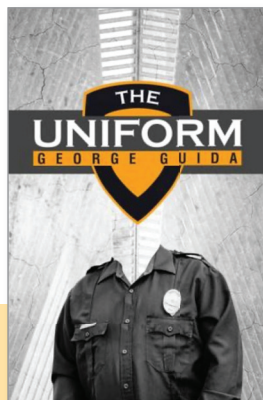
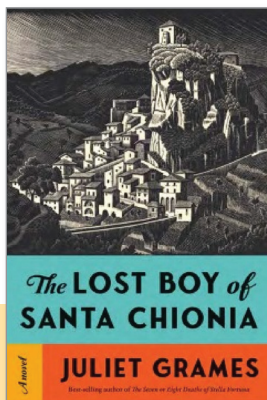
George Guida reads from *The Uniform* (Guernica World Editions, 2024)

Alexander Sammartino reads from *Last Acts* (Scribner, 2024)

MARCH 20, 2025

F. K. Clementi reads from *South of My Dreams: Finding My American Home* (University of South Carolina Press, 2024)

Discussion led by Siân Gibby.



FUORI COLLANA

Additional events organized by the Institute

SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

Presentation: Joseph Tusiani Italian Translation Prize

Cosponsored by the *Journal of Italian Translation*.

OCTOBER 5, 2024

Symposium: Giovanni da Verrazzano

Cosponsored by Consulate General of Italy New York, Italian Cultural Institute, Italian Heritage and Culture Committee, and University for Foreigners of Perugia.

OCTOBER 8, 2024

Lecture: “The Uses of Comparison in Social Science,” with John Torpey, director of the Ralph Bunche Institute and European Studies Center at The Graduate Center, CUNY

OCTOBER 10, 2024

Presentation: *La Puglia e i suoi musei*

In conjunction with the exhibition *La Puglia e i suoi musei: un viaggio sentimentale*.

OCTOBER 28, 2024

Lecture: “The Role of Exchange Programs in Public Diplomacy,” with Paola Sartorio, executive director of US–Italy Fulbright Commission

Cosponsored by Belle Zeller Scholarship Trust Fund, CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences, Fulbright Association chapters of New York and Italy, and German Academic Exchange Association.

NOVEMBER 13, 2024

Workshop: “Boundaries and Burnout,” led by Olivia Tursi

Sponsored by the Experiential Education Office, Queens College, CUNY.

JANUARY 15, 2025

Memorial: Remembering Robert Viscusi

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

Presentation: “Casa Rossa: Place of Memory and Transformation”

Cosponsored by Centro Primo Levi, Consulate General of Italy, Regione Puglia United, and Pugliese Federation.

FEBRUARY 6, 2025

Curator’s talk by Rosa Berland

In conjunction with the exhibition *Edward E. Boccia: Postwar American Expressionist*.

MARCH 5, 2025

“Italian Migration to North and South America,” with Alessandro Mignacca, David Aliano, and Stephen Cerulli

MARCH 21 AND 22, 2025

Conference: China Keywords

Sponsored by the Telos-Paul Piccone Institute

APRIL 5, 2025

Society for Italian Philosophy Meeting 2025

In collaboration with the Department of Philosophy and Center for Italian Studies at Stony Brook University.

APRIL 9, 2025

Book Presentation: *Il perchè del pellicano* (Medusa Edizioni, 2024), by John Ciardi.

APRIL 17, 2025

Roundtable: “Bridging Worlds in *Stories for a Year*: A Digital Archive of Pirandello in English”

Cosponsored by the Ragusa Foundation for the Humanities.

APRIL 21, 2025

Lecture: “From Naples to America: Enlightening Correspondences and the Pursuit of Happiness,” with Amedeo Arena

Cosponsored by National Italian American Foundation’s Kenneth Ciongoli Colloquia.

GALLERIA

A showcase for the visual arts and history

AUGUST 22–SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

Basilicatë: A Celebration of Lucanian Culture in the World

Cosponsored by Federazione Circoli e Associazioni dei Lucani in Piemonte, in collaboration with Federazione Lucana d'America.

OCTOBER 7–11, 2024

La Puglia e i suoi musei: un viaggio sentimentale

By Franco Arminio. Curated by Regione Puglia.

In collaboration with Italea.

OCTOBER 29, 2024–FEBRUARY 28, 2025

Edward E. Boccia: Postwar American Expressionist

Curated by Rosa Berland

MAY 1–NOVEMBER 26, 2025

Creativity and World War II Italian POWs in the United States

Curated by Laura E. Ruberto and Joseph Sciorra

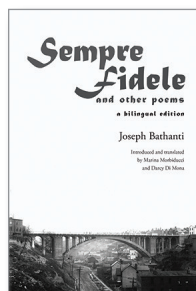


PUBLISHING

Bordighera Press

Bordighera Press specializes in the latest research and critical works; new voices in poetry and prose; and reprinting significant contributions in the fields of migration, Italian diasporas, and Italian Americana. The press publishes: Crossings, Giovanni Schiavo Series, Il Nostro Mezzogiorno, Robert Viscusi Essay Series, Saggistica, VIA Folios, Italiana, and the biannual journal *VIA: Voices in Italian Americana*. In 2024 it was acquired by The City University of New York.

2024–2025 TITLES



CROSSINGS

No. 41

Sempre Fidele and other poems

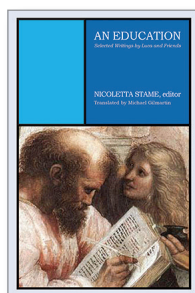
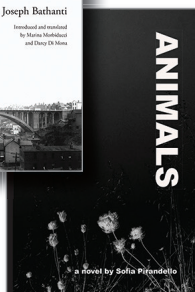
Joseph Bathanti

Translated by Marina Morbiducci
and Darcy Di Mona

No. 42

Animals

Sofia Pirandello



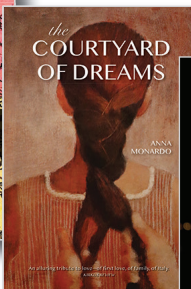
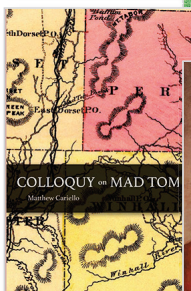
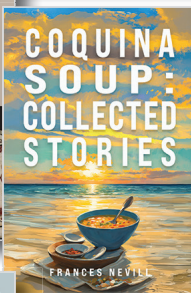
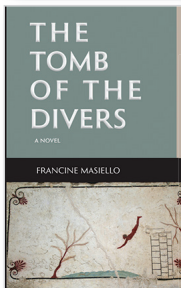
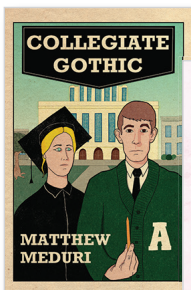
IL NOSTRO MEZZOGIORNO

No. 2

*An Education: Selected Writings
by Luca and Friends*

Edited by Nicoletta Stame

Translated by Michael Gilmartin



VIA FOLIOS

No. 172

Collegiate Gothic
Matthew Meduri

No. 173

The Birthday Years
Rachel Guido de Vries

No. 175

The Tomb of the Divers
Francine Masiello

No. 176

Coquina Soup: Collected Stories
Frances Nevill

No. 177

Eleison
Laurette Folk

No. 178

Fables from Italy and Beyond
Grace Cavalieri

No. 179

Colloquy on Mad Tom
Matthew Cariello

No. 180

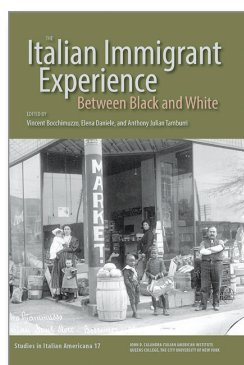
The Courtyard of Dreams
Anna Monardo

No. 181

The Widowing Radiance
Dante Di Stefano

Calandra Publications Series

The Institute publishes titles in numerous series including Historical Monographs, Maria Federici Series in Politics and Government, Studies in Italian Americana, and Transactions.

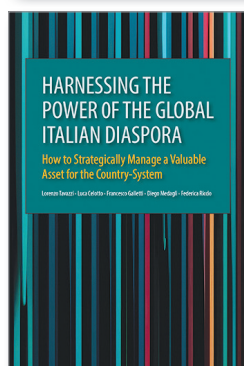


STUDIES IN ITALIAN AMERICANA

*The Italian Immigrant Experience:
Between Black and White*

Edited by Vincent Bocchimuzzo,
Elena Daniele, Anthony Julian
Tamburri

Volume 17



TRANSACTIONS

*Harnessing the Power of the Global
Italian Diaspora: How to Strategically
Manage a Valuable Asset for the
Country-System*

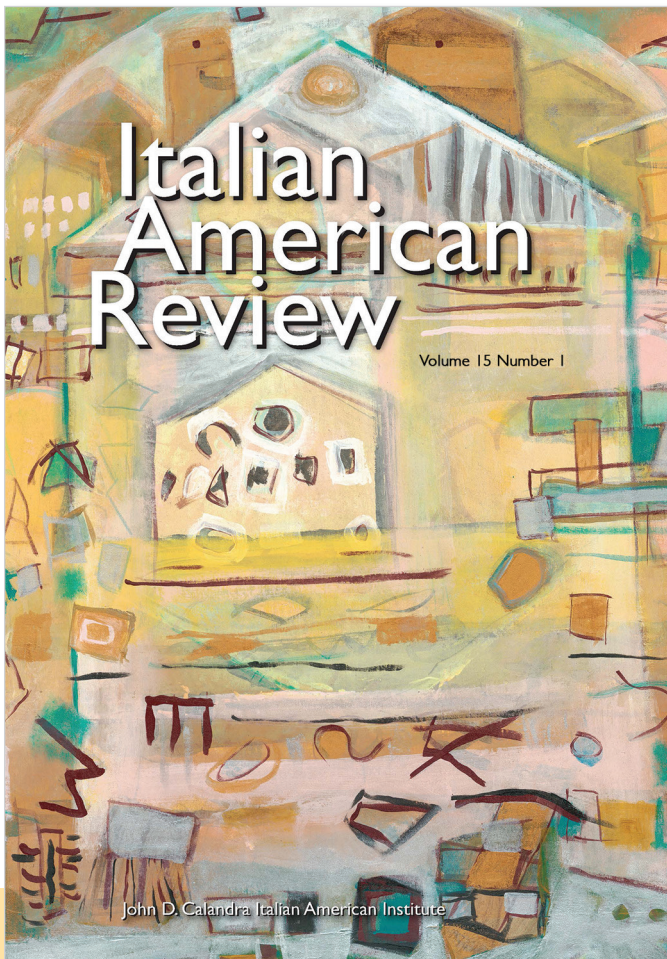
Lorenzo Tavazzi, Luca Celotto,
Francesco Galletti, Diego Medagli,
Federica Riccio

Volume 6

Italian American Review

Italian American Review, a biannual, peer-reviewed social science and cultural studies journal, publishes leading scholarship on topics of interest in Italian American studies. It is designated a category I journal by the Ministry of Education, University and Research, Italy. The journal is published by the University of Illinois Press.

Volume 14, Number 2 / Volume 15, Number 1



Teaching Italian Language and Culture Annual

Teaching Italian Language and Culture Annual is a refereed online publication that addresses empirical and theoretical concerns of teaching language and learning and facilitates scholarly exchange among teachers and researchers. The annual is published by the Italian Language Resource Library, established by the Institute in 2015 as a forum for educators to conduct and publish research, disseminate information, and organize symposia focused on teaching.

COMMUNITY

Advisory Councils

The Institute has convened and maintains meeting schedules for several prominent advisory groups. Participating members represent a range of academics and professionals in the Italian American community.

ITALIAN AMERICAN FACULTY AND STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL is comprised of representatives from each CUNY campus who advise college presidents on matters affecting the university's Italian American community. Delegates report on the concerns of students, faculty, and staff at individual campuses and recommend methods of resolution.

ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES ADVISORY COUNCIL consists of members of the CUNY community and advises on research, service projects, and other academic programs that focus on Italian American studies curricula and development.

ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL includes members from major Italian American organizations. The council facilitates the development and growth of various Italian American associations.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE ADVISORY COUNCIL advises on the status of Italian-language instruction at CUNY. The council addresses the involvement of the university's Italian departments and advocates for the expansion of Italian American studies curricula.

Awards and Fellowships

FRANCESCO DURANTE AWARD FOR ITALIAN DIASPORA HISTORY/LITERATURE/CULTURAL STUDIES was established in 2022 to honor the legacy of scholar Francesco Durante. An annual prize is presented for the best original essay in English or Italian by an emergent scholar of Italian diaspora studies.

FACULTY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM was introduced in spring 2025 for full-time faculty of The City University of New York to conduct research or curriculum development in Italian American or Italian diaspora studies.

PIETRO “PETE” PANTO ITALIAN DIASPORA LABOR DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP was established in 2024 in honor of labor activist Pietro “Pete” Panto. The grant is awarded to graduate students whose dissertation topic addresses Italian emigrant, ethnic labor, or working-class life in the United States or Italian diaspora.

SORBELLO FELLOWSHIP was established in 2021 in collaboration with Fondazione Ranieri di Sorbello and the University for Foreigners of Perugia.

Outreach

IL BOLLETTINO

Il Bollettino highlights semester activities and serves as a biannual report to the New York Conference of Italian American State Legislators.

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INTERNSHIPS

In academic year 2024–2025, the Institute supervised four interns for Bordighera Press and the counseling office.

NEWSLETTER

The Institute disseminates news via email to more than 6,000 newsletter subscribers. Features include multiple weekly announcements, scholarship opportunities, a monthly community calendar, and more.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Institute engages with a wide range of organizations and individuals through its presence across social media platforms.



Facebook
@CalandraInstituteCUNY



Instagram
@calandra.institute



Youtube
@CalandraInstitute

Partnerships

ITALIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE MONTH



Since 1976 leading institutions in New York City's Italian American community have organized a series of events each year to coincide with Columbus Day celebrations in October. The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute is a major sponsor of the Italian Heritage and Culture Committee of New York, Inc. Additionally, the Institute coordinates

and produces the annual directory of Italian Heritage and Culture Month special events, concerts, lectures, and proclamations in and around New York City. The 2024 theme was "Giovanni da Verrazzano 1524–2024: 500 Years."

ITALIAN LANGUAGE INTER-CULTURAL ALLIANCE

Since 2009 the Institute has cosponsored the Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance's annual conference and has provided critical support to the Advanced Placement exam in Italian language at high schools in the United States.

SOCIETÀ DANTE ALIGHIERI OF NEW YORK

In October 2017 a collaborative protocol was established between the Società Dante Alighieri and the Institute, leading to the relaunch of the New York chapter.

RESOURCES

Facilities

In academic year 2024–2025, the Institute sponsored use of its office space and facilities to:

Italian American Studies Association
Italian Heritage and Culture Committee, Inc.
Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance
National Organization of Italian American Women
Roma Tre University
Società Dante Alighieri of New York

Funding

Funding for the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute is provided by:

- The State of New York
- The City University of New York
- Queens College

Additional funding is provided by:

- Alexandra de Luise
- American Association of Teachers of Italian
- Francesco and Mary Giambelli Foundation
- Italian American Studies Association
- Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance
- National Italian American Foundation
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- Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America
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Page 18: Sorrento, Italy.

Page 20: Maria Lai. Photo by Daniela Zedda, 2008. © Riccardo Spignesi.

Page 22: POWs in front of Letterkenny Chapel, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, 1945. Chapel built by Italian POWs during World War II. Photograph from the film *Fedeltà: Soldati. Prigionieri* (2024), by Stephen Mancini.

Page 28: Italian Service Unit member crafting an inlaid wooden box, unknown date and location. Courtesy National Archives.

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