

AISNA NEWSLETTER N. 49 September 2001

Editors: Massimo Bacigalupo - Stefano Rosso

Bulletin of the Italian Association for North American Studies

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AISNA BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2001

Università degli Studi di Genova

Dipartimento di Lingue e Letterature Straniere Moderne

XVI Convegno Biennale Internazionale

dell'AISNA – Associazione Italiana di Studi Nord-Americani

in collaborazione con

Ambasciata degli Stati Uniti d'America

AMERICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

Genova, 8-11 Novembre 2001

Palazzo San Giorgio (Via della Mercanzia, 2)

Palazzo Ducale (Piazza Matteotti, 5)

Giovedì 8 novembre 2001

10.00-17.00 (Stanza della Poesia, Piazza Matteotti)

Iscrizione

c.0-... (Palazzo S. Giorgio – Sala delle Compere)

Apertura dei lavori. Saluto delle autorità

17.00

Plenary Lectures – Chair: Tiziano Bonazzi (Bologna)

Rosella Mamoli Zorzi (Venezia):

Genova, porta del Mediterraneo

Ronald Steel (University of Southern California):

America's Mediterranean Coast

19.00

Rinfresco / Reception – Autorità Portuale di Genova, Palazzo San Giorgio

Venerdì, 9 novembre 2001 – Palazzo Ducale

9.00-13.00.

Workshops

#1 (Stanza della Poesia)

American Poetry and the Mediterranean Heritage

Coordinators: Gianfranca Balestra (Siena), Paola Loreto (Milano)

Gianfranca Balestra (Siena), "The glory that was Greece, and the grandeur that was Rome":

The Poetry of Edgar Allan Poe

Gregory Dowling (Venezia), Melville's Clarel
Antonella Francini (Syracuse University, Firenze), "The pale hems of the masters' gown":
Mediterranean Voices and Shadows in the Poetry of Charles Wright
Nicola Gardini (Palermo), Stomping with the Classics: Latin Poets and Twentieth-Century
American Poetry
Paola Loreto (Milano), "Light on the Wharves of Charlotte Amalie/Light on the Straits of Sicily":
Derek Walcott's Aesthetics of (Irresistible) Light in Tiepolo's Hound
Paola A. Nardi (Università Cattolica, Milano), Marianne Moore and Egypt
Giuseppe Nori (Cassino), "The Problem" of the Priest: The Confrontation with Mediterranean
Art and Culture in Emerson's Poetry
E. Martin Pedersen (Messina), The Hellenistic Union of Poetry and Sport in the New World
Maria Proitsaki (Göteborg), Nestor's Palace, "Nestor's Bathtub," Nestor's Wife and Her Lover:
Rita Dove's Revision of a Greek Legend

#2 (Società di Letture e Conversazioni Scientifiche)

The Mediterranean in Italian American Culture
Coordinator: John Paul Russo (University of Miami)
Suzanne Branciforte (Università per Stranieri, Siena), Voyage to the Center of Mother Earth:
On Italian American Identity
Simone Cinotto (Torino), The Taste of Place: Food in the Narratives of America and the
Mediterranean by Italian Immigrants of New York, 1920-1940
Raffaele Cocchi (Bologna), Le Vele del ritorno
Daniela Daniele (Udine), Mediterranean Clippings: Mary Caponegro's "Tombola"
Martino Marazzi (Columbia), L'umbarco: Il silenzio del Mediterraneo negli scritti d'emigrazione
Elisabetta Marino (Roma 2), The Mediterranean Sea: Memory and Tradition in Two Italian
American Writers
Diane Ponterotto (L'Aquila), "And was there mozzarella cheese on top? – Yeah!!!!!" The
Affiliative Role of Italian Food in American Conversation
Federico Siniscalco (Siena-Arezzo), The Mediterranean in Italian-American Non-Fiction Film
John Paul Russo (Miami), The Mediterranean Theme in DeLillo's Underworld

#3 (Accademia Ligure di Scienze e Lettere)

Mediterranean Religiosity in the United States: Migrating Religions and their Encounters with
Other Religions and Cultures.
Coordinators: Maria Susanna Garroni (I.U.O. Napoli), Elisabetta Vezzosi (Trieste).
Matteo Sanfilippo (Tuscia), L'attenzione della Santa Sede all'emigrazione italiana negli Stati
Uniti.
Elisabetta Vezzosi (Trieste), Cittadine e mediatrici etniche: le suore italiane negli Stati Uniti
Maria Susanna Garroni (I.U.O. Napoli), Religious Immigrant Women: A Splintered Ethnic and
Spiritual Identity
Cristina Mattiello (Roma), Le Salesiane tra identità etnica e americanizzazione
Stephen Perrin (Liverpool), "I got every sacrament behind me": Jim Carroll and the
Inescapable History of American Catholicism
Leonardo Buonomo (Trieste), The Indiscreet Charm of Popery: The Catholic in Nineteenth
Century American Literature
Ellen Ginzburg (Trieste), Italian Jews in the United States in the Early 1940's: Individual
Impressions and Life-Style Changes

#4 (Liguria Spazio Aperto, g.c. Regione Liguria)

The Vision of the Mediterranean in Contemporary U.S. fiction: From the Cradle to the Zone
Coordinator: Luca Briasco (Roma 1)
Mattia Carratello (Roma 1), Faking America: Art and the Market in William Gaddis's The
Recognitions
Umberto Rossi (freelance scholar), South of the Zone, Heller's Catch 22
Paolo Prezzavento (Verona), William Burroughs in Tangier
Laura Salvini (Roma 1), Naked Lunch: The Movie

Roberta Fornari (Roma 1), William Burroughs's The Western Lands
Luca Briasco (Roma 1), Alien Nation. Bruce Sterling's Zeitgeist: Balkanization, Globalization and the Last Zone
Giuseppe Costigliola, Mediterranean Histories in Thomas Pynchon's V
Note: Coffee will be served at 10.30 in Liguria Spazio Aperto.
14.30-20.00 (Liguria Spazio Aperto, g.c. Regione Liguria)
A.I.S.N.A. General Assembly

Sabato 10 novembre 2001 – Palazzo Ducale

8.30 (Liguria Spazio Aperto)
Plenary Lecture – Chair: Cristina Giorcelli (Roma 3)
Christoph Irmscher (Univ. of Maryland Baltimore County)
Mediterranean Metamorphoses: Toward a Multilingual American Literature
10.00 Coffee Break
10.30-13.30 Workshops

#5 (Liguria Spazio Aperto)

American Writers and the Mediterranean: A Comparison of Viewpoints
Coordinator: Marina Coslovi (Venezia)
Sarah Wood (Univ. College London), An Alien's Act of Sedition: Structural Coherence and North African Attachments in Royall Tyler's The Algerine Captive
Barbara Nugnes (Pisa), Washington Irving's Mythological Spain
Sirpa Selenius (Joensuu, Finland), Nathaniel Hawthorne's Impressions on Florence
Shirley Foster (Sheffield), Naples and Sicily through American Eyes: Nineteenth-Century Observations
Daniela F. Virdis (Genova), Wallace Stevens: "Reply to Papini" and the Angel's Poetics
Marina Coslovi (Venezia), Pynchon in Baedeker-Land

#6 (Stanza della Poesia)

Emerson at (Nearly) 200: His Legacy from a Transatlantic Perspective
Coordinators: Giorgio Mariani (Roma 1) – Igina Tattoni (Roma 1) (Project Emerson 2003)
Giorgio Mariani (Roma 1), The (Mis)fortune of Emerson in Italy; or, why we Should be Reading Emerson today
Sonia Di Loreto (Rutgers), "To Begin the World Anew": Labor and the Body in Emerson's "Man the Reformer"
Carlo Martinez (Chieti), "The Aroma of Personality": Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry James
Anna Scannavini (I.U.O. Napoli), Notes on the Ordinary
Antonia Rigaud (Paris 3), Staging Emerson : American Contemporary Art or the Practice of the Emersonian Discourse (John Cage's Emerson)
Vittoriana Villa (L'Aquila), Emerson's influence on Dorothy Richardson's Thought and Work

#7 (Accademia Ligure di Scienze e Lettere)

Genoa and the United States in the 19th and 20th Century
Coordinator: Valeria Gennaro Lerda (Genova)
Pierangelo Castagneto (Genova), Genova e gli Stati Uniti nell'età della Rivoluzione
Luca Codignola (Genova), Note sugli inizi del consolato americano a Genova
Paola Gemme (Genova), Nativism, and Anti-slavery: Notes Towards a Transnational Ethnic History
Susanna Delfino (Genova), "Peace and Commerce with Every Nation": The Economic Presence of the United States in the Mediterranean during the 19th Century
Ferdinando Fasce (Bologna-Forlì), L'Ansaldo e gli Stati Uniti nel secolo americano
Naila Clerici (Genova), Scopritori o scoperti? Gli indiani nella patria di Colombo

#8 (Società di Letture e Conversazioni Scientifiche)

"Sensitive as Any Woman": Nineteenth-Century American Women and Mediterranean Masculinities

Coordinator: Anna Scacchi (Padova)

Patricia Thompson Rizzo (Padova): Emily Dickinson: Feminine Masculinity in Mediterranean Garb

Sara Antonelli (Centro Studi Americani, Roma 3): Displacing Desire: Louisa May Alcott's Fiction and the Mediterranean

Anna Scacchi (Padova): "Born beneath a Tropic Sun": Shades of Brown and Masculinity in Uncle Tom's Cabin and Agnes of Sorrento

Tatiana Petrovich Njegosh (Macerata): "When the Sirocco Blows": Transatlantic Couples in Henry James

Paula Rabinowitz (Minnesota): Meeting on the Corner: Mediterranean Men and Urban American Women

14.30 p.m. (Liguria Spazio Aperto)

Plenary Lecture – Chair: Bianca Maria Pisapia (Rome 1)

Fred Moramarco (San Diego State Univ.):

"Imagine All That History": American Views of the Mediterranean and Its People

16. 30-19: Workshops

#9 (Liguria Spazio Aperto)

The Mediterranean Education of American Artists

Coordinator: Maria Vittoria D'Amico (Catania)

Maria Vittoria D'Amico (Catania), "I felt in the midst of the absolute": Paul Bowles in North Africa

Gigliola Nocera (Catania), Black Athena and White Parthenon: R.W. Emerson and European Altertumswissenschaft

Salvatore Marano (Catania), Castles and Architectures of the Mind in Amy Lowell

Roberto Dainotto (Duke University), Whisper, Whimper, Belch and Oh! The "Stars and Stripes Mediterranean"

Kurt Albert Mayer (Wien), "Much as I sympathize with the Italians and wish them success": Henry Adams's First Sojourns in Italy, 1859-60"

Marisa Bulgheroni (Genova), T.b.a.

#10 (Stanza della Poesia)

Mediterranean Mediations: Transatlantic Imaginary and Gender Identity

Coordinators: Liana Borghi (Firenze), Cristina Scatamacchia (Perugia)

Liana Borghi (Firenze), A Mill Hand on the Tiber: Marie Van Vorst Abroad

Algerina Neri (Pisa), Two Kinds of Slavery: Royal Tyler's The Algerine Captive and the sympathetic woman reader

Cristina Scatamacchia (Perugia), Dal grand tour al tour du monde: Nellie Bly e la metamorfosi del viaggio al femminile alla fine dell'Ottocento

Alessandra Lorini (Firenze), Ruth Benedict and Apollonian vs. Dionysiac Gender Identity

#11 (Società di Letture e Conversazioni Scientifiche – Sala Consiglio)

The Sea and Revolution: The Mediterranean, the Early Republican Age, and U.S. Culture

Coordinators: Salvatore Proietti (Roma 1), Igina Tattoni (Roma 1)

Stella Giovannini, The Virtue of American Language: On Noah Webster and the European Traditions

Alessandro Portelli (Roma 1), The Mediterranean as Middle Ground in the Autobiography of Olaudah Equiano

Salvatore Proietti (Roma 1), Sailing Across the Color Line: On Royall Tyler's The Algerine Captive

Richard Samuelson (Glasgow), John Quincy Adams' Lost History of the Russo-Turkish War: Greek Independence and the Limits of the American Empire

Cinzia Schiavini (Milano), From the Edges of Revolution to the Shores of Modernity: Melville and the Mediterranean

Marco Sioli (Milano), Liberty and Nature: Joel Barlow's Diplomatic Mission to Algiers

Igina Tattoni (Roma 1), There Is No Room for Hesitation': The Uses of Time in Charles

Brockden Brown's Arthur Mervyn

#12 (Accademia Ligure di Scienze e Lettere)

The U.S. Middle Eastern Policy in the 20th Century: Aspects and Problems.

Coordinator: Antonio Donno (Lecce)

Antonio Donno (Lecce), The U.S. and the Middle East to the Second World War

Daniele De Luca (Lecce), The U.S. Strategic and Military Policy in the Middle East from Truman to Nixon

Paola Olimpo (Lecce), The Role of the U.S. Congress in the Making of the American Middle Eastern Policy from Truman to Johnson

Valentina Vantaggio (Lecce), The U.S. and the Oil Question from the End of the Twenties to the Suez Crisis

Rosa Maria Garcia-Barroso (Alcalà), Success or Failure in the U.S. Policy towards Lybia?

Mario Del Pero (N.Y.U.), American Strategies and Italian Responses in the First Decade of the Cold War

#13 (Società di Letture e Conversazioni Scientifiche – Sala Eugenio Montale)

"Wars They Have Seen": Americans in Mediterranean Conflicts

Coordinators: Gabriella Ferruggia (Genova), Massimo Rubboli (Genova) Luigi Bruti Liberati (Milano), "The Stars and Stripes" in World War 2

Gabriella Ferruggia (Genova), "One Writer's Initiation": John Dos Passos and World War 1

Augusta Molinari (Genova), War from a Distance: Italian Prisoners of War in the United States between History and Memory

Massimo Rubboli (Genova), A "Service to Suffering People": American Relief Work in Italy after World War 2

Alessandra Vendrame, Heming-Ways: Tracing Italian War Paths in Ernest Hemingway

Oliviero Bergamini & Ilaria Favretto, "Temperamentally unwarlike": l'immagine dell'Italia e degli italiani nei rapporti del Psychological Warfare Branch, 1943-1945

20.00 – Porto di Genova

Conference dinner aboard Grimaldi Group Ship

Domenica 11 novembre 2001 – Palazzo Ducale

9.00-10.30 (Società di Letture e Conversazioni Scientifiche)

Roundtable: America and the Mediterranean

Chair: Massimo Bacigalupo (Genova)

Panelists: Gabriella Airaldi (Genova), Robert Hahn (Writer), Francesco Surdich (Genova)

10.30 (Accademia Ligure di Scienze e Lettere)

Coffee Break

11.00-12.30 (Accademia Ligure di Scienze e Lettere)

Roundtable: American Literature & Civilization in the New Italian B.A. & M.A. ("3+2") Degree System

Chair: Biancamaria Tedeschini Lalli (Roma 3)

Panelists:

Francesca Bisutti (Venezia), Fedora Giordano (Torino), Ugo Rubeo (Roma 1)

11.00-12.30 (Società di Letture e Conversazioni Scientifiche)

Roundtable: American History in the New Italian B.A. & M.A. ("3+2") Degree System

Chair: Tiziano Bonazzi (Bologna)

Panelists: Valeria Gennaro Lerda (Genova), Federico Romero (Firenze), Elisabetta Vezzosi (Trieste)

15.00

Visita guidata Centro Storico (offerta dall'APT)

Comitato scientifico e organizzativo

Massimo Bacigalupo (Genova)

Gianfranca Balestra (Siena)

Raffaella Baritono (Bologna)

Clara Bartocci (Perugia)
Tiziano Bonazzi (Bologna)
Gigliola Nocera (Catania)
Biancamaria Pisapia (Roma 1)
Caterina Ricciardi (Roma 3)
Ugo Rubeo (Roma 1)

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AISNA WEB SITE

The web site of A.I.S.N.A. is now on line:
www.aisna.org

The site, set up with the financial support of the Embassy of the United States of America in Rome, will allow real time communication among members, and will make our association visible worldwide.

The site is available to all members who wish to participate in a discussion forum on topics of interest to the association. Related materials should be sent to: Gigliola Nocera, nocerasr@tin.it and to the Association Secretary: baritono@spbo.unibo.it. Access to the forum is reserved to AISNA members.

EAAS NEWS

Representative on the EAAS Board, Rosella Mamoli Zorzi mamoli@unive.it
EAAS Vice President Cristina Giorcelli c.giorcelli@uniroma3.it

EAAS CONFERENCE 2002

The United States Of / In Europe: Nationhood, Citizenship, Culture
March 22-25, 2002, Bordeaux, France

Tutte le informazioni relative al programma completo del Convegno possono essere reperite consultando il sito: <http://eaas2002.free.fr/>

Members are reminded that their communications to the EAAS Newsletter must be sent to Prof.ssa Mamoli Zorzi and in copy to the AISNA secretary.

EAAS

For information members should consult the EAAS Internet site:

<http://www.let.ruu.nl/eass/>

To subscribe to the EAAS-L and receive the latest American Studies News, send message "subscribe eaas-1" to: Majordomo@let.run.ne

CALL FOR PAPERS

"Henry James Today". The International Conference of the Henry James Society.

The American University of Paris – July 5-8, 2002.

2-page CV's and 500-word panel or presentation abstracts (in English), by January 4, 2002, to:

Pierre Walker

English Department

Salem State College

Salem, Mass. 01970 – USA

The University of Macerata (Macerata, Italy) will host the conference "Networking Women" on March 25-27, 2002. The conference will present the results of the national research project coordinated by professor Marina Camboni (U. of Macerata) "Networking Women. Subjects, Places, Links Europe-America, 1890-1939. Towards a Rewriting of Cultural History", participating universities: Macerata, Roma Tre, Firenze, Pisa and Trento.

While the study of the relationship between modernism and feminism is at the center of the research project, its goal has been to participate in the on-going international debate on the twentieth century canon and on modernism by focussing on the complexity of the years under scrutiny and by re-reading the multifaceted relationships between art, life and history. Our intention is to contribute to the reconstruction of the multiple directions that were open in actual history but have been abandoned, and to bring them once again to the attention of the present. Our research focuses on a number of women (among them Dora Marsden, Harriet Shaw Weaver, Bryher, Edith Craig, Nancy Cunard, Margaret Anderson, Muriel Rukeyser, Susan Glaspell, Katherine Mansfield, Una Marson, Tillie Olsen, Meridel LeSueur, Elody Oblath Stuparich, Carlotta Kaderl Beck, Wanda Wultz, Anita Pittoni) who have, through their different initiatives: a) proposed, built, asserted an autonomous female subjectivity; b) stated different and radical redefinitions of masculine and feminine sexualities, of the social roles of men and women and of changes in sex relationships as a starting point for a 'modern' history and a new culture; c) assisted and supported the emergence of an (interethnic) international and supranational culture.

These women have been considered not as pawns to be added to the checkerboard of modernism, or as isolated literary or cultural personalities whose exceptionality we want to consecrate; they have been studied in their qualities as founders of magazines and journals, creators of salons or theater groups, or as social and political activists. From this perspective, they are being considered as links connecting and promoting a vast array of human, political, cultural and literary relations. Their high intellectual activity, moreover, has constantly been related to the mass sociopolitical movements that characterized the period going from the last decade of the nineteenth century to the second World War.

A key thematic and theoretical aspect of the project is the reconstruction of the maps of real and lived spaces as well as of the new maps of experience and cognition generated by interpersonal and intercultural exchanges.

We are interested in reaching potential conference participants and contributors who are, or have been, working on the culture created and/or promoted by women between 1890 and 1939, and on a re-mapping of "modern" cultural, political and economic practices.

For more information on the research project and on the conference, please do not hesitate to contact

Marina Camboni at [Camboni\[at\]unimc.it](mailto:Camboni[at]unimc.it) or Tatiana Petrovich Njegosh at [t.petrovich\[at\]unimc.it](mailto:t.petrovich[at]unimc.it)

TRIESTE 2002: MEDITERRANEAN JOYCE - June 16-22, 2002.

Joyceans everywhere are invited to return to Trieste, the site of the Third Symposium in 1971, to revisit the place that, after Dublin, meant more to Joyce than any other city. Send your abstract (200-250 words) to one of the two academic organizers below by November 15, 2001. Of particular interest will be papers on topics that can be connected to any aspect of the main theme, which is Joyce's love for all things Mediterranean, from Gibraltar to Crete, from the Orient to the Adriatic Sea. Other possible ideas for papers include Joyce and the Politics of Europe (WWI, Empire, fascism, nationalism, postcolonialism); Joyce and the Art of Europe (Italo Svevo, Rilke, futurism, Eastern European literature); Biographical Joyce (Joyce the teacher, the journalist, the opera goer, the brother, the city dweller). However, papers on any and all topics will be welcomed. What the organizers wish to promote, above all, is the enjoyment of Joyce, the rewards of an engagement with his texts, his life, his time, and his places. The plans for the symposium have been moving well. Our plenary speakers are Zack Bowen, Margot Norris, Edward Said, Thomas F. Staley, Carla Marengo Vaglia, and Slavoj Zizek. There are plans for dedicated sessions on electronic Joyce, on Joyce and translation, on global approaches to Joyce, and on Joyce and theory. Each evening will provide extraordinary entertainment, from Irish music to the arias Joyce heard at the Teatro Verdi, from

the Bloomsday buffet on the first Sunday to the banquet at Trieste's grandest hotel on Friday night. An excursion by boat down the Adriatic is planned for Saturday the 22nd. There will be walking tours of Joyce's Trieste, and exhibits of art and photography relating to Joyce. The venue for the conference is on the harbor, in a beautifully renovated conference hall that overlooks the Adriatic from three sides, right in the center of the town.

Local organizers:

Renzo Crivelli, Trieste Joyce School, University of Trieste John McCourt ([mccourt\[at\]univ.trieste.it](mailto:mccourt[at]univ.trieste.it)), Trieste Joyce School, University of Trieste

Academic organizers:

Sebastian D. G. Knowles ([knowles.1\[at\]osu.edu](mailto:knowles.1[at]osu.edu)), Department of English, Ohio State University, 164 W. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43210-1370, USA. Phone: 614 292-5786. Fax: 614 292-7816. Geert Lernout ([lernout\[at\]uia.ac.be](mailto:lernout[at]uia.ac.be)), James Joyce Centre, UIA-GER, Universiteitsplein 1, B2610 Wilrijk, Belgium

Abstracts can be e-mailed, sent by regular mail, or faxed, but must be received by one of the academic organizers by November 15. Please contact any of us if you have questions or suggestions!

RECENT EVENTS

University teachers of English and American language and literature met in Pisa on 9-10 February 2001 to discuss curricula and language teaching in connection with the recently established 3-year university degree. AIA President Maurizio Gotti, professor of English Language at Bergamo, spoke on the relation of language courses to courses of culture and literature. Talking to him after the meeting, I suggested that English linguists like him should take a common stand about providing the linguistic basis for courses both of English and of American literature/culture, as is the case in Genoa and other universities. He generally agreed and said that in Bergamo the professors of English and American literature have outlined a common curriculum for the 3-year course. However, it should be possible throughout Italy for an undergraduate to choose either American or English Literature/Culture as a main subject, in all Faculties where American Literature is taught. If this is done in some universities, it should be also implemented elsewhere. The feeling in Pisa was that the professors of English were in the main not averse to this position. It is now up to Americanists in various universities to see that the English/American alternative be put into practice. This will doubtless lead to a better balance of English and American Literature and Culture courses in the country. In fact, it has been noticed by many foreign observers, that the Italian school system is behind other European systems in concentrating exclusively on British English, whereas English as taught in the rest of Europe gives equal emphasis to American English. Massimo Bacigalupo

The Banquet: Talking About Love, an opera with libretto by Kenneth Koch and music by Marcello Panni (first produced in Bremen, Germany, 1998), had its Italian premiere in Genoa, at Teatro Modena, 9-11 March 2001, as part of the opera season of Teatro Carlo Felice. Poet Kenneth Koch's libretto is based on a New Year's Eve party given by Picasso in 1916 to celebrate Apollinaire's return from the front, the other guests being Gertrude Stein, Jean Cocteau, Satie, Marinetti and Marie Laurencin. In The Banquet this gathering of artists becomes a modern equivalent of Plato's Symposium. Koch, who teaches at Columbia University, travelled from New York to Genoa for the event. His most recent book, *New Addresses* (2000), was National Book Award Finalist. It includes a witty address "To the Italian Language": "You knew much more than I / About everything except / American jokes / And the details of the lives / Of a few of my friends . . . I lectured in you in Torino / In a large theatre / Filled with one thousand people, Italians / All who knew you better than I / Yet who listened to you in me / And came out, so they said, 'contenti'..." The Banquet is to be performed again in Florence in December.

The Merging of Cultures Seminars. Centro Siena-Toronto in cooperation with Canada Embassy in Rome. May 16, 2001: Prose-Poetry Paintings, incontro con gli scrittori Timothy Findley, Elisabeth Hay, André Alexis e mostra degli acquerelli di Luigi Ontani ispirati alla poesia di Margaret Atwood.

University of Bergamo – Facoltà di Lingue e Letterature Straniere, Dipartimento di Linguistica e Letterature Comparete, Dottorato di Ricerca in Teoria e Analisi del Testo, Associazione per gli Studi di Teoria e Storia Comparata della Letteratura hanno organizzato due giornate di studio sul tema: Insegnare la Letteratura, nei giorni 21 e 22 maggio 2001 con la partecipazione di Catherine Belsey, Thomas Albaladejo, Remo Ceserani, Guido Armellini, Roberto Bigazzi, Giovanni Bottiroli, Mario Domenichelli, Giuseppe Pontiggia, Claudia Sebastiana Nobili, Vanessa Pietrantonio, Simona Micali, Paolo Zanotti, Pierluigi Pellini, Marina Polacco, Sergia Adamo, Francesco Ghelli, Florian Mussnug, Elena Porcari.

Università degli Studi di Bergamo, Facoltà di Lingue e Letterature Straniere, Dipartimento di Linguistica e Letterature Comparete per il Centro Zebra sui Linguaggi delle Identità hanno organizzato, martedì 22 maggio 2001, un incontro con Rosi Braidotti sul tema “Pensare in rete: il contributo delle donne e del femminismo alla costruzione di una prospettiva europea nelle istituzioni politiche e universitarie”.

Charles Wright's poems in Italian translation (L'altra riva del fiume, ExCogita Editore; Crepuscolo americano e altre poesie 1980-2000, Jaca Book) were presented by Gaetano Pramapolini and Barbara Lanati at Salone del Libro, Turin (19 May). Charles Wright himself attended a discussion of his work on May 25 at Fondazione Il Fiore, Florence. Panelists were Massimo Bacigalupo, Antonella Francini and Anthony Oldcorn.

American poets Charles Simic and Lawrence Ferlinghetti were among the principal guests at the Festival Internazionale di Poesia (Genoa, June, 2001). Simic contributed a controversial piece on United States policy in the days of the G8 to the Genoese daily *Secolo XIX* (which also published an interview with him on June 12).

Il II Seminario estivo residenziale, organizzato dalla Società Italiana delle Letterate, si è svolto a Trevignano dal 7 al 9 luglio 2001. Il tema del seminario è stato: “Scritture dell'appartenenza. Postcolonialismo e migrazioni. Problemi di interpretazione critica”. Hanno partecipato: Anna Maria Crispino, Laura Fortini, Alessandra Riccio, Livia Apa, Lidia Curti, Nadia Setti, Sandra Ponzanesi, Patrizia Bertini Malgarini, Lucia Perrone Capano, Anna Chiarloni.

The 2001 Lerici-Pea Poetry Prize for a “Ligurian Writer in the World” was awarded on September 23, 2001, to U.S. scholar and poet Sandra Gilbert, author of *The Madwoman in the Attic* (with Susan Gubar, 1979), *Wrongful Death: A Medical Tragedy*, *Kissing the Bread: New and Selected Poems* (2000), and other works. Gilbert's paternal family, the Mortolas, came to the USA from Liguria by way of Nice, while her mother was born in Sicily. Gilbert teaches English at the University of California at Davis and is one of the foremost scholars in women's studies. She was honored in Lerici together with premier French poet Yves Bonnefoy. In her acceptance address she said: “In sorrow, as in joy, we are surely all bonded in a single community. The pain we've shared over the last week has of course dramatized this point for us in an exceptionally shocking fashion, but perhaps precisely for that reason my gratitude for the honor you do me has taken on special intensity. I thank you for reminding me that we are literally and figuratively related to each other”. An interview with Gilbert appeared in *Il Secolo XIX*, 23 Sept. 2001.

Centro Studi Americani. Conferences and Seminars:

- May 16, 2001: Eric Foner, “Le libertà americane: Storia e prospettive di un'idea negli Stati Uniti”. Participants: Giancarlo Bosetti, Ida Dominijanni, Alessandra Lorini, Daniele Fiorentino.

- May 17, 2001: “Italians & Italian Americans: Fact vs. Fiction”, sponsored by The National Italian American Foundation, Italy Italy Enterprises Spa, Centro Studi Americani.

- May 23, 2001: Incontro con lo scrittore Jonathan Lethem e l'intervento di Edoardo Nesi e Simone Barillari, in occasione della pubblicazione del libro, *L'inferno comincia nel giardino*.

La Società Italiana delle Letterate e il Giardino dei Ciliegi di Firenze hanno organizzato:

Raccontar(si). Laboratorio per la formazione di mediatrici interculturali (Prato, 29 agosto-5

settembre 2001). Moduli tematici interattivi su: Testimonianze di im/migrazione, storie e scritti di vita; Mediazione-traduzione: riflessione su contenuti e metodi della

trasmissione/comparazione culturale e letteraria; Auto/biografie di autrici italiane e straniere – lettere di oggi per una storia di domani – le lettere nella (nostra) storia quotidiana; I corpi: riti di passaggio, letterature ed esperienze; Amore e passioni: tradizioni, storie, racconti; Reti di informazione: mappe istituzionali (enti, informazioni, opportunità); esperimenti ed esperienze di

circuiti informatici; Narrative degeneri: giallo, rosa, nero, grigio, fumetti, SF, fantastico;
Testimonianze di insegnanti e allieve – riflessione autocritica su contenuti, metodi e
trasmissione; Corpo/voce/musica/immagini.

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. GLI USI PUBBLICI DELLA STORIA E LA
CITTADINANZA DEMOCRATICA (PUBLIC USES OF HISTORY AND DEMOCRATIC
CITIZENSHIP)**

Università del Piemonte Orientale "Amedeo Avogadro" - Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia
Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici - Corso di Laurea in "Storia delle Civiltà"

Università di Torino - Dipartimento di Studi Politici
Centro Interuniversitario di Studi Americani ed Euro-Americani "Piero Bairati"
Gruppo di lavoro "Comunicare il passato".
Vercelli, October 25-27, 2001
Conference Room of the Archbishopric Seminary
Piazza Sant'Eusebio n.10

Thursday, October 25, 10 am

Welcome addresses

Ilario Viano (President of the University of Eastern Piedmont)

Gabriele Bagnasco, (Mayor of the City of Vercelli)

Eugenio Bellini (Alderman for Education of the Province of Vercelli)

Chair : Gianni Mentigazzi (Deputy Mayor of Vercelli-President, Institute for the History of the
Resistance Movement and Contemporary Society in the Provinces of Biella and Vercelli)

Opening Remarks

Maurizio Vaudagna (University of Eastern Piedmont -"Bairati" Center for European-American
Studies).

First Session

Michael Steinberg (Cornell University)

History and the Critique of Memory

Paolo Pombeni (Bologna University)

The Public Use of History and the Democratic Political System. Strategies of Political
Legitimation in XIXth and XXth Century Europe

Alessandro Cavalli (University of Pavia)

Is it Possible to Produce Certainties by Spreading Doubts? Civil Education and the Teaching
of History

Discussion

Thursday, October 25, 2:45 pm

Second Session

Chair

Maurilio Guasco (University of Eastern Piedmont)

Enzo Collotti (University of Florence)

Democratic Reconstruction in Germany and Austria and the Problem of Former Nazis

Alessandro Barbero (University of Eastern Piedmont)

Interpretations of Charlemagne and the Crisis of German Democracy (1933-1949)

Michele Battini (University of Pisa)

Vichy and French soul-searching

Marco Buttino (University of Turin)

The Public Use of History in the Former Soviet Republics"

Discussion

Friday, October 26, 10 am

Third Session

Chair

Toni Cerutti (Dean of the Department of Literature and Philosophy)
Elda Guerra (National Institute for the Teaching of History)
Citizenship and Women's Memory: World War II and the Resistance Movement
Marco Mariano (/University of Turin-"Bairati"Center for European-American Studies)
The Democratic Invaders in Italy: The American Presence in Italy in World War Two and the Reconstruction of Italian Democracy(tentative title)
Maurizio Vaudagna (University of Eastern Piedmont-"Bairati" Center of European-American Studies).
Welfare Reform and the Memory of the Social State in a Trans-Atlantic Perspective
Rob Kroes (University of Amsterdam).
The French,the World Wide Web and the Fears of Anti-Historicist Americanization
Discussion

Friday,October 26th, 2:45 pm

Fourth Session

Chair

Rob Kroes (University of Amsterdam)

R.Laurence Moore (Cornell University)

Religious Memory and American Democracy (Tentative Title)

Nick Salvatore (Cornell University)

Singing in a Strange Land:Popular History and Democratic Engagement in Black America

Daria Frezza (University of Siena)

Totalitarianism, Democracy and Propaganda in the 1930s

Germana Gandino (University of Eastern Piedmont)

The Shadow of the Past.Film and the Middle Ages

Discussion

Saturday,October 27,10 am

Fifth Session

Chair

Enzo Collotti (University of Florence)

Tommaso Detti (University of Siena)

Fascism,Antifascism and Democracy at the Turn of the XXI Century

Paolo Pezzino (University of Pisa)

Democracy and Amnesia:The Case of Republican Italy

Stefano Musso (University of Turin)

Conflicts of Interest, Accountability and Democracy:The Memory of Italian Labor

Chiara Ottaviano (Cliomedia-Officina Co.- Turin Polytechnical University)

Commemorations, Anniversaries, and the Mass Media: TV as a Historical Source and the Commemoration of Liberation Day, April 25th

Discussion

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, November 22, 2001, the Facoltà di Lingue at University of Genoa is hosting its annual Poetry Day, chaired by Massimo Bacigalupo, Francesco De Nicola and Luigi Surdich. The idea is to get the students to know the faculty and to read some short representative texts. This year's theme is "Poetry and Politics": in the course of the day some twenty lecturers will take turns in reading and explicating as many short poems in some fifteen languages. Special guests will be poets Edoardo Sanguineti, Paolo Bertolani and Robert Hahn. The American writer discussed this year will be Adrienne Rich.

The IV Conference of the Italian Association of Literary Women (SIL), organized together with the Dipartimento di Italianistica e Filologia romanza of the University Ca' Foscari of Venice, will be held in Venice, Fondazione Giorgio Cini (January 31st-February 1st 2002). The theme of the Conference is "The space of writing. Women's comparative literatures," with sessions and workshops on the space of writing, the space of conflict and the symbolic space. For

information, please contact either Ricciarda Ricorda ([ricorda\[at\]unive.it](mailto:ricorda[at]unive.it)) or Ilaria Crotti ([icrotti\[at\]unive.it](mailto:icrotti[at]unive.it)).

Dipartimento di Italianistica e Filologia romanza
Palazzo Nani Mocenigo
Dorsoduro 960
30123 Venezia
fax 041-2577250/041-2577274.

News about the Conference can also be found at the SIL website: www.societadellelettere.it

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kenneth Kusner was Fulbright Professor of American History for Spring 2001 at the University of Genoa. A professor at Temple University, Philadelphia, he is the author of *A Ghetto Takes Shape: Black Cleveland, 1870-1930*, *Black Communities and Urban Development in America, 1720-1990*, and over twenty articles dealing with American social, urban, and ethnic history. His study of homelessness, *Down and Out, On the Road: The Homeless in American History*, is to be published by Oxford Univ. Press in 2001. His current research deals with nativism and racism in the U.S. during the industrialization period (1870-1930) and with the social and political history of the U.S. since 1970.

2003 OAH FOREIGN-LANGUAGE BOOK PRIZE

The Organization of American Historians sponsors a biennial prize for the best book on American history published in a foreign language. Each entry must be published during the two-year period 1 January 2000 through 31 December 2001. The Organization of American Historians defines both "history" and "American" broadly. To be eligible, a book or article should be concerned with the past (recent or distant) or with issues of continuity and change. It should also be concerned with events or processes that began, developed, or ended in what is now the United States. We welcome comparative and international studies that fall within these guidelines. The Organization of American Historians invites authors of eligible books to nominate their work. We urge scholars who know of eligible publications written by others to inform those authors of the prize. Under unusual circumstances unpublished manuscripts will be considered. We ask authors to consult with the committee chair before submitting unpublished material. Since the purpose of the prize is to expose Americanists to scholarship originally published in a language other than English--to overcome the language barrier that keeps scholars apart--this prize is not open to books whose manuscripts were originally submitted for publication in English or by people for whom English is their first language. Please write a one- to two-page essay (in English) explaining why the book is a significant and original contribution to our understanding of American history. Four copies of the essay and book, clearly labeled "2003 Foreign-Language Book Prize Entry," must be mailed to the following address and received by 1 May 2002 to the following address:

Foreign-Language Book Prize Committee
c/o Organization of American Historians
112 North Bryan Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47408-4199

The application should also include the following information: name, mailing address, institutional affiliation, fax number and e-mail address (if available), and language of submitted book. Copies of the book and statement will be reviewed by contributing editors of the *Journal of American History* who are proficient in the language of the submission as well as by referees (proficient in the language of the submitted book) who are experts on its subject matter. The final prize decision will be made by the Foreign-Language Book Prize Committee by 1 February 2003. The winner will be notified by OAH and furnished with details of the Annual Meeting and awards presentation. The winner will receive \$1,000 and a certificate. Committee members include:

Susan Curtis (Committee Chair), Purdue University
Catherine Collomp, University Denis Diderot, Paris VII,
France
Dirk Hoerder, University of Bremen, Germany

Zbigniew Mazur, Maria Curie-Sklodowska University,
Poland
Andres Resendez, University of California at Davis
Sayuri Shimizu, Michigan State University

2003 OAH DAVID THELEN PRIZE

The Organization of American Historians sponsors an annual prize (formerly the Foreign-Language Article Prize) for the best article on American history published in a foreign language. The winning article will be translated into English and published in the *Journal of American History*. Entries must have been published in the preceding calendar year. To be eligible, an article should be concerned with the past (recent or distant) or with issues of continuity and change. It should also be concerned with events or processes that began, developed, or ended in what is now the United States. It should make a significant and original contribution to the understanding of U.S. history. We welcome comparative and international studies that fall within these guidelines.

The Organization of American Historians invites authors of eligible articles to nominate their work. We urge scholars who know of eligible publications written by others to inform those authors of the prize. Under unusual circumstances unpublished manuscripts will be considered. We ask authors to consult with the committee chair before submitting unpublished material. Since the purpose of the prize is to expose Americanists to scholarship originally published in a language other than English--to overcome the language barrier that keeps scholars apart--this prize is not open to articles whose manuscripts were originally submitted for publication in English or by people for whom English is their first language. Please write a one- to two-page essay (in English) explaining why the article is a significant and original contribution to our understanding of American history. The essay and five copies of the article, clearly labeled "2003 David Thelen Prize Entry," must be mailed to the following address and received by 1 May 2002:

Joanne Meyerowitz, Chair
David Thelen Prize Committee
Journal of American History
1215 East Atwater Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47401

The application should also include the following information: name, mailing address, institutional affiliation, fax number and e-mail address (if available), and language of submitted article. Copies of the article and application will be reviewed by contributing editors of the *Journal of American History* who are proficient in the language of the submission, as well as by referees (proficient in the language of the submitted article) who are experts on its subject matter. Three finalists will be asked to submit English translations of their articles to the committee by 1 November 2002. Each of these finalists will receive a \$250 subvention from the committee to cover the cost of translation. The final prize decision will be made by the David Thelen Prize Committee by 1 February 2003. The winner will be notified by the OAH and furnished with details of the Annual Meeting and the awards presentation. In addition, the winning article will be printed in the *Journal of American History* and its author awarded a certificate and a \$500 subvention for refining the article's English translation.

David Thelen Prize Committee Members

Joanne Meyerowitz, Editor, *Journal of American History*, Chair
Christiane Harzig, University of Bremen
Thomas Schoonover, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Bruno Ramirez, University of Montreal
Mauricio Tenorio Trillo, University of Texas at Austin

For a complete list of awards and prizes offered by the Organization of American Historians, please visit the OAH website at <http://www.oah.org>, click on activities, then click on awards, prizes and fellowships.

If you have questions, please e-mail [awards\[at\]oah.org](mailto:awards[at]oah.org).

MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS

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New Association members and any members who have not paid as yet are reminded that the quickest and safest means of payment of membership fees is by YEARLY STANDING ORDER for the sum of Lit.80.000, made payable by the end of January each year to the special current account of the Treasurer, Gigliola Nocera at the Banco di Sicilia in Siracusa. The following account details must be quoted: CC 410/649343 - AB 1020 - CAB 17100. Alternatively, at the beginning of each year, members may also credit the said amount to the same current account or send a non-transferable check made out to her name directly to the Treasurer at her address in Via Zappalà, 8 - 96100 Siracusa.

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