



# The Italian Diaspora Studies Summer School

June 13 – July 1, 2016 • Arcavacata (Rende) Calabria

Università della Calabria

&

John D. Calandra Italian American Institute





CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Napoli

20 Aprile 2016

Prof.ssa Margherita Ganeri  
Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici  
Università della Calabria  
Via P. Bucci, Arcavacata di Rende (CS)

Gentile Prof.ssa Ganeri,

In risposta alla Sua richiesta di Patrocinio inviata al nostro ufficio, sono lieta di confermarLe la concessione del Patrocinio Morale e l'autorizzazione all'uso del logo del Consolato Generale degli Stati Uniti d'America in occasione della seconda edizione della "*Italian Diaspora Studies Summer School*", che si svolgerà dal 13 Giugno al 1 Luglio 2016.

Il programma mira ad introdurre i partecipanti allo studio della diaspora italiana dal punto di vista culturale e seguendo varie prospettive accademiche. Il corso estivo prevede una serie di seminari in ambito letterario, cinematografico e delle scienze sociali. Inoltre, e' previsto che tutti i partecipanti saranno coinvolti in uno specifico progetto di ricerca.

Le ricordo che è possibile utilizzare il logo del Consolato – recante la dicitura "Consolato Generale degli Stati Uniti d'America per il Sud Italia" – su tutto il materiale, in forma cartacea e digitale, inerente al progetto ed esclusivamente per la durata del medesimo.

Mi complimento per la splendida iniziativa volta a promuovere, in collaborazione con il John D. Calandra Italian American Institute del Queens College della City University of New York, lo studio della diaspora italiana, che risulta fondamentale specialmente nell'Italia meridionale, in cui il Consolato opera.

In qualità di Console dell'Ufficio Public Affairs del Consolato Americano di Napoli, ringrazio Lei in qualità di referente dell'iniziativa, per aver richiesto la nostra collaborazione.

Distinti saluti

Deborah Guido-O'Grady  
Capo Sezione Relazioni Esterne  
US Consulate General  
Naples, Italy

The Italian Diaspora Studies Summer Seminar is a three-week summer program at the University of Calabria (Arcavacata di Rende) that takes place June 13<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>. The Summer 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: Mary Jo Bona, Margherita Ganeri, Fred Gardaphé, Donato Santeramo, Joan Saverino, Anthony Julian Tamburri, and Maddalena Tirabassi.

Lectures will be offered by leading scholars from a variety of disciplines.

#### PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Dr. Margherita Ganeri  
Università della Calabria  
Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici  
87036 Arcavacata di Rende (CS)  
Email: margherita.ganeri@gmail.com

Dr. Fred Gardaphé  
John D. Calandra Italian American Institute  
25 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 1700  
New York, NY 10036  
Email: fred.gardaphe@qc.cuny.edu

Dr. Anthony Julian Tamburri  
John D. Calandra Italian American Institute  
25 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 1700  
New York, NY 10036  
Email: anthony.tamburri@qc.cuny.edu

We wish to thank the many organizations that have contributed to making this workshop possible. First, our two home institutions, the University of Calabria 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.

Of course, none of this could be possible without substantial support. The various Italian American organizations and colleges and universities have offered the opportunity in the form of fellowships for sixteen participants to attend. This is no small deed, to be sure. Thus, we offer a heart-felt thanks to the following organizations: National Italian American Foundation; Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance; Italian American Studies Association; and Order Sons of Italy, NY.

Queens College President Felix Matos and the University of Calabria Rector Gino Mirocle Crisci immediately signed on to this project, an historical understanding within the greater realm of Italian Americana and Italian Dispoara studies. Our teaching staff, further still, agreed to participate in the Summer School more for the spirit of it than for the compensation.

*Un caloroso grazie a tutti quanti!*

*The Program Directors*

## PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Nancy Caronia, Lecturer, University of Rhode Island: caronia8461@gmail.com  
Stephen Cerulli, Graduate, University of Connecticut: SteveCerulli@yahoo.com;  
Francesco Corigliano, PhD Candidate, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Università della Calabria, Italy: francesco.corigliano999@gmail.com;  
Nicholas DiChario, Fiction Writer & Independent Scholar: ndichario@gmail.com;  
Jennifer Griffiths, Adjunct Faculty, American University of Rome: j.griffiths@aur.edu;  
Melissa Mandell, Program Manager, Education and Interpretation, Drexel University College of Medicine Legacy Center Archives And Special Collections: melissa.mandell@gmail.com;  
Susan Miceli, Psychology Counselor, Hostos Community College (CUNY): SMICELI@hostos.cuny.edu;  
Robert Oppedisano, Editor, *IASA Annual*, Italian American Studies Association: oppedisanorobert@gmail.com;  
Samantha Pinto, Patient Advocate, Philadelphia Women's Center: pinto.cma@gmail.com;  
Annamaria Scorza, PhD Candidate, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Università della Calabria, Italy: annamaria.scorza@libero.it;  
Giuseppe Sorrentino, Coordinator of Italian, Wagner College, giuseppe.sorrentino@wagner.edu;  
Paola Sevino, Senior Lecturer in Italian Studies, Brandeis University: servino@brandeis.edu;  
Lucia Cristina Tirri, luciacristinatirri@alice.it.

## FACULTY

Mary Jo Bona, Stony Brook University: mary.bona@stonybrook.edu;  
Margherita Ganeri, Università della Calabria: margherita.ganeri@gmail.com;  
Fred Gardaphé, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York: Fred.Gardaphe@qc.cuny.edu;  
Donato Santeramo, Queens University: ds19@queensu.ca;  
Joan Saverino, Arcadia University: joan.saverino@gmail.com;  
Anthony Julian Tamburri, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York: anthony.tamburri@qc.cuny.edu;  
Maddalena Tirabassi, Centro AltreItalie: redazione@altreitalie.it.

**WEEK ONE**

|                      | <b>June 13</b>   | <b>June 14</b>   | <b>June 15</b>   | <b>June 16</b>  | <b>June 17</b>              |
|----------------------|--|--|--|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>8,00 — 10,00</b>  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR   | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR         |
| <b>10,00 – 11,00</b> | <b>Italian-<br/>American Film</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Tamburri   | <b>Italian-<br/>American<br/>History</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Tirabassi                         | <b>Italian-<br/>American Film</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Tamburri   | <b>Italian-<br/>American<br/>History</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Tirabassi                      | <i>Day-trip to<br/>Sila</i> |
| <b>11,30 — 12,30</b> | <b>Italian-<br/>American<br/>Literature</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Bona                                   | <b>Vernacular<br/>Culture</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Saverino                                     | <b>Italian-<br/>American<br/>Literature</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Bona                                   | <b>Vernacular<br/>Culture</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Saverino                                  |                             |
| <b>12,30 – 14,30</b> | <b>LUNCH</b>   | <b>LUNCH</b>   | <b>LUNCH</b>   | <b>LUNCH</b>  |                             |
| <b>14,30 – 15,30</b> | <b>Italian-<br/>Canadian<br/>Culture</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Santeramo                                 | <b>Workshop</b><br><br>Discussion of<br>possible projects<br><br>Prof. Gardaphé  | <b>Italian-<br/>Canadian<br/>Culture</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Santeramo                                 | <b>Workshop</b><br><br>Discussion of<br>possible projects<br><br>Prof. Gardaphé                                     |                             |
| <b>16,00 — 17,00</b> | <b>Diaspora in<br/>Italian and<br/>Italian-<br/>American<br/>Literature</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Ganeri | <i>Consultation with<br/>professors:</i><br>students meet<br>individually or in<br>small groups with<br>professors.    | <b>Diaspora in<br/>Italian and<br/>Italian-<br/>American<br/>Literature</b><br><br>Lecture &<br>discussion<br><br>Prof. Ganeri | <i>Consultation<br/>with professors:</i><br>students meet<br>individually or<br>in small groups<br>with professors. |                             |
| <b>18,00</b>         | <i>Aperitivo</i> or<br>Guest Lecture   | Steven Cribari<br><i>“Italian-American<br/>Influences on the<br/>U.S. Legal System:<br/>R.I.P. Justice<br/>Scalia”</i> | Corrado Paina<br><i>“Roman Candles:<br/>The Birth of an<br/>Italian Canadian<br/>Poetry”</i>                                   | Corrado Paina<br><i>“Honest Ed’s and<br/>the Temples of<br/>Sweat – Onestez”</i>                                    |                             |
| <b>20,00</b>         | <i>Dinner</i>  | <i>Dinner</i>  | <i>Dinner</i>  | <i>Dinner</i>   |                             |

**WEEK TWO**

|                      | <b>June 20</b>   | <b>June 21</b>   | <b>June 22</b>  | <b>June 23</b>  | <b>June 24</b>  |
|----------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| <b>8,00 — 10,00</b>  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR   | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR   | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR                                     |
| <b>10,00 – 11,00</b> | <b>Italian-American Film</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br><br>Prof. Tamburri   | <b>Italian-American History</b><br><br>Lec. & discussion<br><br>Prof. Tirabassi  | <b>Italian-American Film</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br><br>Prof. Tamburri                            | <b>Italian-American History</b><br><br>Lec. & discussion<br><br>Prof. Tirabassi                     | <i>Day-trip to Le Castella and S. Giovanni in Fiore</i> |
| <b>11,30 — 12,30</b> | <b>Italian-American Literature</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br><br>Prof. Bona   | <b>Vernacular Culture</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br><br>Prof. Saverino  | <b>Italian-American Literature</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br><br>Prof. Bona                          | <b>Vernacular Culture</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br><br>Prof. Saverino                         |   |
| <b>12,30 – 14,30</b> | <b>LUNCH</b>   | <b>LUNCH</b>   | <b>LUNCH</b>  | <b>LUNCH</b>  |   |
| <b>14,30 – 15,30</b> | <b>Italian-Canadian Culture</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br><br>Prof. Santeramo                                       | <b>Workshop</b><br><br>Discussion of possible projects<br><br>Prof. Gardaphé   | <b>Italian-Canadian Culture</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br><br>Prof. Santeramo                        | <b>Workshop</b><br><br>Discussion of possible projects<br><br>Prof. Gardaphé                        |   |
| <b>16,00 – 17,00</b> | <b>Diaspora in Italian and Italian-American Literature</b><br><br>Lec. & discussion<br><br>Prof. Ganeri                  | <i>Consultation with professors:</i><br>students meet individually or in small groups with professors.                           | <b>Diaspora in Italian &amp; Italian-American Literature</b><br><br>Lec. & discussion<br><br>Prof. Ganeri | <i>Consultation with professors:</i> students meet individually or in small groups with professors. |   |
| <b>18,00</b>         | Cristina Posa, Judge, U.S. Embassy, Rome<br><i>Italian Americans on Trial: Prosecuting Italian Organized Crime Cases</i> | Peter Carravetta<br><i>“Contested Beginnings. Social and Existential Conditions of Italian Immigrants to the US, 1880s-1914”</i> | Film / Lecture<br>Bruno Roberti<br><i>Cinema migrante</i>   | <i>Aperitivo</i> or Guest Lecture   |   |
| <b>20,00</b>         | <i>Dinner</i>  | <i>Dinner</i>  | <i>Dinner</i>   | <i>Dinner</i>   |   |

**WEEK THREE**

|                      | <b>June 27</b>  | <b>June 28</b>   | <b>June 29</b>  | <b>June 30</b>   | <b>July 1</b>  |
|----------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| <b>8,00 — 10,00</b>  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR   | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR   | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR  | BREAKFAST<br>AL BAR  |
| <b>10,00 – 11,00</b> | <b>Italian-American Film</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Tamburri                          | <b>Italian-American History</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Tirabassi                         | <b>Italian-American Film</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Tamburri                          | <b>Italian-American History</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Tirabassi                         | <i>Day-trip for Friday June 17 and June 24</i>               |
| <b>11,30 — 12,30</b> | <b>Italian-American Literature</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Bona                        | <b>Vernacular Culture</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Saverino                                | <b>Italian-American Literature</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Bona                        | <b>Vernacular Culture</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Saverino                                | <i>Friday July 1, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm: final discussion</i> |
| <b>12,30 – 14,30</b> | <b>LUNCH</b>  | <b>LUNCH</b>   | <b>LUNCH</b>  | <b>LUNCH</b>   |  |
| <b>14,30 – 15,30</b> | <b>Italian-Canadian Culture</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Santeramo                      | <b>Workshop</b><br><br>Discussion of possible projects<br>Prof. Gardaphé                               | <b>Italian-Canadian Culture</b><br><br>Lecture & discussion<br>Prof. Santeramo                      | <b>Workshop</b><br><br>Discussion of possible projects<br>Prof. Gardaphé                               |  |
| <b>16,00 — 17,00</b> | <b>Diaspora in Italian and Italian-American Literature</b><br><br>Lec. & discussion<br>Prof. Ganeri | <i>Consultation with professors:</i><br>students meet individually or in small groups with professors. | <b>Diaspora in Italian and Italian-American Literature</b><br><br>Lec. & discussion<br>Prof. Ganeri | <i>Consultation with professors:</i><br>students meet individually or in small groups with professors. |  |
| <b>18,00</b>         | Rosemary Serra<br>“ <i>Italian American Identity: Generations’ Passages</i> ”                       | <i>Aperitivo</i> or<br>Guest Lecture   | <i>Aperitivo</i> or<br>Guest Lecture  | Alessandra Di Maio<br>“ <i>From Lampedusa to Ellis Island: Diaspora Stories</i> ”                      |  |
| <b>20,00</b>         | <i>Dinner</i>   | <i>Dinner</i>  | <i>Dinner</i>   | <i>Dinner</i>  |  |

## PROGRAM PARTICIPANT AWARDS

Nancy Caronia, Order Sons of Italy Fellowship; NEMLA Research Fellowship

Stephen Cerulli, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship

Francesco Corigliano, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute Fellowship & UniCal

Nicholas DiChario, Order Sons of Italy Fellowship

Jennifer Griffiths, Order Sons of Italy Fellowship

Melissa Mandell, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship

Susan Miceli, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship

Robert Oppedisano, Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance Fellowship

Samantha Pinto, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship

Annamaria Scorza, Italian American Studies Association & UniCal Fellowship

Paola Severo, Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance Fellowship

Giuseppe Sorrentino, Italian American Studies Association Fellowship

Lucia Cristina Tirri, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship



## GUEST LECTURERS

June 14 • Steven Cribari, “Italian-American Influences on the US Legal System: R.I.P. Justice Scalia”

For more than one hundred years, Italian-Americans have been involved in every level of the U.S. legal system, as trial attorneys civil and criminal, trial judges, appellate judges. With the passing of Justice Antonin Scalia, let us take the time to appreciate the Italian-American influence on civil and criminal justice in America.

STEPHEN J. CRIBARI is a Visiting Professor at the University of Notre Dame Law School (Notre Dame, Indiana) where he teaches Evidence, Criminal Process, Federal Criminal Law, and Lawyers in Film. He has been co-Director of Notre Dame Law School’s London Summer Programme and Professor of Practice at the University of Minnesota Law School. He is a published poet and playwright and expert in Art and Cultural Heritage Law, which he has taught for the University of Minnesota Law School, the Weisman Art Museum, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, and in Notre Dame’s London Law Programme. He is a former Federal Public Defender who twice argued before the U.S. Supreme Court.

June 15 • Corrado Paina, “*Roman Candles*: The Birth of an Italian Canadian Poetry”

Overview of the seminal anthology *Roman Candles* by the most important Italian Canadian poet: Piergiorgio Di Cicco

June 16 • Corrado Paina, “Honest Ed’s and the Temples of Sweat – Onestez”

There are two main themes in my collection *Honest Ed’s* in English and in Italian: one is language. The other is the (inflated) concept of multiculturalism. Language: the poet must develop his own language and it is not easy in a city like Toronto where it is almost impossible to have and use only one language. This is a great challenge for the poet and a glorious one. When I arrived to Toronto I was embraced, ostracized, lulled and cuddled, beaten and battered by the many languages. I sailed over the asperities of language, the waves of sounds, until I set foot in the harbour of one language. And I was very unhappy. What happened to that untouched land of syntagmas and phonemes? God punished the man that wanted to reach the sky (the tower of Babel) confusing his mind with many languages but for the poet this confusion is the spring of freedom and diversity.

I have created my own language in this creative confusion, a language that can be called a sort of idiolect or a grammelot (see for instance the language used by Dario Fo in *Mistero Buffo*) made up of Italian dialects, Italian, Spanish and some French derivatives and the language of power: English. It is only my ignorance that didn’t allow me to include more languages and more sounds from other cultures. Therefore my language is a poor language but it is my little wall built to tackle the aggressive power of the language of the institutions. And I can use my language to speak with many people because it is the onomatopoeicity of the words, of the sounds that makes it interactive.

Multiculturalism. I had to carve a language for myself in another society that likes to homogenize the immigrant experience. But saving the traditions is worse than killing a culture and this is what is wrong when a government legislates difference and tends to apply

it at any cost. At the cost of patronizing ethnicity, at the cost of not helping to make emerge the ugliness of fake values, of old fashioned dictations. In this whirlpool of odors, sounds, and values we must find the tools for freedom and not for segregation. Not votes for the next election but colours to place on white coated canvas.

CORRADO PAINA's collections of poetry have been published by Mansfield Press: *Hoarse Legend* (2000); *The dowry of education* (2004); *The alphabet of the traveler* (2006); *Souls in plain clothes* (2008); *Cinematic taxi* (2015). In Italia he has published the collection of short stories *Di corsa* (Monteleone, Vibo Valentia), the collections of poetry entitled *Tempo rubato* (Atelier 14, Milano) and *Darsena inquinata* ( Moderata durant – Latina), the novel *Tra Rothko e tre finestre* (Ibiskos) published on line by Tomboini editore, the collection of poetry *L'alfabeto del viaggiatore* by Silvia Editrice and a collection entitled *Abecedario* (etchings by Sandro Martini – printed by Paolo Nava). He has also published many plaquettes with *Il pulcino e l'elefante* of Alberto Casiraghi, *I quaderni d'Orfeo* of Roberto Dossi and Luciano Ragozzino, and *Il ragazzo innocuo* of Dario Borso.

Corrado Paina has also edited the publication: *College street – Little Italy – The Renaissance strip* (Mansfield Press) finalist of the Toronto Heritage Award. His next book, *Piazza Italia*, is a collection of poetry in Italian that will be published this year by the *Collane ungarettiane* of the Columbia University. His novel *Between Rothko and three windows* will be published in Canada at the end of the year 2016 by 4books

June 20 • Cristina Posa, “Italian Americans on Trial: Prosecuting Italian Organized Crime Cases”

CRISTINA POSA has served as the Department of Justice Attaché to the U.S. Embassy in Rome since June 2014. Previously, from 2007 to 2014, she served as an Assistance U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of New York, where she specialized in organized crime and cybercrime cases. She was Deputy Chief of the National Security and Cybercrime Section and was awarded the Attorney General Director's Award and the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation's Prosecutor of the Year Award for her work on dismantling an international cybercrime syndicate. In the organized crime sphere, she worked closely with Italian authorities on investigations of transnational drug trafficking activities. She also prosecuted members of La Cosa Nostra in New York for crimes including murder, racketeering and extortion. Prior to joining the Department of Justice, she worked in private practice in New York and for Oxfam International in Iraq and Afghanistan. She graduated *cum laude* in 2000 from Harvard Law School and received a B.A. in International Studies with a minor in Italian in 1996 from Johns Hopkins University, and spent her junior year studying at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Bologna, Italy.

June 21 • Peter Carravetta, “Contested Beginnings. Social and Existential Conditions of the Early Italian Immigrants to the US, 1880s-1914”

**W**hen the Italian immigrants started arriving in the United States in ever growing numbers between the 1880s and World War One, they entered a country itself as complex and contradictory as their home land, but with a different twist. America was a place where you could survive, even against incredible odds. Yet the encounters between

world-views and cultural memories were not always peaceful or noble, though they were multiple and replete with added and often mysterious meanings. This paper presents a sketch of the founding generation of Italian Americans from the point of view of the mainstream press (blatant racism), scholars of immigration (was it economic forces only that drove the exodus?), government documents (2011 Dillingham Commission on Immigration) on institutional racial profiling (The series of immigration laws passed between 1882 and 1924.). But it dwells as well into the existential second separation immigrants had to make from their own children born the US if they wanted to assure them a certain success in life.

PETER CARRAVETTA is the Alfonse M. D'Amato Professor of Italian Studies at SUNY/Stony Brook. Cultural historian and poet, he has published on critical theory, postmodernism, migration, rhetoric, and phenomenological hermeneutics; on authors such as Plato, Vico, Nietzsche, Pasolini, Lyotard, Eco; and various topics in Italian, American, and Italian-American culture. He has authored several books, including: *Prefaces to the Diaphora. Rhetorics, Allegory and the Interpretation of Postmodernity* (Purdue 1991); *The Elusive Hermes. Method, Discourse, Interpreting* (Davies Group 2013); and *La funzione Proteo. Ragioni della poesia e poetiche della fine* (Aracne 2014). His book, *After Identity. Migration, Critique, Italian American Culture* is forthcoming from Bordighera Press in 2016.

June 27 • Rosemary Serra, "Italian American Identity: Generations' Passages"

**I**talian American identity across the generations has gone through conflicts, breaks, ambivalence and losses; across the generations obstacles also prevented the development of the sense of tradition (loss of the primary language, lack of shared environments).

The standard narrative is that Italian Americans have "faded to whiteness" as a result of their dispersal from geographically-bound neighborhoods, and their economic success, political power, and social integration. Yet expressions of Italian American identity persist, not only as a nostalgic cultural memory but also as emerging and dynamic forms.

My lecture will focus on changes that have occurred in the ways people identify with their Italian background and heritages and how the meaning of being Italian American changes over time. It will cover the main historical passages that have characterized the manner in which the Italian heritage has been interpreted and represented starting from the first generation of immigrants, during the time of the great migration, until today by the present generations of young Italian Americans.

As for them, I will refer to the results of a survey I have conducted during the 2013 on a sample of young Italian Americans living in the greater New York City area. Specifically, I will present some identities' models and some profiles of the young Italian Americans, in relation with their Italian background. My research deepens the understanding of individual and social factors that influence Italian American identity and examines the ways in which Italian American identity affects individuals' daily lives. Analysing subjects' self-representations and self-perceptions of representations suggested by others of the Italian American community helps us to determine the meaning that Italian heritage has in the daily lives of the younger generations.

The study gives a picture to help clarify, define and better understand how to maintain and develop the feeling of belonging to the Italian American culture.

ROSEMARY SERRA is a University Researcher in General Sociology and Professor at the University of Trieste in Italy. In 2012 and 2013, she was a Visiting Research Scholar at the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute (Queens College – CUNY). Her recent publications include: “The American Reaction to the Great War: The Academic and Cultural Contribution of George Herbert Mead,” in Cipolla C., Ardissoni A. (eds.), in *Major Sociologists on The Great War*, Franco Angeli, Milano, 2015; (ed.), “*Fiori di Campus*”. *Writings in Sociology and Social Work*, FrancoAngeli, Milano, 2013; “Dark Desire: Addictive Sexuality between the Pathological and the Normal,” in B. Cattarinussi (ed.), *I can't help myself. Social Aspects of Addictions*, FrancoAngeli, Milano, 2013; “The Poisoned Apple. Eating addictions and Disorders,” in B. Cattarinussi (ed.), *I can't help myself. Social Aspects of Addictions*, FrancoAngeli, Milano, 2013; “Italy: An Overview of Criminology,” in Cindy J. Smith, Sheldon X. Zhang, Rosemary Barberet (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of International Criminology*, Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, London and New York, 2011.

June 30 • Alessandra Di Maio, “From Lampedusa to Ellis Island: Diaspora Stories”

**I**n the past years, the small island of Lampedusa has become a symbol for immigration to Italy, similarly to what Ellis Island was for the Italians who emigrated to the New World. However, although both islands have assumed a significant symbolic role in the Italian imagery, the history of Italian emigration and that of recent immigration to Italy are usually considered disconnected in the dominant national discourse. By providing a panorama of the social, political, cultural implications of mass-migration to Italy through an array of texts, this lecture will elicit connections with the Italian American experience, suggesting that Italy's national identity remains marked by its multi-directional migratory history.

ALESSANDRA DI MAIO is Associate Professor of English and Postcolonial Studies at the University of Palermo, Italy. She divides her time between Italy and the U.S., where she taught Italian, Comparative Literature, and Women's Studies at several universities after earning her PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her research includes postcolonial, black, diasporic, migratory, gender studies and transnational cultural identities. She is currently working on a project on African Italian literature and the Black Mediterranean. She has been the recipient of a Fulbright scholarship, a UCLA Mellon postdoctoral fellowship, and a MacArthur Research and Writing Grant. Among her publications are *Tutuola at the University. The Italian Voice of a Yoruba Ancestor* (2000); *An African Renaissance* (2006); *Wor(l)ds in Progress. A Study of Contemporary Migrant Writings* (2008); and *Dedica a Wole Soyinka* (2012). She has translated into Italian Nuruddin Farah, Chris Abani, Caryl Phillips, and Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka.

## FACULTY

**MARY JO BONA** is Professor of Italian American Studies and Women's and Gender Studies at Stony Brook University. She is past president of The Italian American Studies Association and serves on the board of MELUS, the Association of Multiethnic Literature of the United States. Her authored books include: *By the Breath of Their Mouths: Narratives of Resistance in Italian America, Claiming a Tradition: Italian American Women Writers*, and a book of poetry, *I Stop Waiting For You*. Bona is also editor of *The Voices We Carry: Recent Italian American Women's Fiction*; co-editor (with Irma Maini) of *Multiethnic Literature and Canon Debates*; and series editor of Multiethnic Literature for SUNY Press. Her latest publication, *Women Writing Cloth: Migratory Fictions in the American Imaginary* (Lexington Book, 2015), examines representations of migratory women through the trope of needlework.

**MARGHERITA GANERI** is Professor of Contemporary Italian Literature at the University of Calabria. She has published widely on various topics related to the Italian and to the Italian/American Literature and Criticism. She has been visiting professor in Cambridge University (UK), Stony Brook University (US), Italian School at Middlebury college (US), and other universities in Europe and Australia. In 2015 she held the University of Chicago's Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Italian Studies. Among her books: *Il romanzo storico in Italia. Il dibattito critico dalle origini al postmoderno* (1999); *Pirandello romanziere* (2001); *L'Europa in Sicilia. Saggi su Federico De Roberto* (2005); *L'America italiana, Epos e Storytelling in Helen Barolini* (2010 – English new edition in 2015).

**FRED GARDAPHÉ** is Distinguished Professor of English and Italian American Studies at Queens College/CUNY and the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute. He is past director of the Italian/American and American Studies Programs at Stony Brook University. His books include *Italian Signs, American Streets: The Evolution of Italian American Narrative, Dagoes Read: Tradition and the Italian/American Writer, Moustache Pete is Dead!, Leaving Little Italy*, and *From Wiseguys to Wise Men: Masculinities and the Italian American Gangster*, and *The Art of Reading Italian Americana*. He is co-founding/co-editor of *VIA: Voices in Italian Americana* and editor of the Italian American Culture Series of SUNY Press.

**DONATO SANTERAMO** is Head of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at Queen's University. He is cross-appointed to the Department of Drama and is associated with the Cultural Studies Graduate Program. He also holds appointments at the University of Rome II and at Middlebury College, VT (Summer Language Schools) where he teaches graduate courses in Italian literature, Theatre and Semiotics. Dr. Santeramo received his PhD from the University of Toronto where he was later the Emilio Goggio Chair Lecturer in Italian Studies at the University of Toronto. He has published extensively on Italian literature and theatre, Film and Semiotics. He has translated and staged works of contemporary Italian playwrights in Kingston, Toronto and New York: *Injury Time, Words in the Dark* and *An Evening to celebrate the life and Work of Dario Fo (1997 Nobel Prize for Literature)*. He is on the editorial boards of several journals including *Pirandelliana, Libero: Rivista del documentario*, and *Letteratura e interpretazione*. Dr. Santeramo also participated in several creative and artistic endeavors including the art exhibit *Chromosomes* (Rome 2008 and Lisbon 2009) and co-edited the book *Red Cars—An Original Screenplay by David Cronenberg* (2005). He was also co-founder of the Toronto Italian Outdoor Film Festival and was member of the Advisory Board of the Toronto Festival of Italian Cinema. He served on the jury of the *Arlecchino d'Oro* European Acting Prize and was President of the "Teatro Scuola" Adjudicating Committee for best play for the *Centro nazionale di studi pirandelliani*. He is presently working on the Italian Immigrant experience shaping the Canadian Political scene. In 2004 Dr. Santeramo was awarded the prestigious Queen's University Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching.

[JOAN L. SAVERINO](#) is an educator, museum professional, and consultant. She is currently a research assistant professor at Arcadia University in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice and a lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania in the Urban Studies Program. Her ethnographic field research includes a diversity of Philadelphia communities with her primary focus on Italian Americans in Philadelphia, Reading, PA, and West Virginia as well as Calabria. She is currently writing a multi-sited ethnohistory looking at the expressive lives of Calabrian women immigrants to Appalachia that has been accepted into the multicultural folklore series with the University of Mississippi press. Saverino's expertise in public programming includes cultural tours, teacher workshops, museum exhibitions, symposia and panel discussions. She has lectured widely and her writing has appeared in both popular and academic publications including articles on Italian Americans in the edited volumes: *Embroidered Stories: Interpreting Women's Domestic Needlework from the Italian Diaspora* (University of Mississippi Press, 2014), *Italian Folk: Vernacular Culture in Italian-American Lives* (Fordham University Press, 2011), and *Global Philadelphia* (Temple University Press, 2010). Previously, Saverino was the Director of Education and Outreach at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania where she was the creator and founding director of PhilaPlace ([www.philaplace.org](http://www.philaplace.org)), an award winning NEH and Pew funded collaborative and interactive history and culture Web-based project. Saverino has a doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Folklore and Folklife and a master's in anthropology with a museum specialization from The George Washington University.

[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 co-director of Bordighera Press, past president of the Italian American Studies Association and of the American Association of Teachers of Italian. His authored books include: *Una semiotica dell'etnicità: nuove segnalature per la letteratura italianolamericana* (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 UP, 2014/2015). His is co-editor for translations with Robert Viscusi and James Periconi of the English version of *Italoamericana: The Literature of the Great Migration, 1880-1943* (Fordham UP, 2014), edited in Italian by Francesco Durante; and together with Paul Giordano and Fred Gardaphè, *From The Margin: Writings in Italian Americana* (Purdue UP, 1991/2000). He is the executive producer and host of the Calandra Institute's monthly TV program, *Italics*, produced in collaboration with CUNY TV. He also directs the Italian Series for Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.

[MADDALENA TIRABASSI](#), Fulbright, is the Director of the Altreitalie Center on Italian Migration, Globus et Locus and editor of the journal *Altreitalie*. She is vice-president of AEMI (European Migration Institutions) in the advisory Board of the MEI (National Italian Museum on Emigration, Foreign Affairs Ministry), and consultant for the exhibition "Fare gli italiani" which celebrated Italian unification in 2011. Her main publications include "Making Space for Domesticity. Household Goods in Working-Class Italian American Homes, 1900-1940," in Simone Cinotto (ed.), *Making Italian America Consumer Culture and the Production of Ethnic Identities* (New York: Fordham UP, 2014); with Alvise del Prà, *La meglio Italia. Le mobilità italiane nel XXI secolo* (Turin: Accademia UP, 2014); *I motori della memoria. Le donne piemontesi in Argentina*, 2010; *Itinera. Paradigmi delle migrazioni italiane*, ed. (Turin: Edizioni della Fondazione Giovanni Agnelli, 2005); *Il Faro di Beacon Street. Social Workers e immigrate negli Stati Uniti*, 1990. *Ripensare la patria grande. Amy Bernardy e le migrazioni italiane*, 2005; "Bourgeois Men, Peasant Women: Rethinking Domestic Work and Morality in Italy," in Donna, Gabaccia e Franca, Iacovetta, *Women, Gender and Transnational Lives* (Toronto: U Toronto P, 2002) 106-29.

## NOTES



*Un caloroso grazie alle seguenti organizzazioni*



**Grand Lodge  
New York**



**U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL  
TO SOUTHERN ITALY**