



**Newsletter / Bollettino
June 2013 / Issue 67**

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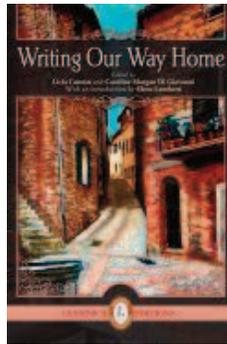
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Domenic Cusmano (conference)
Delia De Santis (membership)
Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni
Anna Foschi
Maria Cristina Seccia (conference)**

NOTA DELLA PRESIDENTE

Dear Members and Friends,

It's mid-June and therefore several Books and Biscotti events have already taken place to mark Italian Heritage Month. In fact, two of the events took place in Italy – Calabria and Sicily, where Venera Fazio and I read from the book *Writing Our Way Home*.

This May, I had the opportunity to speak about the AICW's most recent volume, *Writing Our Way Home*, at several universities in Italy, including Ca' Foscari in Venice and the Università di Bologna's Centro Studi Canadesi "Alfredo Rizzardi" and the Centro Interuniversitario di Studi Quebecchesi. Elena Lamberti,



who wrote the introduction to the book, and I presented the volume in Procida at a conference titled "Canada: The Urban Multiverse."

The three-day gathering was organized by the Italian Association for Canadian Studies and hosted by its president, Oriana Palusci (Università di Napoli l'Orientale).

And speaking of conferences, we are pleased to announce that the 2014 AICW biennial conference will be held next spring in Montreal. Mark your calendars: May 1 to 4, 2014. These dates coincide with the 2014 Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival. A Call for Proposals will be sent out shortly.

As this newsletter indicates our members are very active. Yet, there are many members' publications and events which do not reach us via the newsletter. I encourage all members to send news and photos directly to our newsletter editor, Agata De Santis. If you have any questions, please write to agata@redheadproductions.com.

If you haven't already done so, please send in your membership renewal fee and take advantage of our two-year deal (a \$20 savings). The Association of Italian Canadian Writers functions with a volunteer executive and we count on membership fees, which is our only source of revenue. (We also accept donations.) Thanks for your continued support.

Have a great summer!

Licia Canton, Ph.D.
President, Association of Italian Canadian Writers

AICW on Facebook and Twitter

Follow the AICW on Twitter @AICWCanada
AICW Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Association-of-Italian-CanadianWriters/151311478238844?fref=ts>
If you are on Facebook, please take the time to LIKE our page and to post information about your new publications and events.

Download free AICW ebooks at: www.guernicaeditions.com/free_ebooks.php.
Behind Barbed Wire: Creative Works on the Internment of Italian Canadians and
Beyond Barbed Wire: Essays on the Internment of Italian Canadians – a co-publication with Columbus Centre. Published by Guernica in 2012, the volumes are edited by Licia Canton, Domenic Cusmano, Michael Mirolla and Jim Zuccherro.

Welcome to new AICW members!
Josie Di Sciascio-Andrews (returning)



BOOKS AND BISCOTTI – SARNIA

Organized on Sunday, April 14, 2013 by Venera Fazio and Delia De Santis and sponsored by the Dante Club, Sarnia's "Books and Biscotti" showcased award-winning poets and authors during National Poetry Month celebrations.

Guest readers included: Toronto publisher and Guernica Editions co-owner Michael Mirolla, poet/author/performer/artist Sonia Di Placido and Len Gasparini, a 2010 winner of the NOW Open Poetry Stage event, and local poets Debbie Okun Hill, an Ontario Arts Council Writers' Reserve recipient and first prize winner of the 2013 Sarnia-Lambton Alzheimer Society's "Forget Me Not" poetry contest and Lynn Tait, first prize winner of The Ontario Poetry Society 2012 Arboreal Contest.

The event was well attended and the audience enjoyed sampling the biscotti and meeting the authors. In the photo from left to right: Venera Fazio, Delia De Santis, Michael Mirolla, Debbie Hill, Sonia Di Placido, Len Gasparini and Lynn Tait.



AUGURI ILONA!

Ilona Martonfi is a poet, teacher and editor. She produces poetry and music shows at The Yellow Door, Visual Arts Center, and Lovers and Others. She is pleased to share that this is her fifteenth year as a producer, having hosted over 200 literary events.



A NEW NOVELLA BY CARMELO MILITANO

Ekstasis Editions is proud to announce the upcoming publication of *Sebastiano's Vine*, a novella by the award-winning poet Carmelo Militano.

Sebastiano's Vine is a moving story of the personal and historical forces unleashed after the discovery of an ancient powerful wine: guilt, betrayal, family history, the quest for identity, and a love triangle all unfold in a relentless haunting pace. The novella will be launched in the fall of 2013 and gives a truly new and fresh look – both comic and tragic – at the Southern Italian experience in Canada.

WRITING OUR WAY HOME LAUNCH

On May 2, 2013, the Association of Italian Canadian Writers launched the prose and poetry collection entitled *Writing Our Way Home* (Guernica Editions, 2013). Hosted by the Istituto



Italiano di Cultura in Montreal, the book was introduced to the capacity audience by a panel of three: co-editors Licia Canton and Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni and Elena Lamberti, who wrote the Introduction. The collection is based on the AICW biennial conference, held in Atri, Abruzzo, June 11 to 13, 2010.

The panel was introduced by Martin Stiglio, director of the Istituto and our host for the evening. He recalled the conference setting in Abruzzo, which is also reflected in the book's cover, a painting by the late John Madott. Licia Canton, President of the AICW, was the first to speak. Her talk was delivered in three languages: French, English, and Italian, to review briefly the mandate of the AICW and the value of the publications that follow the biennial conferences. Next, Elena Lamberti made a presentation with creative slides depicting her reaction to the conference experience and the diversity of the stories, poems, and academic papers in the collection. As an expert on the Canadian theorist Marshall McLuhan, she applied his insights into global communication to contemporary literature by writers in new cultural situations. Finally, Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni spoke about the task of editing the volume, divided into three sections: academic essays; creative pieces; and critical analysis. She read selected verses and paragraphs from different authors to give the listeners a taste of what the book contains.

After the book launch, Domenic Cusmano announced the winners of the *Accenti Magazine* photography awards, and the short story competition. The winning photos were on display.

Copies of *Writing Our Way Home* may be obtained by contacting Michael Mirolla at Guernica Editions at michaelmirolla@guernicaeditions.com. The price is \$20.00, \$15.00 for AICW members.

In the photo: Accenti Publisher Domenic Cusmano, Co-editors of *Writing Our Way Home* Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni and Licia Canton, Elena Lamberti, and Director of Italian Cultural Institute Martin Stiglio.



Anna Ciampolini Foschi reading at the Liceo

A TRIP TO SIENA & A SURPRISING MEETING WITH ITALIAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

- Anna Ciampolini Foschi

On the road to Siena on the not-so-sunny morning of May 7, 2013, getting ready to give a public talk, I started wondering if my audience of high school students could really connect to the theme of the Internment of Italian-Canadians during the Second World War. Laura Forconi Ferri, the indefatigable cultural promoter who ran the Centro Studi Siena-Toronto for many years, had invited me to do a presentation and a reading for the students of Liceo Scientifico Galileo Galilei in Siena. I used to go to Siena fairly often when I was a child, since my maternal grandfather was from a nearby village and had relatives in the city. However, I had not gone back for several years, till in 2008, Laura Ferri invited me and another Canadian author, Antanas Sileika, at her Centro Studi for a reading.

The Liceo Scientifico Galilei, founded in 1940, was moved to Via Cesare Battisti, its current location, in 1967. The Liceo has a long history of independent thinking and sensitivity to social and ethical issues, dating back to its beginning. In the 1940s, even choosing to dedicate the school to a "controversial" scientist like Galileo required some courage. When the school opened, the Fascist regime had already enforced the Racial Laws of 1938-39, restricting access to higher education to people of non-Arian descent. Therefore, Jewish families, in order to enrol their children, had to submit a document stating that they were not of Jewish origin. The Liceo accepted these students, knowing that they were Jewish but they put ethical considerations above political ones. However, the memory of that oppression and injustice done to innocent youth inspired the Liceo's management to ensure that the episode would not be forgotten. More than seventy years later, the Liceo's Principal, Antonio Vannini, issued an apology for the Shoah and the pain and loss it cost.

The Liceo, therefore, was a fertile ground to talk about another little-known and painful event in the life of other marginalized people: the early Italian-Canadian immigrants and their ordeal during the Second World War.

In the Liceo's Computer Hall, Laura Ferri and Professor Fabrizio Ghilardi of the University of Pisa introduced me to the students and teachers. Facing the three large classes of students, I still felt a bit uncertain if the smart-dressed youth, the E-generation armed with a variety of electronic devices, could really relate to something that happened so long ago in such a faraway place. I was wrong. They did.

I had hoped that the kids could see the connection between the message that history taught us through that act of injustice and the contemporary realities of racial profiling, interrogation camps and other forms of oppression. Trying to break the ice, I said a few words about my own immigrant experience and my involvement with the Association of Italian Canadian Writers. Then, after a brief overview of the Italian immigration in Canada, I spoke about the events of 1940, when Canadian Premier Mackenzie King authorized the arrest of Canadian citizens of Italian origin invoking the War Measures Act and the Defence of Canada Regulations. Fast forwarding to 2010, I talked about the Canadian Government's Community Historical Recognition Program and its scope. I highlighted our Association and its partners' participation in the program and their commitment to deliver an educational project aimed at preserving the memory of that sacrifice. I stressed how important it was for the present and future generations to be aware of the past. I concluded my hour-long speech by reading some excerpts from my short story "Dancing with the Devil: Conversations with Vancouver Witnesses of the Internment" (from *Behind Barbed Wire*).

When I finished my reading and took a slight bow to the audience, I got a great big round of applause. Stunned, I asked "Are you so relieved that we are finished?" The kids laughed and said that no, they really enjoyed it. Even if it was time for lunch-break, several kids came to ask questions and to get a copy of my short story.

I left our AICW twin books, *Beyond Barbed Wire* and *Behind Barbed Wire* (Guernica Editions, 2012) in the capable hands of Laura Failli, the co-organizer of the event, and of the Vice-Principal and the teachers. They confirmed that the students were attentive and only a very few in the last rows were occasionally text-messaging and playing with their smart phones. At the request of the teachers, I had spoken in English for the whole presentation. I thought it would have been a major element of boredom for the youth, but once again, I was wrong.

The day continued at Laura Ferri's very beautiful and unique home, a medieval marvel in the historical city core. We enjoyed a lavish lunch and, most important, the witty and intelligent conversation of our hosts. Professor Ghilardi, a Pisa University academic and author specializing in history of international treaties and international relationships, was also a delightful guest. Laura Ferri's enchanted garden, where she took us after lunch, hosted at least a dozen green turtles and a myriad of plants and flowers. It was almost overwhelming to be there, in a beautiful corner of a most beautiful city, savouring what I would call a perfect moment.



(from left to right) Vice Principal of Liceo Galilei, Prof. Laura Forconi Ferri, Anna, Laura Failli and Prof. Fabrizio Ghilardi



ITALIANS & CANADIANS IN ITALY, MAY - JUNE 2013

AICW members Giuliana Gardellini and Licia Canton in Bologna, May 19, 2013.



Host Eleonora Federici introduces keynote speaker Licia Canton at the Giornata di Studio "Living with Two Languages/Cultures," Università della Calabria, June 3, 2013.



Participants at the Giornata di Studio "Living with Two Languages/Cultures", Università della Calabria, June 3, 2013.



Venera Fazio reads from *Writing Our Way Home* at Università Kore in Enna, Sicily, June 6, 2013.



Guest speakers at the Giornata di Studio at Università Kore di Enna, June 6, 2013.



Università Kore in Enna, Sicily, June 6, 2013: Licia Canton, Loredana Trovato, Paola Puccini, Gabriella Iacobucci.





ACCENTI MAGAZINE AWARDS - 2013 WINNERS

On May 2, winners of the annual writing and photo contests were announced at the Italian Cultural Institute during the *Accenti Magazine* Awards, an event of the 15th Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival. Presented by Publisher Domenic Cusmano, the 2013 Awards featured the winners of the eighth writing contest and of the sixth photo competition, "Capture an Italian Moment."

The winner of the *Accenti* Photo Competition and the recipient of the \$1000 prize is Federico Bonfanti of London, United Kingdom, with his photo "Calcio di Strada." Antonino Lombardo of Trapani, Italy, won second prize (\$250) for his photo "Old Lady Making Couscous." Alice Filippazzo of Milan won third prize (\$100) for her photo "Losing One's Daughter." The judges were Elizabeth Cinello, Giuseppe Di Leo, Robert Norton and Juliana Pivato.

The winner of the *Accenti* Writing Contest and the recipient of the \$1000 prize is Andrew Foster of Tucson, United States, with his entry "Black Friday Sales Event Master." Shereen Tadros of London, United Kingdom won second prize (\$250) with "Lighter than Love." Ken Elkes of Bristol, United Kingdom, won third prize (\$100) for "Parallel Lines." The judges were George Elliott Clarke and Guy Rodgers. The reading committee included Terri Favro, Venera Fazio, Maria Ierfino, Michael Mirolla, Jeffrey Parent and Maria Cristina Seccia.

The 2013 *Accenti* Magazine Awards were made possible by the Accenti Magazine Foundation; Darlene Madott – author of the recently published *Stations of the Heart* (Exile Editions) and author of the Bressani award-winning *Making Olives and Other Family Secrets* (Longbridge Books); Angela Gentile, president of MegaCentre Montreal; Member of Parliament for St-Leonard St-Michel Massimo Pacetti, and the Blue Metropolis Festival Foundation.

Look for the prize winning stories and photos in forthcoming issues of *Accenti Magazine* and *Accenti* Online. For details about the *Accenti* contests, visit www.accenti.ca. Follow us on Facebook: Annual *Accenti Magazine* Writing Contest/Photo Competition.

About *Accenti Magazine*: Founded in 2002, *Accenti Magazine* brings together readers and writers around the idea of shared cultural experience and heritage, to encourage creative expression and celebrate common cultural values. An independent voice, *Accenti* provides a platform for aspiring writers and photographers.

MEMBER UPDATES

Josie Di Sciascio-Andrews

Josie Di Sciascio-Andrews' poem "The Red Accordion" was shortlisted in Descant's 2013 Best Canadian Poem award, The Winston Collins Prize.

Her poetry was selected to be featured in *Encompass*, an anthology showcasing five Canadian poets, edited by Kate Marshall Flaherty and published by the Ontario Poetry Society.

Josie's poem "Sicily" was selected for publication by Descant in their *Sicily, Land of Forgotten Dreams* issue. Descant editor, Karen Mulhallen, quoted Josie's lines to illustrate the concept of Sicily's mythology in the journal's preface.

Josie's tennis poem "No Man's Land" came in the top three winners of Canada's Literary Review, in their Summer Sports Game Poetry Competition. The poems were judged by Priscilla Uppal, whose tennis poetry book has just been released by Mansfield Press.

Frank Canino

FILM NEWS. My screenplay, *The Swan Queen Meets the Radical Faerie*, recently won these citations: Cinequest Screenwriting Competition: Semi-Finalist in the Top 80 scripts after 2nd cut; and Fresh Voices Screenplay Competition: Quarter Finalist. The competition drew over 1,000 screenplay submissions.

THEATRE NEWS. Four high schools in Texas staged *The Angelina Project* for the statewide competition this past spring. This makes a total of 22 productions in the Lone Star state over the last 7 years. *Bloody Sunday Then Monday*: A new reading series sponsored by Albert Invincible Theatre and Talkback Theatre premiered on April 14 & 15 at Buffalo East with Frank's play *16671* about a young religious who is sent to Auschwitz. Frank also served as director/dramaturg for *Arroz Con Queso* by Monica Kreppel. This was one of 11 selections from Canisius College's playwriting class, which were read April 28 & 29 at the Marie Maday Theatre.

PUBLISHING NEWS. The Art Age Senior Theatre website features three short pieces by Frank: *Sara Plays Her Game*, *Everybody Is Sexy for Somebody*, and *Billy Buck and Jo-Jo*. (www.seniortheatre.com) The Playwrights Guild of Canada website features Frank's play about two Latinas at a critical point in their life: *The Tango Ladies Dance On*. The script was co-written with Beatriz Pizano, who now runs Aluna Theatre in Toronto, and Yanira Contreras. (www.playwrightsguild.ca)

MEET OUR MEMBERS

Oriana Palusci, full professor of English at the University of Naples, "L'Orientale," has published on nineteenth and twentieth century women writers, utopian literature, cultural studies, postcolonial studies, translation studies and tourism. She has edited the Italian translation of Canadian writers (Atwood, Laurence, Engel, Munro, Merrill) and is the author of essays on Italian-Canadian language and culture. She has recently edited *Translating Virginia Woolf* (2012).

Jim Zucchero teaches Canadian Studies and works as an academic counselor at King's University College at Western University. He earned a PhD in English at Western and has published creative non-fiction and numerous essays on Italian-Canadian writers. He co-edited *Reflections on Culture* (2010) and two books published in 2012: *Beyond Barbed Wire: Essays on the Internment of Italian Canadians* and *Behind Barbed Wire: Creative Works on the Internment of Italian Canadians*, available at www.guernicaeditions.com/free_ebooks.php.

If you would like your biography included in a future installment of "Meet Our Members," please send in your request at the next call for submissions.



ACCENTI ONLINE IS LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME WEB EDITOR

Qualifications:

Excellent knowledge of English grammar, syntax and common usage. Experience in reading and revising magazine articles.

The ability to distinguish what is publishable from what is not. Patience and a sense of humour.

Job Description:

Read and edit 8 to 10 articles of about 1200 words in length per month (2 per week).

All work to be done via online tools (no need to take the bus to work) Occasionally corresponding with contributors.

Occasional telephone or Skype meetings with "top brass."

If in Montreal, occasional meetings at Milano Bar over lunch.

Perks:

Being part a dynamic team doing ground-breaking work.
Being recognized by peers.
Having a say in the cultural sphere.
Your own Accenti email address!

Please forward your CV and a short letter of intent to Domenic Cusmano at accenti@accenti.ca.

ITALOCANADESE IS LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTORS

DEADLINE: Ongoing

Italocanadese (www.italocanadese.com) is looking for contributors. Every story has an Italian Canadian angle, be it in the subject matter, the interview subject, or the issue at hand. The online magazine features four categories: News, Arts & Culture, Community or Events. Stories can run anywhere from 300 to 1500 words in length. Italocanadese pays a \$15.00 CAD honorarium for every published story.

Contact Agata De Santis at agata@redheadproductions.com for details.

23 GIUGNO 2013 / TORONTO

In honor of Italian Heritage Month, Q Space will host a hybrid project "Uncovering Italian Roots: From Memoir to Metafiction" featuring Michael Mirolla and Anthony M. Graziano. This event incorporates a book launch, readings from both writers, a shared discussion and an interactive Q&A. The event will take place on Sunday, June 23 at 2:00 PM, at Q Space, 382 College Street, in Toronto.

Anthony M. Graziano's *La bell'America: From La Rivoluzione to the Great Depression, An Italian Immigrant Family Remembered* is a sweeping narrative with the style and flair of Barbara Tuchman. A lovingly crafted reminiscence, this story of real people provides a fresh understanding of history, of the sociological changes due to the vast exodus from Europe. Blending history and personal drama, *La bell' America* is a poignant message to readers in the 21st century. According to the author, "This is a book in celebration of immigrants. It speaks to us because we are all immigrants."

Anthony M. Graziano, Professor Emeritus at the State University of New York, Buffalo, is the author of 17 books and 50 articles on research methodology, childhood disorders, parent training, and many related topics. He is also known as an exceptional Italian chef. His brother, parents, and extended family emigrated from Italy.

Born in Italy, and arriving in Canada at the age of five, Michael Mirolla calls himself a Montreal-Toronto corridor writer (because he spends so much time travelling between the two cities). In his latest collection of stories, *The Giulio Metaphysics III*, Mirolla explores the fluidity of identity and the power of the word. Mirolla will share how his Italian roots have morphed in his writing, becoming the basis for a metafictional examination of identity.

Michael Mirolla's publications include the novels *The Ballad of Martin B*, *The Facility*, *Berlin* and *The Board-er*; two short story collections, *The Formal Logic of Emotion* and *Hothouse Loves & Other Tales*; a bilingual Italian-English poetry collection, *Interstellar Distances/Distanze Interstellari*; and the poetry collection *Light and Time*. Awards for his writing include The Journey Prize Anthology; The Solange Karsh Medal; the Bressani Prize for Berlin; first prize, The Canadian Playwriting Competition; the Macmillan Prize in Creative Writing; and a Canada Council Arts Award. A new collection of poetry, *The House on 14th Avenue*, and a new short story collection, *Lessons in Relationship Dyads*, are forthcoming from Signature Editions and Red Hen Press respectively.



16, 17, 18 AGOSTO / MONTREAL

Italocanadese.com will be hosting a Scopa Tournament August 16 to 18 at Montreal's Italian Week. The tournament will be part of the street festivities in Little Italy. Visitors will have a chance to play their own game of Scopa, or to watch the tournament players do their thing.

Participants will be able to register for the tournament starting July 1, 2013 at www.italocanadese.com. Full tournament rules will also be available online as of July 1.

The Scopa Tournament will be presented in association with the Sons of Italy of Canada and Montreal's Italian Week.

Be sure to come and say hello!



Quando eravamo i ragazzi del triangolo verde

By Mario Pan
Ideale Concepts

Un debutto felice nella scrittura, quello del vicentino Mario Pan, che da un trentennio vive a Vancouver, nell'ovest del Canada. Pubblicato mesi

o sono per i tipi della Editrice Veneta, il libro era nato nell'aprile 2004 sotto forma di lettera del nonno al giovanissimo Etienne, il primo nato dei quattro nipoti canadesi. Basti leggere la illuminante Premessa per cogliere i sottintesi del titolo: *Quando eravamo... i ragazzi del...*

All'irrequieto nipote il nonno racconta gli anni della propria adolescenza, distante nel tempo e nei contesti, capace tuttavia di messaggi di vita e di speranza. Sono pagine che rievocano il clima educativo della famiglia, l'atmosfera scolastica in periodo fascista, i forti e leali vincoli di amicizia, la solidarietà comunitaria, il coinvolgimento nella lotta di resistenza per la liberazione d'Italia dal giogo della dittatura. Quei ragazzi non giocavano alla guerra, come oggi succede tramite diseducativi ossessionanti videogiochi. Quei ragazzi erano in guerra. Le loro famiglie vivevano l'incubo e le privazioni della guerra. La loro patria era straziata da lotte fratricide, occupata, bombardata, ferita, divisa.

Con stile semplice e talora scanzonato, accattivante per chiarezza ed ironia, l'autore rievoca due anni di un periodo tragico, quelli tra il 1943 e il 1945. Nell'ambito di una realtà storica sinteticamente delineata vengono inseriti episodi finora sconosciuti, informazioni su persone e luoghi non registrati dalla pubblicistica ufficiale. Non è un libro scritto tanto per scrivere, quello di Mario Pan, che tra l'altro si definisce "illetterato" e "arrugginito dal trascorrere del tempo". È una umanissima storia diaristica, una storia di circa settant'anni fa... ma può essere storia di sempre, perché poggia sui valori della famiglia, dell'amicizia, della lealtà, della solidarietà, dell'impegno comunitario. Nel ragazzino di allora, precoce "staffetta" partigiana, già vi sono la coerenza e il coraggio che decenni dopo metteranno alla prova l'imprenditore Mario Pan quando, in piena vergognosa "tangentopoli" e confusione di ruoli politico-sindacali, rifiuterà venali compromessi costringendosi all'esilio, lontano dal paese natale.

In poco più di un centinaio di pagine, che "si leggono tutte d'un fiato" - come parecchi entusiasti lettori vanno testimoniando - è contenuto un messaggio educativo esemplare, come può essere quello schietto e affettuoso tra nonno e nipote. Utile anche a chi nonno o nipote non è, e desidera assaporare pagine autentiche nella loro accattivante semplicità. Il libro può essere ordinato in rete (editriceveneta.com, Amazon, eBay, libreria universitaria, Google Books).



Neruda, il corvo bianco, il gatto nero

By Pietro Corsi / Seneca Edizioni

Alberto Bennato è un cittadino canadese, sulla sessantina, in procinto di compiere un viaggio che lo riporterà nella sua terra d'origine, in Molise. Una volta arrivato a destinazione, è avvertito dalle campane del paese che sta per svolgersi una cerimonia funebre. Pensando di poter conoscere il defunto e la sua famiglia, decide di presenziare al rito e apprende così di effetti avuto in passato l'occasione di vedere il morto da vivo e di parlare con sua madre. Alla richiesta dei parenti di accompagnarli al cimitero e poi a casa, il protagonista non si sottrae; tra una parola e l'altra viene a sapere della strana morte dell'uomo, esperto cacciatore rientrato al proprio paese dopo un'esistenza trascorsa da emigrante all'estero, provocata da un colpo di fucile alla testa. A causa del tardivo ritrovamento del cadavere non è più

possibile accertare con esattezza la causa del decesso, ma tutto fa pensare a un suicidio: il tormento di una vita trascorsa lontano dalle proprie radici e la consapevolezza di non riconoscere più il mondo da cui si è nati e pertanto di non sentirlo più veramente proprio ha portato l'uomo a uccidersi, colto da quella frustrazione che offusca la chiarezza dell'anima.

L'azione, la successione incalzante degli avvenimenti cedono il passo alla staticità, alla riflessione, agli stati d'animo, ai momenti contemplativi legati alla visione di un dettaglio o di un paesaggio preso nella sua interezza. Nei primi capitoli il protagonista presenta se stesso e i suoi cari, mentre in quelli seguenti riporta al lettore tutto ciò che vede durante il viaggio, dal momento in cui si trova in casa sino ad arrivare all'episodio del funerale, tragico epilogo di una giornata; agli occhi del lettore tutto scorre come se stesse osservando un documentario, un filmato, a tratti naturalistico, a tratti "pasoliniano", specie nel ritratto della gente del paese natio. Ogni descrizione, ogni particolare rimanda al concetto e al messaggio principali: la condizione dell'emigrante è difficile e dolorosa, perché non permette agli uomini di sentirsi una cosa sola con quella parte del mondo che li ha visti nascere e crescere. Mai in pace con se stessi, sradicati dalla Terra Madre (essa pure cambiata, e consunta), e mai completamente integrati nelle terre in cui si è ospitati. Non a caso si è voluto sottolineare l'aggettivo tragico: gli ingredienti della tragedia ci sono tutti, dall'unità di tempo (l'azione si svolge nell'arco di una giornata), a quelle di luogo (poco conta il viaggio: esso è raccontato e vissuto soltanto come progressivo avvicinamento al vero Luogo, quello delle proprie origini) e di azione, sino all'elemento poetico, presente ora nelle frequenti citazioni di versi e pensieri di Pablo Neruda, ora nel ricordo delle leggende del popolo Haida, ora in certi slanci descrittivi della narrazione.

Rosina, The Midwife

By Jessica Kluthe / Brindle & Glass
I am pleased to announce the release of my first book, a work of non-fiction titled *Rosina, The Midwife*. I thought I'd pass along a brief description of my book, which may be of interest. Caterina Edwards and Lorna Crozier have provided acknowledgements, which you can find on the back cover; I'm so grateful for the wonderful support I've received.

"Between 1870 and 1970, 26 million Italians left their homeland and travelled to places like Canada, Australia and the United States, in search of work. Many of them never returned to Italy. Against this historic backdrop comes the story of Rosina, a Calabrian matriarch, who worked as a midwife in an area where only one doctor served three villages. She was also the only member of the Russo family to remain in Italy after the mass migration of the 1950s. Written by Rosina's great-great-granddaughter, *Rosina, the Midwife* is a charming memoir that is at once a Canadian story and an Italian one.

Through Kluthe's meticulous research and great insight, we see her great-grandfather Generoso labouring through the harsh Edmonton winter in order to buy passage to Canada for his wife and children; we glimpse her grandmother Rose huddled in a third-class cabin, sick from the motion of the boat; and we watch, teary-eyed, as her great-great-grandmother Rosina is forced to say goodbye, one by one, to the people she loves."

For further information, please visit www.jessicakluthe.com.



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DIVENTA SOCIO OGGI!**

CONTACT INFO / COORDONNÉES / DATI PERSONALI:

First Name / Prénom / Nome: _____ Middle Name / Deuxième prénom / Secondo nome: _____

Last Name / Nom de famille / Cognome: _____ Salutation / Titre / Titolo: _____

Street / Adresse / Via e Numero Civico: _____

City / Ville / Città: _____ Province/State / Province/État / Provincia: _____

Country / Pays / Stato: _____ Postal Code / Zip Code / Code postal / CAP: _____

Tel (home / maison / casa): _____ Tel (work / travail / ufficio): _____

Email address / Adresse courriel / E-mail: _____

Website / Site Web / Sito Internet: _____

Areas of interest / Champ d'intérêts / Interessi: _____

Biography / Biographie / Biografia (475 characters maximum / 475 caractères maximum / massimo 475 caratteri):

CHOOSE ONE / CHOISISSEZ UN STATUT / SCEGLIERE:

New member / Nouveau membre / Nuovo Socio

Renewal / Renouvellement / Rinnovo

CHOOSE ONE / CHOISISSEZ UN STATUT / SCEGLIERE:

Voting member / Membre votant / Socio con Diritto di Voto (1 year / 1 an / 1 anno) – \$75.00 CAD

Voting member / Membre votant / Socio con Diritto di Voto (2 years / 2 ans / 2 anni) – \$130.00 CAD

Associate Member / Membre associé / Socio Ordinario (1 year / 1 an / 1 anno) – \$50.00 CAD

Associate Member / Membre associé / Socio Ordinario (2 years / 2 ans / 2 anni) – \$80.00 CAD

Student member / Membre étudiant / Socio Studente (1 year / 1 an / 1 anno) – \$50.00 CAD

Supporter / Sostenitore – \$100.00 CAD

Please make the cheques out to the name of the association / Les chèques doivent être faits au nom de l'association / Gli assegni dovrebbero essere intestati all'associazione.

Please mail the completed form accompanied by a cheque or money order to:

S'il vous plaît envoyer le formulaire complété accompagné d'un chèque ou un mandat à :

Si prega di inviare per posta il modulo completato, accompagnato da un assegno o un vaglia a:

Overseas: please send money orders. À l'étranger : il est préférable d'envoyer des mandats. Estero: si prega di inviare vaglia.

Association of Italian Canadian Writers

7181 Beaubien

P.O. Box 41

Montreal, QC H1M 2Y2 CANADA

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