



Association of Italian Canadian Writers

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We were happy to see several of you involved in recent events like the Blue Metropolis Festival, which took place last May in Montreal and where our Association was represented as usual.

We are now celebrating Italian Heritage Month by sharing writings and interviews from our community of Italian-Canadian writers on social media all month long.

We are also organising our 18th Biennial Conference, *The Traces We Leave: Italian Canadians and Their Works*, with the Department of Foreign Languages and

Literatures of the University of Turin. The conference will take place on the 8th and 9th of October 2020. For more details, please see the call for proposals on page 5 or go to our website www.aicw.ca.

We look forward to receiving your proposals by the 30th of December 2019!

Best wishes for a productive and restful summer,

Maria Cristina Seccia, AICW President

AICW on Facebook and Twitter

Follow the AICW on Twitter [@AICWCanada](https://twitter.com/AICWCanada)

If you are on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/AICWCanada), please take the time to LIKE our page and to post information about your new publications and events



Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni Honoured in Toronto

By Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni



Photo by Darlene Madott

Long-time AICW member Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni received the *Centro Scuola* Recognition Award from *Centro Scuola e Cultura Italiana* at their annual *Italy Amo* banquet in Toronto, on May 29, 2019. The award is given to individuals who have promoted the teaching of Italian in elementary and secondary schools. Caroline had served as a trustee on the Toronto Catholic District School Board from 1978 to 1988, and as Chair of the Board in '78 and '88. Those were the first years during the introduction of Heritage Language programs in the school systems in Ontario. Much was done by *Centro Scuola* to bring Italian language programs forward in school communities with large Italian speaking families. The Ministry of Education and the school boards had to be convinced of the value of teaching classes in the language many students used in their homes. Caroline's leadership on the Catholic school board, and later as Assistant to the Ontario Minister of Education brought attention to the benefits of extended day language classes in schools. The name of the program was changed to International Languages programs, opening participation to all students who selected the class, not just Italian heritage.

Centro Scuola operates in Toronto from the iconic Columbus Centre. Alberto Di Giovanni, founding Director, not Emeritus, promoted many aspects of Italian culture in Canada. Language classes in schools and summer school in Italy for high school students remain the most prominent activities of Centro under the current administration. However, under Alberto's guidance support grants were given to publishing Italian Canadian books, such as the two editions of the Italian Canadian Voices anthologies of Poetry and Prose (Mosaic Press: 1984; 2006) edited by Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni. As a creative team, Alberto and Caroline organized AICW book launches in the Rotunda of the Columbus Centre, as well as poetry readings for National Poetry Month, and the first of the Books and Biscotti readings for AICW, in June as part of Italian Heritage Month.



Cruciverba

By Cristina Pepe

Accenti Magazine 'Capture an Italian Moment' photo contest



On hot summer afternoons, I love to wander the winding cobblestone streets and narrow alleys of my medieval hilltop village, searching for interesting scenes of everyday life. This image of an octogenarian casually sitting in the shade doing a crossword with his cane resting at his feet immediately captured my attention. It gave me hope that I will still be able to do my weekly *cruciverba* at his age!

Cristina Pepe was born in Orsara di Puglia and immigrated to Canada as a young child. She loves to travel to Italia and writes about her experiences on her art and culture blog 'Un po' di pepe' instead of www.unpodipepe.ca. Cristina's photo, Sbandieratori placed second in the 2014 Accenti photo contest.

Volunteer Work Recognized at the Italian Centre in Vancouver

by Anna Foschi Ciampolini



From left: Joan D'Angola Kluge, ICC Executive Director, Michael Cuccione, ICC President, Anna Foschi. *Photo by Giorgio Moretti*

On Friday, June 21, during the *Serata della Gratitudine* Gala Banquet, I received the Italian Cultural Centre's "Lifetime Donor Membership" in recognition of my volunteer work at the Centre. Since our Association was founded in 1986, I have strived to maintain an ongoing cooperation with the Centre. I served a term on the Centre's Board of Directors till 2012 and am still serving in the F.G. Bressani Literary Prize Committee.

The Centre has always been our Association's main partner and supporter in our city. They offer the venue and the refreshments for the events that we co-organize. They use their media to disseminate information these events. I feel privileged to volunteer for an organization that shares and supports our Italian heritage and our cultural values.



Books and Biscotti at the Italian Centre in Vancouver

by Anna Foschi Ciampolini



Photo by Luca Conte.

Five B.C. authors participated in the 2019 Books and Biscotti literary event held at the Italian Cultural Centre on June 10th. Novelist and short story writer Osvaldo Zappa, poet David Bellusci, social historian Vittorino Dal Cengio and Anna Foschi, who organized and hosted the event, read from their latest works. Poet Diego Bastianutti also intervened as AICW guest. The Italian Cultural Centre hosted special guest Ann Pearson, author of *A Promise on the Horizon*, a literary historical novel set in Italy during the Napoleonic period. The event was graced by a musical performance by Lisa Petrucci, a local young and talented vocalist, composer and Feminine Empowerment Coach. Lisa recently published her album “La Regina” following the release of her book “The Queen’s Way.”

Books and Biscotti has been enjoying a considerable success in the very difficult Vancouver’s literary scene. The event attracts loyal followers as well as new ones. When you hear the Centre’s event co-organizers asking: “Should we bring more chairs? People are still coming...” your heart rejoices. Our AICW group in B.C. is small, but our enthusiasm is great. However, we would be happy to welcome new members. I take this opportunity to invite our fellow writers who support us and participate as guests in our events, to join our Association. AICW is a vibrant community of writers and other artists. It offers the opportunity to participate in international and national conferences as well as local events. To sign up online: www.aicw.ca/become-a-member



Photo by Luca Conte

A Promising Cooperation with the Prestigious Words Vancouver Festival

by Anna Foschi Ciampolini

To forge new partnerships for our Association, I recently had a meeting with Bonnie Nish, a very influential presence in Vancouver’s cultural and literary scene. Bonnie is the Executive Director of the prestigious annual Word Vancouver Festival. (www.wordvancouver.ca) Besides being the Executive Director of the highly respected Pandora’s Collective, she is also a Ph.D. candidate, Faculty of Education at the University of British Columbia. Since 1995, the Festival is considered a primary event in Western Canada literary and literacy community, hence I feel very pleased with our agreement for the 2019 Word Vancouver edition and for the future. On September 25th, our local AICW branch will co-host an evening of literary readings in conjunction with Word during the week leading up to the festival. The Italian Cultural Centre is also co-sponsoring the event by offering the use of their Museum Hall and providing light refreshments. On Sunday, September 29th, two AICW writers will read at the Community Stage during the Festival. That day, AICW will also share an info table with the Italian Centre. As a long-term partnership goal, AICW, Word Vancouver and the Centre plan to co-organize and host two literary events per year.



UNIVERSITÀ DI TORONTO

Fragments of Culture between Diaspora, Language and Semiotics Conference in honour of Paul A. Colilli. A Modern-day Renaissance Man

L'Università di Toronto, Dipartimento di Italian Studies – St. George Campus e Dipartimento di Language Studies – UTM, in collaborazione con la Laurentian University (Sudbury), promuove un convegno internazionale in memoria del **Prof. Paul A. Colilli** (Laurentian University ed Emilio Goggio Visiting Professor) che si terrà a Toronto, presso il Dipartimento di Italian Studies, **dal 3 al 6 ottobre 2019**.

Il convegno intende richiamare a Toronto importanti studiosi canadesi, italiani e internazionali che instaurino un dialogo scientifico nel ricordo e nelle prospettive di ricerca di Paul A. Colilli, fine studioso che ha dedicato la sua vita accademica alla cultura italiana e alla diffusione delle sue arti nell'altrove nordamericano.

Con l'intento di coprire i molteplici ambiti di interesse e ricerca del Prof. Colilli (si veda il profilo accademico a conclusione di questa call) il tema del convegno è poliedrico.

Pertanto il comitato scientifico incoraggia la presentazione di proposte di panel e interventi su tematiche quali, solo a titolo esemplificativo, 1) critica della letteratura italiana e l'eredità della sua poetica: Dante, Petrarca, Poliziano, Bruno, Vico, Eco ed Agamben, 2) funzione di aletheia nella letteratura italiana, 3) angeologia, 4) filologia, 5) didattica della lingua italiana e nuove tecnologie didattiche, 6) plurilinguismo e politica linguistica, 7) italiano all'estero, 8) diaspora.

Comunicazioni e sessioni: La scadenza per inviare le proposte, sia per gli interventi individuali sia per le sessioni, è il **30 giugno 2019**.

Le presentazioni possono essere in italiano o in inglese e non devono superare i 20 minuti. Ogni sessione dovrà avere una durata di 75 minuti.

I relatori potranno presentare solo un intervento, ma potranno presiedere più di una sessione.

Le comunicazioni

Le proposte di comunicazione devono attenersi al seguente modello:

- 150-250 parole
- Chiari obiettivi del panel o dell'intervento attraverso cui far emergere il legame con gli interessi di Paul A. Colilli

Il comitato organizzativo e scientifico, una volta approvata la proposta, inserirà la comunicazione in una sessione con attinenza tematica.

La proposta di comunicazione deve essere inviata tramite il seguente link: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CtR4koGhLkGeNFvLhSx3>

Le sessioni

Ogni proposta di sessione deve prevedere, oltre ad una descrizione tematica introduttiva, 2-3 (o più) esempi di



argomenti possibili, temi, questioni fondamentali, linee d'indagine, ecc. in cui la sessione può essere articolata.

Le proposte di sessioni devono essere inviate entro il **30 giugno 2019** tramite il seguente link: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CtR4koGhLkGeNFvLhSx3>

Successivamente, dopo essere state approvate dal Comitato, **le sessioni complete con min. 3 interventi**, devono essere inviate entro il **15 luglio 2019**, tramite il seguente link: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CtR4koGhLkGeNFvLhSx3>

Le sessioni approvate possono essere diffuse e pubblicizzate attraverso diversi listservs, tra cui AATI (AATI@LISTSERV.UARK.EDU), AAIS (<https://aais.wildapricot.org/>), Italian Studies, UK (ITALIAN-STUDIES@JISCMail.AC.UK).

Gli interventi dovranno essere presentati di persona; non sono consentiti interventi via Skype o altre tecnologie.

Iscrizione al convegno: L'iscrizione al convegno è gratuita.

Alberghi, trasporti, ecc. Ulteriori informazioni riguardanti alberghi, trasporti, ecc. saranno comunicate nella pagina web ad hoc del Dipartimento di Italian Studies della University of Toronto: <https://italianstudies.utoronto.ca/conference-paul-a-colilli-a-modern-day-renaissance-man>

Pubblicazione degli Atti del Convegno: è prevista la pubblicazione degli atti del convegno; i contributi saranno sottoposti a peer review anonima. I relatori potranno sottoporre al comitato scientifico il proprio intervento per la sua pubblicazione in un volume monografico.

Il comitato scientifico, ancora da definire, sarà composto da professori dei Dipartimenti promotori del convegno (UofT, UTM, Laurentian University) a cui possono aggiungersi eminenti studiosi internazionali negli ambiti scientifici di pertinenza del convegno.

Pagina web del convegno: <https://italianstudies.utoronto.ca/conference-paul-a-colilli-a-modern-day-renaissance-man>

Informazioni e contatti: convegno.colilli2019@gmail.com

PROFILO ACCADEMICO E DI RICERCA DEL PROF. PAUL A. COLILLI

Paul A. Colilli (B.A., McMaster University, M.A. e Ph.D., Università di Toronto) umanista e linguistica, è stato uno di più importanti studiosi italiani in Nord America, molto attivo all'interno della accademia internazionale e membro vivace e molto amato dalla comunità di italiani all'estero. È stato professore ordinario di studi italiani presso la Laurentian University e la Scuola Italiana del Middlebury College. Nel 2012-2013 è stato Emilio Goggio Visiting Professor all'Università di Toronto.

Paul A. Colilli ha scritto numerosi articoli i cui campi di interesse spaziano sul piano letterario dal Rinascimento al Modernismo. A Paul A. Colilli si devono importanti opere scientifiche tra cui: *Petrarch's Allegories of Writing* (1988), *Poliziano's Science of Tropes* (1989), *La poetica dell'aletheia nell'"Africa" del Petrarca* (1993), *Signs of the Hermetic Imagination* (1993), *The Idea of the Living Spirit* (1997), *The Angel's Corpse* (1999), *Semiotics as a Bridge between the Sciences and the Humanities* (co-ed. 2000), *Vico and the Archives of Hermetic Reason* (2004), *La redenzione delle cose*.



Saggio sul pensiero poetante di Paolo Valesio (2006), and *Agamben and the Signature of Astrology: Spheres of Potentiality* (2015).

All'interno della Laurentian University, Paul A. Colilli è stato Direttore del Dipartimento di lingue moderne (1985-1993, 2000-2001, 2015-2017), Decano del settore Humanities (1993-1997) e Preside della Facoltà di Studi universitari e di ricerca (2001-2004, 2004-2008) di cui è stato Vicepresidente associato nell'anno 2008-09.

È stato anche Direttore Associato della Scuola Italiana presso il Middlebury College (2006-2013) e Associate Editor di *Italica* (2014-2017), la più prestigiosa rivista italiana del Nord America. Paul A. Colilli è stato un membro molto attivo all'interno della AATI (American Association of Teachers of Italian) e membro del Consiglio Esecutivo per molti anni.

Paul A. Colilli è stato anche membro del consiglio di amministrazione della Società Caruso di Sudbury entro cui ha operato con significativa dedizione come presidente del Comitato Cultura e Istruzione (1995-1999) e Primo Vice Presidente (1999-2003).

Nel 2000 è stato nominato vice-console onorario dal governo italiano, carica che ha ricoperto fino alla sua scomparsa il 7 marzo 2017.

UNIVERSITÀ DI TORONTO

Fragments of Culture between Diaspora, Language and Semiotics

Conference in honour of Paul A. Colilli. A Modern-day Renaissance Man

The **University of Toronto**, Department of Italian Studies, St. George Campus and Department of Language Studies, UTM, in collaboration with Laurentian University (Sudbury) are happy to host an international conference in honour of **Prof. Paul Colilli**, (Laurentian University and Emilio Goggio Visiting Professor), which will take place in Toronto, at the Department of Italian Studies, St. George Campus, on **October 3-6 2019**.

The conference intends to bring together important national and international scholars, in order to establish a scientific dialogue which will pay tribute to the broad research perspectives of Paul A. Colilli, a scholar who dedicated his academic life to the promotion of Italian culture and art across North America.

Therefore, the scientific committee encourages the presentation of proposals for panels on topics such as, but not limited to, 1) Italian literary criticism and the legacy of its poetics: Dante, Petrarca, Poliziano, Bruno, Vico, Eco and Agamben, 2) the function of aletheia in Italian literature, 3) angeology, 4) philology, 5) didactics of the Italian language and new teaching methods, 6) plurilingualism and linguistic policies, 7) Italian abroad, 8) diaspora.

Proposals: The deadline for proposal submissions (individual papers and whole sessions) is June 1, 2019. Papers can be in Italian or in English and will be limited to 20 minutes. Colleagues are cordially invited to submit proposals for entire sessions and roundtables of 75 minutes each. Participants are allowed to present one paper only, but they can chair more than one session.

Proposals should adhere to the following guidelines:

- 150-250 words in length
- Clearly indicate the objectives of the panel and highlight the link to Paul A. Colilli's interests.

Sessions /Completed roundtables / Single papers proposals MUST be submitted **by June 30, 2019** using the following link: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CtR4koGhLkGeNFvLhSx3>



Sessions

Each session proposal must contain a description of the general theme of the session, together with at least 2-3 examples of possible topics that can be included in the session.

Session proposals MUST be submitted by **June 30, 2019** using the following link: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CtR4koGhLkGeNFvLhSx3>

After having been approved by the Committee, completed sessions of at least 3 papers MUST be submitted by **July 15, 2019** using the following link: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/CtR4koGhLkGeNFvLhSx3>

You can publicize your session proposals through various listservs: AATI (AATI@LISTSERV.UARK.EDU), AAIS (<https://ais.wildapricot.org/>), Italian Studies, UK (ITALIAN-STUDIES@JISCMail.AC.UK).

Papers must be presented in person; no presentations via Skype or similar technologies will be allowed.

Registration Fees: The registration is free.

Lodging and Transportation: Further information about hotels, transportation, etc. will be announced shortly through the Department of Italian Studies website (<https://italianstudies.utoronto.ca/conference-paul-a-colilli-a-modern-day-renaissance-man/>)

Publication of Proceedings: select conference proceedings will be published; submissions by conference participants will be peer reviewed by a review panel composed of professors from UofT, UTM, Laurentian University, as well as several other renowned international scholars.

Conference webpage: <https://italianstudies.utoronto.ca/conference-paul-a-colilli-a-modern-day-renaissance-man/>

Contacts: convegno.colilli2019@gmail.com

ACADEMIC PROFILE OF PROF. PAUL A. COLILLI

Prof. Paul A. Colilli (B.A., McMaster University; M.A. and Ph.D., University of Toronto) was a highly respected scholar and a vibrant and much loved member of the Italian studies community. He was Professor of Italian Studies at Laurentian University and a regular Visiting Professor at Middlebury College's Scuola Italiana. In 2012-2013, he was the Emilio Goggio Visiting Professor at the University of Toronto.

Paul A. Colilli has written many articles ranging from the Renaissance to Modern Italian literature and thought. As well, he was the author of numerous scholarly books, including *Petrarch's Allegories of Writing* (1988), *Poliziano's Science of Tropes* (1989), *La poetica dell'aletheia nell'"Africa" del Petrarca* (1993), *Signs of the Hermetic Imagination* (1993), *The Idea of the Living Spirit* (1997), *The Angel's Corpse* (1999), *Semiotics as a Bridge between the Sciences and the Humanities* (co-ed. 2000), *Vico and the Archives of Hermetic Reason* (2004), *La redenzione delle cose. Saggio sul pensiero poetante di Paolo Valerio* (2006), and *Agamben and the Signature of Astrology: Spheres of Potentiality* (2015).

At Laurentian University, Paul A. Colilli was Chair of the Department of Modern Languages (1985-1993, 2000-2001, 2015-2017), Dean of Humanities (1993-1997), Dean of Graduate Studies and Research (2001-2004, 2004-2008), and



Acting Associate Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies (2008-09). He was Associate Director of the Italian School at Middlebury College (2006-2013) and Associate Editor of *Italia* (2014-2017), the most prestigious Italian journal in North America. Paul A. Colilli was a very active member of the AATI (American Association of Teachers of Italian) and a member of the AATI Executive Council for many years.

Paul A. Colilli was also a past board member of the Società Caruso and served the club as chair of the Culture and Education Committee (1995-1999) and First Vice President (1999-2003). In 2000 he was appointed Honorary Vice-Consul by the Italian Government, a position he held till his passing on March 7, 2017.

Call for Papers

18th Biennial Conference of the Association of Italian Canadian Writers (AICW)

The Traces We Leave: Italian Canadians and Their Works

The Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures of the University of Turin will be hosting the 18th Biennial Conference of the Association of Italian Canadian Writers (AICW), **October 8-9, 2020**. The organizers invite abstracts for academic papers and proposals for literary readings and artistic performances.

Writers and artists, academics and researchers from all disciplines are encouraged to submit proposals to present new work in Italian, English or French. Graduate students and emerging writers/artists are encouraged to participate.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Re-tracing tradition in contemporary texts
- Writing and transmitting literary, cultural and linguistic memory
- Representations of place, space, and (dis)location
- Trajectories, the Italian diaspora and globalization
- New traces in cinema, photography, and in new media (DH)
- Culinary culture and literature
- Representations of queerness
- Translation and self-translation
- Innovation, renovation, and Italians in Canada
- Environment (EH), city planning, architecture, museums, fine arts

For academic papers (20 minutes), please send a 200-word abstract and biographical information (60 words). For panels of two or three papers (20 minutes each), send max. 200-word abstract for each paper as well as bio (60 words) for each presenter and contact information for all panelists. Preference will be given to papers that discuss new works.

For literary readings of 15 minutes, please send a 200-word excerpt of the text to be read (or four poems) along with biographical information (60 words). Preference will be given to readings and performances of new works.

Please **NOTE** that the organizers may request additional details after an abstract/proposal has been submitted.

Deadline: December 30, 2019. Acceptance will be sent by January 31, 2020. Once a proposal has been accepted, a fee of \$100.00 will be requested for presenters who are not full members of the AICW in good standing. And the University of Torino may also request a conference registration fee.

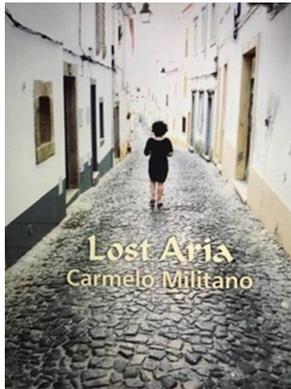
Please send proposals to the following addresses:

aicwtorino2020@aicw.ca AND aicwtorino2020.concilio@unito.it



Carmelo Militano's *Lost Aria* shortlisted for prestigious Prize.

By Carmelo Militano



Carmelo Militano's short story collection *Lost Aria* was short-listed for the 2019 Margaret Laurence Fiction prize by the Manitoba Book Publishers.

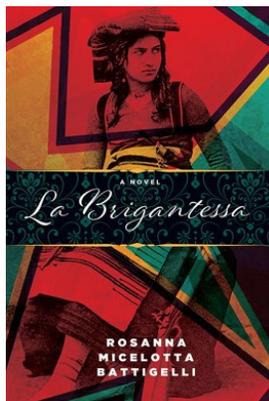
The stories in *Lost Aria* are set in Canada, Rome, Florence, and explore relationships, art & memory, and erotic transgression.

The prize is for the best fiction written by a Manitoba writer in 2019.

Militano is a poet, fiction writer, broadcaster, essayist, and teacher. *Lost Aria* is his fifth publication

La Brigantessa: In Canada, U.S., and Italy

By Rosanna Micelotta Battigelli



Rosanna Micelotta Battigelli's novel *La Brigantessa* (Inanna Publications, 2018) was awarded Gold for Historical Fiction in the 2019 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY Awards) and was shortlisted for the 2019 Canadian Authors Association Fred Kerner Book Award. Rosanna attended the Canadian Authors Association annual "CanWrite" Conference in Vancouver on May 11. It is also shortlisted for the 2019 Northern Lit Award, and it is a 2019 Finalist for The Miramichi Reader's "The Very Best!" Book Award. In June 2019, it received the International Book Award for Best Cover (designed by Val Fullard, Inanna Publications).

Rosanna received her Gold IPPY medal in New York City on May 29th, and a day later, flew to Italy to begin a ten-day research tour of Calabria, exploring medieval villages, museums, castles, ruins, and beautiful seaside locales. Visits to *agriturismo* sites provided excellent opportunities for tasting local dishes and learning about their production. www.calabriatheotheritaly.com
On June 13th, Rosanna did a reading from *La Brigantessa* at the CAIS (Canadian Association for Italian Studies) Conference in Orvieto, Italy at the Palazzo dei Popoli. The session was entitled:

Women Writing Women – Bridging Italy and Canada

Spanning genres and languages, women of different generations share their most recent creative projects. The group included Licia Canton, Rosetta Rosati, Liana Cusmano, Luisa Marino and Rosanna Micelotta Battigelli.

Organizer and Host: Licia Canton (Accenti Magazine)

Licia Canton (Accenti Magazine): Reading from *The Pink House and Other Stories* (Longbridge, 2018)

Rosetta Rosati (Association of Italian Canadian Writers): "'Concetta.' Reading from *Maples and Chestnuts* (Longbridge, 2017)"



Liana Cusmano (Accenti Magazine and Association of Italian Canadian Writers): “Boyfriend”

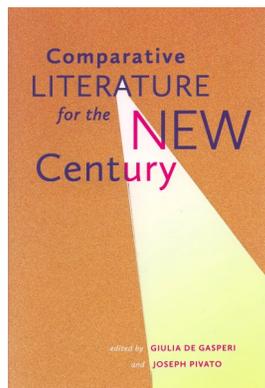
Luisa Marino (Università di Napoli l’Orientale and ; Association of Italian Canadian Writers): “Il vestito da sposa”

Rosanna Micelotta Battigelli (Association of Italian Canadian Writers): “‘La Brigantessa.’ Reading from *La Brigantessa* (Inanna, 2018)”

The event was open to the public; free admission.

Comparative Literature for the New Century

By Joseph Pivato



The new book edited by Giulia De Gasperi and Joseph Pivato was officially launched in Vancouver on June 4, 2019 at 3:00 PM. This was during the Congress at UBC and sponsored by the Canadian Comparative Literature Association. This is the first book that promotes the study of Comparative Literature from a Canadian point of view. Several essays in this book question the American dominance of this discipline which they see as flawed by bias and the on-going culture wars in the US academy over question of foreign languages and cultural diversity.

Many of the contributors such as Maria Cristina Seccia, Anna Pia De Luca, Deborah Sidero and Giulia De Gasperi use works from Canadian literature in both English and French to promote alternative views on such topic as: national identity, translation, bilingualism, writing by women, multiculturalism, ethnic minority writers, literary theory, canon formation, intersectionality, the ethics of care and other questions.

Several of the contributors use works by Italian-Canadian authors such as Genni Gunn, Mary di Michele, Caterina Edwards, Gianna Patriarca, Frank Paci, Antonio D’Alfonso, Linda Hutcheon, Maria Ardizzi, Marisa De Franceschi and Pasquale Verdicchio.

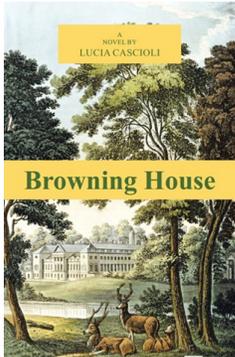
Co-editor, Joe Pivato spoke at the book launch. Members of McGill-Queen’s University Press, the publisher, were also present.





Browning House Book Launch

by Lucia Cascioli



AICW member Lucia Cascioli launched her ninth book and first full-length novel, *Browning House*, at the TIFF Bell Lightbox Blue Room on June 19, 2019.

During a time of beheadings, wars and witch hunts, the Browning family and their friends navigate the politics and perils of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century England. Their success and survival hinge on the whim of those who hold power and the fickleness of fate.

"The Browning Family will win you over with their determination and perseverance in making a name for themselves during such a monumental period in history." stated Susan Violante, Managing Editor at Reader Views.

Lucia has also updated her website with a fresh new look at www.luciacascioli.ca.

Stay tuned for more events coming soon!



Photo by Dr. Peter Constantinou



BRUNETTA

by Pier Angelo Piccolo

Il motore andava liscio e passavano le ore, i boschi e le vaste praterie avevano lasciato il posto ad una strada più stretta, impervia, che si arrampicava verso un passo ad alta quota, tra altissime montagne.

Mentre pensava e rimuginava, Pierre notò che la bellissima signora seduta vicino aveva estratto dalla borsa un libro e si apprestava a leggerlo. Fece un sobbalzo, quando si accorse che si trattava proprio del libro che aveva scritto lui. Gli venne in mente di dire: “Ehi, quella è la mia creazione, quel volume l’ho fatto io”, ma la sua riservatezza lo bloccò “tanto – pensò – all’ultima pagina c’è la mia foto e la bella signora la vedrà e mi dirà qualcosa, forse mi chiederà l’autografo, io inizierò a parlarle.” Ma non fu così’.

Faceva già buio e il passo ancora non era ancora in vista. Cominciò a diffondersi un po’ di nervosismo tra i passeggeri. Il signore alticcio era andato a sedersi nella parte dietro del corrierone e dormiva. La strada si faceva sempre più’ tortuosa e stretta e pericolosa, in più, scendevano fiocchi di neve minacciosi.

Pazienza.

Il mezzo procedeva a velocità ridottissima. Lo scrittore rivide, nella sua fantasia, il destino che lo stava aspettando. Nell’ Aula Magna dell’Università di Verve avrebbe letto il suo saggio su Epicuro e presentato il suo ultimo romanzo, davanti ad una platea importantissima, per lui, mentre i membri dell’ Accademia e i rappresentanti del Governo della Repubblica, avrebbero deciso, in base al suo valore letterario, di assegnargli la cittadinanza onoraria. Sarebbe diventato cittadino della più ricca nazione del mondo. Ma, da quanto ne sapeva, dai suoi libri che già avevano letto, il gioco sarebbe stato facile. E poi, qualcuno di sua conoscenza glielo aveva fatto sapere che la decisione positiva era già stata presa. Altrimenti, non lo avrebbero chiamato a parlare così presto.

Ci fu un forte scossone, una fermata improvvisa. La neve era ormai altissima e il corrierone non avrebbe più potuto procedere.

“Che succede?” si chiesero i passeggeri.

“Signori mi spiace – spiegò il conducente – ci dobbiamo fermare qui, ora.”

Un brusio invase il mezzo.

“Che facciamo?”

“C’è da percorrere un chilometro e mezzo nella neve.”

Rimasero tutti atterriti.

“Si arriva al passo in pochi minuti, troverete le vostre camere prenotate nell’ Albergo.”

Tutti presero le loro valigie e si avviarono . La donna seduta accanto a lui non lo guardò nemmeno, afferrò le sue cose e se ne andò in silenzio. L’ubriaco dormiva e nessuno pensò a svegliarlo.



Pierre era un po' spaventato, ma quella situazione lo inebriava. Aspettò che tutti se ne fossero andati, si accese un sigaro e pensò a domani.

Niagara Falls, 14 Giugno A.D.2019

Pier Angelo Piccolo

Biography

My name is Pier Angelo Piccolo. I was born in Venice. I graduated in Literature and Modern History at Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

I published three books and 30 short stories and earned many literary awards.

I am a teacher of Venetian History, Italian Culture and politics. I am involved in political affairs and serve in city councils. I also write articles about politics.

I lived and worked in many countries: Italy, South America, Africa and Canada.



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