



**Newsletter / Bollettino
December 2013 / Issue 69**

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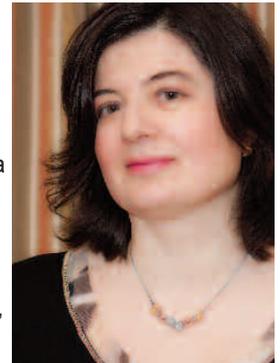


NOTA DELLA PRESIDENTE

Dear Members and Friends,

The first snow has already fallen in most parts of the country, and many of us are looking forward to spending the holidays with family and friends.

I'd like to introduce Nora Martin and acknowledge her contribution to the AICW over the past few months. Nora is a graduate student at Universidad de la Laguna, Tenerife (Spain). She has been my intern on several projects, including the AICW conference. I am grateful to Professor Eva Darias-Beautell for introducing me to Nora and for setting up the internship.



We have been busy planning the AICW 15th biennial conference, "Writing and Translating Culture: Bridging Differences Together," to be held in Montreal, May 1 to 4, 2014. Our conference will be part of the 16th Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival. We are also pleased to acknowledge the support of the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada and the Italian Cultural Institute of Montréal. Our conference will include presenters from across Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and Italy. We look forward to seeing you in Montreal. A detailed program will be available shortly.

Welcome to new members, whose names are mentioned below. Please visit [aicw.ca](http://www.aicw.ca) to get the latest news, and have a look at our most recent publications at <http://www.aicw.ca/books>.

Thank you to long-time members for your continued support. If you haven't yet done so, please send in your fees and take advantage of our two-year deal. Tell your friends and colleagues about the AICW.

We are looking forward to a busy and productive 2014 at the AICW. I have had the pleasure of working very closely with some of you on various projects and tasks. Even though we are kilometres apart, I have often thought of you as members of my extended family. Thank you for contributing to the success of AICW activities and projects.

Happy holidays! Joyeuses fêtes! Buon Natale! Best wishes for 2014!

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

AICW on Facebook and Twitter

Follow the AICW on Twitter @AICWCanada
If you are on Facebook, please take the time to LIKE our page and to post information about your new publications and events.

Welcome new AICW members!

**Rossana Bruzzone
CanaDiana Club
Carmela Circelli
Gil Fagiani
Laura Ferri
Carole Giangrande
Rosina Martucci**



BOOKS AND BISCOTTI TORONTO

by Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni

The autumn edition of an AICW Books and Biscotti event, on November 10, 2013, drew a remarkable crowd to the Columbus Centre for a Sunday afternoon billed as "caffè and conversazione." Three books were launched, with five writers entertaining the audience with selections and stories about their works. By luck and good planning, Winnipeg author Carmelo Militano was able to be in Toronto that day to read from his novel, *Sebastiano's Vine* (Ekstasis Editions: 2013). Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni read several poems from her book, *Second Collection* (LyricalMyrical: 2013). The third book presented was the anthology of family food stories, *Italian Canadians at Table* (Guernica Editions: 2013), co-edited by Loretta Gatto-White and Delia De Santis. The book was introduced by Loretta, describing the broad outreach to gather the selections, and the interest shown by media across the country as the book appears in stores. Sheilagh Rogers interviewed the co-editors for CBC Radio One. The interview should air in early December.

Also by luck and good planning, Edmonton writer Caterina Edwards was able to read from her piece in *Italian Canadians at Table*. She had come east to receive an award at Waterloo University for a Personal Essay contest. It was a pleasant surprise to have her in Toronto. Darlene Madott, Toronto lawyer and prize-winning short story writer, read her selection. She was followed by Jim Zuccheri, who grew up in Toronto helping in the family fruit store in the 1960s and 70s. His mother and other family members attended, and his sister Jo-Ann even won the draw for an elegant fruit basket donated by Lady York Foods for the occasion.

The Lower Gallery in the Columbus Centre is a large, spacious rotunda with plenty of natural light to keep the atmosphere bright. Coffee and biscotti, cheese and wine were available for the 75 friends and supporters who turned out. AICW members were invited to bring their books for display and sale. This gave our membership a chance to visit each other, catch up on news, exchange books and tips, and share a glass of vino donated by several of the writers. By the end, Delia De Santis had become famous not only as co-editor but also as the baker of fabulous amaretti.

PRESENTAZIONE DI DUE NUOVI LIBRI AL CENTRO ITALIANO DI VANCOUVER

by Anna Ciampolini Foschi



Una serata particolare quella del 6 novembre: non solo non c'era traccia della insistente e onnipresente pioggia che di solito fa da guastafeste a Vancouver, ma anzi nella sala del Museo dove si era radunato un piccolo gruppo di spettatori, l'atmosfera era riscaldata da un autentico senso di partecipazione e interesse. I libri presentati al pubblico erano la nuova antologia a cura di Delia De Santis e Loretta Gatto-White, *Italian Canadians at Table: A Narrative Feast in Five Courses* e la raccolta di poesie *Quadri Canadesi/Canadian Images* dell'autore italiano Pietro Vitelli, tradotta da Anna Ciampolini Foschi, uscita nel 2011 e già lanciata in Italia e a Toronto e Montreal.

Joseph Ranallo, venuto per l'occasione da Rossland dove risiede, ha letto il suo racconto *Summer and Figs* e Anna Ciampolini ha presentato brani da *The Tortellini Connection*. In chiusura, Joseph e Anna si sono alternati nella lettura nelle due lingue di alcune poesie di Vitelli. Fra il pubblico era presente l'editore/direttore del giornale comunitario *Marcopolo* che durante il periodo di domande e risposte ha intrattenuto gli ospiti con un gustosissimo aneddoto della sua esperienza come ristoratore, tanto divertente che la vostra cronista ha subito promesso di "scippare" la storia per il secondo volume di *Italian Canadians at Table*. Visto il successo dell'antologia, perché non fare il bis?

In the photo: Anna Ciampolini Foschi, Joseph Ranallo and Mr. Elio Trovato, one of the Centre's founding fathers, at the Italian Cultural Centre during the November 6 literary evening.

A POSSIBLE PROJECT WITH REGIONE TOSCANA

by Anna Ciampolini Foschi

Last May, during my recent trip to Italy, I met Luigi Ciampolini, the President of Florence's *Associazione Culturale Giovanni Papini*. We are now working on a project that hopefully will culminate on an event showcasing the works of Italian Canadian writers and other artists with Tuscan roots. The event should take place during the *Festa della Toscana*, an annual large-scale festival starting on November 30, 2014. The Festival is sponsored by Tuscany's Regional Government and features events in many Tuscan cities.

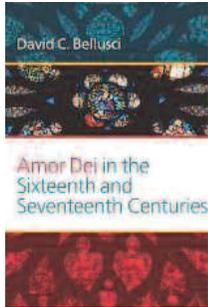
At the moment, we are at a preliminary planning stage. If we can put together a good proposal, we can hope to obtain some form of sponsorship from *Regione Toscana*. I am circulating this information in our newsletter in the hope of establishing contact with our Tuscan-origin writers and artists who are interested in the project and also willing to provide some input and some ideas. Please, contact me at larthia@shaw.ca and let's keep our fingers crossed!



UPDATES FROM MEMBERS

George Amabile's poem, "Snow Birds, with Twelve Pelicans" won 2nd place in the 2013 Writer's Digest rhymed poem contest.

David C. Bellusci completed his M.F.A. in Writing at the University of Nebraska this past August, 2013. His M.F.A. thesis compared Pier Giorgio Di Cicco's poetic metaphors with those of Elizabeth Bishop, Pablo Neruda and Sylvia Plath. David also published a book this past June, on the "love of God," *Amor Dei in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*.



Domenico Capilongo's first book of short stories, *Subtitles*, published by Guernica Editions, was recently short-listed for the ReLit Award. The ReLit Award recognizes the best writing from independent presses. Domenico is a Toronto writer and educator. His first book of poetry, *I thought elvis was Italian*, was short-listed for the Bressani Literary Prize. His second book of jazz-inspired poetry, *hold the note*, was long-listed for the ReLit Award. He is also a contributor for italocanadese.com with his interview series, "Un Momento."

Marisa De Franceschi recently filmed an interview with Luigi Tosti for *Panorama Italiano* Windsor, Ontario. The interview can be seen on www.panoramaitaliano.ca. Click on "episodi," then click on the episode dated September 29, 2013. The interview is in the last part of the TV program. Marisa talks about some of her books and *Italian Canadians at Table* in particular.

Oswaldo Zappa's latest book, *Cosette: The Wilted Rose*, is a non-fiction story about a married couple who is enduring the early on-set of Alzheimer Disease that is affecting Cosette, Marc's wife. This compelling story, written in a moving and heart rending language and inspired by personal experience, describes the couple's challenging daily life and Cosette's declining health. The only consolation to Marc's grief at the loss of his wife is the immense love he has for her. The novel is to appear shortly by Freisenpress, Victoria, B.C.

MEET OUR MEMBERS

Carole Giangrande is a Toronto novelist and the author of six books, including the novels *A Forest Burning* and *An Ordinary Star*, and the short story collection *Missing Persons*, all published by Cormorant Books. Her novella, *A Gardener on the Moon*, was co-winner of the 2010 Ken Klonsky contest and was published by Quattro Books. Her new novella, *Midsummer*, will be published by Innana in 2014.

Rosina Martucci is a teacher of Foreign Languages and Literatures (English, French, German). She has published books, on British and American cultures, now used in many Italian schools. She is currently enrolled in the third year of a Ph.D. in Humanities at the University of Salerno where she is working on a research project on Italian-American and Italian-Canadian literatures (Giuse Rimanelli, Mary Melfi, Pietro Corsi). She has participated in many international conferences in Canada, Mexico, Romania, U.K and Italy. Her Ph.D. thesis focuses on Giuse Rimanelli.

Darlene Madott is a Toronto lawyer and writer. Prior to law, she worked on the editorial staffs of *Saturday Night* and *Toronto Life* magazines, and wrote book reviews for the *Globe & Mail*. Her call to the Bar in 1985 coincided with the publication of a collection of short stories, *Bottled Roses*, Oberon 1985. A film script, *Mazilli's Shoes*, was published by Guernica, in 1997, then *Joy, Joy, Why Do I Sing?* Women's Press/Scholar's Press, 2004. Included in that collection was "Vivi's Florentine Scarf," winner of the 2002 Paolucci Prize of the Italian American Writers' Association. The title story of *Making Olives and Other Family Secrets*, Longbridge Books 2008, won the Bressani Literary Award. Darlene has read in New York, at the John Calandra Institute, Queen's College/CUNY, conference entitled "The Land of Our Return" (April 2009), from a story "On Leave Takings and Monuments," previously published in *Accenti Magazine*. Her stories have been widely anthologized including *Italian Canadians at Table: A Narrative Feast in Five Courses*, ed. Loretta Gatto-White and Delia De Santis, Guernica 2013, *Italian Canadian Voices* (Mosaic Press 2006, ed. Caroline di Giovanni), the anthology *More Sweet Lemons 2* (International Writings with a Sicilian Accent) (LEGAS 2010), and *BRAVO!*, ed. Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni, Quattro 2012. Her most recent collection, *Stations of the Heart*, was published by Exile Editions 2012, of which "Waiting: An Almost Love Story," was short-listed for the Carter V. Cooper/Gloria Vanderbilt short-story competition in the established author category. In 2014 Longbridge Books will republish *Making Olives and Other Family Secrets* (Ripasso) (first published in 2008), containing four additional stories that "boxes above its weight." A mother of one son, Darlene Madott continues to write and practice, primarily in the area of matrimonial law. Visit www.darlenemadott.com.

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.



Writing Our Way Home

Editors: Licia Canton & Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni
Guernica Editions, 2013

A unique volume of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and scholarly essays, *Writing Our Way Home* is an important contribution to literary studies. "Italian-Canadian writers are not just Canadian writers, but world writers," states Elena Lamberti in the introduction to *Writing Our Way Home*. "They write from Canada with an original point of view on multiple, hybrid, identities and have something to tell the whole world ..."

To purchase this book, please visit: www.guernicaeditions.com/title/9781550718027



10 DICEMBRE / MONTREAL

An Evening of Poetry, Prose & Music
 Tuesday, December 10, 2013
 at the Visual Arts Centre,
 School of Art / McClure Gallery
 350 Victoria Avenue, Westmount
 Founder/ producer Ilona Martonfi
 Doors open at 7:00PM.
 Readings start at 7:30PM
 \$5.00 at the door
 Featuring: Stephen Morrissey, Barry Webster,
 Carolyne Van Der Meer, Keith Henderson,
 Colleen Gray, Brian Campbell,
 Shaheen Munir & Niraj Barua
www.visualartscentre.ca

30 GENNAIO / CANADA

On January 30, 2014, ItaloCanadese.com will launch an innovative web series that will feature lively and entertaining characters who make us proud to be Italian-Canadians. This is not your traditional news report. Nor an amateur YouTube video. Each episode is fresh, sophisticated, professional, informative and entertaining. A new episode will premiere every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. The episodes will be available for viewing on www.italocanadese.com.

Il Centro Leonardo da Vinci e l'Associazione Regionale dei Marchigiani A.L.M.A. presentano

Guido: il diario di un emigrante

Con:
 Rita Amabili
 Eva Amabili-Rivet
 e Roberto Medile

*Una storia...
 musica
 e canzoni!*

*Une histoire...
 musique
 et chansons!*

Rendez-vous au Piccolo Teatro
Samedi 7 décembre à 20h00

8370 Boul. Lacordaire, Saint-Léonard
 BILLETTS: \$ 20.00 TAXES ET SERVICES INCLUS
 INFOS ET BILLETTS: 514.955.8370
 STATIONNEMENT GRATUIT

ACCENTI, ISSUE 30

Accenti Magazine, Issue 30, Winter 2014, is now available. Look for it in your mailbox early December or write to accenti@accenti.ca to order a single copy. Visit www.accenti.ca to find out more. Issue 30 includes the following contributions:

EDITORIAL

Surviving the Digital World
 by Domenic Cusmano

PROFILE

Guido Cocomello: From Stand-up to Stage
 Acting by Anthony S. Calabrese

HERITAGE

Laying Down Roots: The Italian Canadian Archive Project by Mélanie Grondin

COVER STORY

Italian Ruins: Resurrecting Poggioreale by Kenneth Scambray

SPORTS

Did the Toronto Maple Leafs Discriminate Against Italian Players?
 by Frank Giorno

WRITINGS

Italian Teeth by Marco LoVerso
 Parallel Lines by Ken Elkes
 Lighter than Love by Shereen Tadros
 Black Friday Sales Event Master by Andrew Foster

CAPTURING ITALIAN MOMENTS

(Winners of the 2013 Accenti Photo Competition)
 Calcio di Strada by Federico Bonfanti
 Lady Making Couscous by Antonino Lombardo
 Losing One's Daughter by Alice Filippazzo



ACCENTI WRITING CONTEST

DEADLINE February 7, 2014

Send your stories (in English) to *Accenti Magazine's* annual writing contest. First prize is \$1000 and publication. Second and third prize will receive \$250 and \$100 respectively. Read the 2013 winning stories in the Winter 2014 issue of *Accenti Magazine*: Black Friday Sales Event Master, by Andrew Foster (Tucson, US), won first prize; Lighter than Love, by Shereen Tadros (London, UK), won second prize; and Parallel Lines, by Ken Elkes (Bristol, UK), won third prize. Go to www.accenti.ca and click on Writing Contest to find out more about the 9th annual contest.

ACCENTI PHOTO CONTEST

DEADLINE January 31, 2014

Send your pictures to *Accenti Magazine's* Capture an Italian Moment competition. Top prize is \$1000 and publication. Second and third prize will receive \$250 and \$100 respectively. See the 2013 winning photos in the Winter 2014 issue of *Accenti Magazine*: Calcio di Strada, by Federico Bonfanti (London, UK), won first prize; Old Lady Making Couscous, by Antonino Lombardo (Trapani, Italy), received second prize; and Losing One's Daughter, by Alice Filippazzo (Milan, Italy), won third prize. Go to www.accenti.ca and click on Photo Contest to find out more about the 7th annual competition.



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DIVENTA SOCIO OGGI!**

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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:

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Renewal / Renouvellement / Rinnovo

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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:

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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

AICW 2011 / 2012