

Newsletter / Bollettino March 2013 / Issue 66

Association of Italian Canadian Writers Executive

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#### **NOTA DELLA PRESIDENTE**

Dear Members and Friends,

It has been a long winter and I am certainly looking forward to spring and summer. I'd like to thank you for your good wishes and continued concern following my accident and convalescence. I am happy to say that I have graduated from crutches to a cane, and I should be walking normally following the physiotherapy.

I am pleased to announce that the volume Writing Our Way Home (which stems from our 2010 conference in Atri, Italy) will be launched on May 2 in Montreal (see page 4). We are grateful to Elena Lamberti and Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni for their work on this publication. Thanks go to Martin Stiglio, director of the Italian Cultural Institute in Montreal, for hosting the launch.

June is Italian Heritage Month (IHM). This June, once again, the Association of Italian Canadian Writers (AICW), in collaboration with the National Congress of Italian Canadians - NCIC (Pres. Michael Tibollo) and

Accenti Magazine (Publisher Domenic Cusmano), will co-ordinate a series of events under the Books and Biscotti Literary Series. Giulia De Gasperi and I are currently working on a schedule for June 2013. Last year, eleven literary events were held by our members across Canada. If you would like to organize an event in your city or if you have suggestions or questions, please write to info@aicw.ca. Events will be publicized on the AICW, NCIC and Accenti web sites as well as via a media release.

Send in your news! Members are encouraged to send news about events and publications directly to our newsletter editor, Agata De Santis, when she sends out the Call for Submissions. 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. I encourage you to 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.)

Please tell your writer friends and colleagues about the AICW. Many thanks for your continued support.

Happy Spring!

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.

#### Download free AICW ebooks at:

http://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 Zucchero.

Welcome new AICW members! Mauro Marino George Amabile (returning) Erminio Neglia (returning)



# FILM & POETRY NIGHT IN LONDON. ON

#### - Antonio Calcagno

The Centre for Creativity at King's University College in London, Ontario hosted a film and poetry night focusing on Italian-Canadian immigration and the Arts. Present were AICW members Gianna Patriarca, Jim Zucchero, Antonio Calcagno, Damjana Bratuz, as well as other Italian-Canadian artists, like Adriana Monti and Mario Circelli. Adriana, Mario and Gianna showed their work and we had a discussion about the theme of Italian Canadians, immigration and the arts. The event was well attended, bringing people from the arts community, the Italian-Canadian community and the university community. The event was held on the evening of January 23, 2013 and was covered by the London Free Press.

http://www.lfpress.com/2013/01/22/poet-filmmakers-speak-of-their-experiences-wednesday-at-western.

## TERRI FAVRO'S "COLD COMFORT" MAKES THE FINALS OF BROKEN PENCIL INDIE WRITERS DEATHMATCH

AICW member Terri Favro was one of four writers left standing in the finals of the Broken Pencil Indie Writers Deathmatch, an annual "cage match"-style online short story competition. Now in its sixth year, the Deathmatch has been described as "the world's most dangerous short story contest" due to its use of real-time online voting and live blogging by the competing writers, their supporters, and hundreds of readers.

As author of "Cold Comfort," one of eight stories selected by Broken Pencil's editors from a pool of 150, Terri vigorously used social media and appeared at book clubs and open mikes to raise awareness of the competition and gather support. The results: Favro won her quarterfinal match (863 to 370) and lost in the semifinal (4,998 to 5,528). The semifinal was a particularly tough battle, with excitement building as Terri and a young writer at university in Albany, New York jockeyed for votes, hour by hour, over seven days. To make the process even more challenging, Broken Pencil required all four winners of the quarterfinals to rewrite their stories before their semifinal round.

Although a stressful and sometimes frustrating experience, Terri ultimately found the Deathmatch a rewarding one, because so many people read "Cold Comfort" and expressed passionate opinions about it. The match also offered a unique opportunity to use social media to gain readers from around the world: by the semifinal, Terri's supporters had stretched from Canada and the U.S., to Mexico, China, Denmark, Italy, Australia and Argentina.

Terri wishes in particular to thank the many members of the AICW who supported her through two intensive weeks of Deathmatch. "Cold Comfort" will be published in the spring print issue of *Broken Pencil Magazine*.

Terri plans to eventually write a fictional version of the epic semifinal round as soon as she catches up on her sleep. She will also be blogging about the experience at www.terrifavro.ca.

#### **MEET OUR MEMBERS**

George Amabile has published ten books and has had poetry, fiction and non-fiction in over a hundred national and international venues, including The New Yorker, Harper's, Poetry (Chicago), American Poetry Review, Botteghe Oscure, The Globe and Mail, The Penguin Book of Canadian Verse, Saturday Night, Poetry Australia, Sur (Buenos Aires), Poetry Canada Review, and Canadian Literature. Two recent publications have won Bressani Awards, the long poem, Dancing, with Mirrors (Porcupine's Quill, 2011) and Small Change (Fiction, Libros Libertad, 2011).

Jessica Kluthe's writing has appeared in the Malahat Review, the Writer's Block, Little Fiction and Notebook Magazine. In 2012, her essay "Scattered" won the Other Voices creative non-fiction contest. She has an MFA from the University of Victoria and a BA from the University of Alberta. She teaches advanced business writing at Grant MacEwan and is on the University of Alberta's Faculty of Extension. Rosina, the Midwife is her first book and she is currently working on a novel. Visit Jessica online at

**www.jessicakluthe.com** or follow her on Twitter at @jessicakluthe.

Elena Lamberti teaches Canadian and American Literature at the University of Bologna, Italy, and has been visiting professor at the University of Toronto. She is the author of Marshall McLuhan's Mosaic: Probing the Literary Origins of Media Studies (2012). Her publications include Memories and Representations of War in Europe: The Case of WW1 and WW2 (Rodopi, 2009) and the award winning Marshall McLuhan: Tra letteratura, arti e media (Bruno Mondadori, 2000).

#### In Memoriam

#### Anna Maria Carlevaris (1954-2012)

We are saddened to announce the passing of Anna Maria Carlevaris, a longtime member of the AICW. She taught at Concordia University and Dawson College, Montreal. She held a PhD and a MA in Art History from Concordia University, and a BFA in Photographic Arts from Ryerson University. Her writings on art appeared in contemporary art magazines, journals, exhibition catalogues, and anthologies such as *Public Art in Canada* (U. of Toronto Press) and *Women's Art Production Between the Wars* (Ashgate Press, UK). Anna Carlevaris passed away on December 23, 2012.

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.

# **6**

# Columbus Centre of Toronto Public Work of Art

**DEADLINE: March 15, 2013** 

Columbus Centre of Toronto is accepting proposals for the development, production and installation of a permanent, public work of art which will represent the struggles and successes of the Italian Canadian immigrant story, specifically referencing the Italian Canadian World War II experience.

Salary: \$94,000.

workinculture.ca/The-Job-Board/jobs/Public-Work-of-Art-Monument#sthash.zQiN3tzD.dpuf

## Ploughshares Literary Magazine – Emerging Writer's Contest

**DEADLINE: April 2, 2013** 

Submit now to the 2013 *Ploughshares* Emerging Writer's Contest! The contest is open until April 2 at 12:00PM EST. One winner in each genre - fiction, poetry, and nonfiction - will receive \$1,000 and publication. The submission fee is \$24 and includes a one-year subscription to *Ploughshares*, so it's a win-win situation. Psst, if you are subscribed through the 2013 Winter Issue, you can submit for free! We consider you "emerging" if you haven't published or self-published a book. For more information, or to submit, visit

www.pshares.org/EmergingAward.

# **2013 EVENT Non-Fiction Contest**

\$1500 in prizes available, plus publication. EVENT reserves the right to award the prize money as the judge sees fit (i.e., two prizes at \$750 each, or three at \$500 each, or one at \$1,000 and one at \$500). Publication in EVENT 42/3 (December 2013), with standard publication payment. Other manuscripts may be published. Preliminary judging by the editors of EVENT. Details at

http://eventmags.com.

# Italocanadese.com 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.



# 6 MARZO 2013 / TORONTO

(See details in poster below)
An evening with Gianna Patriarca and friends, Daniela Nardi, singer/songwriter, and Sonia di Placido, author, poet and playwright. Gianna Patriarca will introduce her ninth book, *Too Much Love*, and will entertain you with the many characters in her writing that will have you laughing and crying.

#### **12 MARZO 2013 / VICTORIA**

Tuesday, March 12, 7:00 PM

Chronicles of Crime, 1048 Fort Street, Victoria, BC Join Lorna Crozier, George Szanto and AICW member Jessica Kluthe for an evening discussion on the importance of place in stories. Drop by for an evening packed with great stories and conversations. Everyone Welcome. Free admission. Cash or Debit sales only. Info: Chronicles of Crime at (250) 721-2665 or Brindle & Glass at info@brindleandglass.com.

#### **21 MARZO 2013 / OTTAWA**

In recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, YOUCAN, in cooperation with The Canadian Ethnocultural Council, invite you to the launch of Dr. Gina Valle's book, *Teachers at Their Best / Enseignants sous leur meilleur jour*.

March 21, 2013, from 4:00PM to 6:00PM at The Atrium, University of St. Paul, 223 Main St., Ottawa.

RSVP: TeachersEnseignants@gmail.com.





#### **23 MARZO 2013 / EDMONTON**

Celebrate the release of AICW member Jessica Kluthe's first book, Rosina, The Midwife (Brindle & Glass). Spinelli's Bar Italia (10878 95 Street) 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

# **24 MARZO 2013 / TORONTO**

Terri Favro reads from her Quattro Books novella, *The Proxy Bride*, at Plasticine Poetry Phanatics, March 24, 2013 at 6:00PM, at Paupers Pub (upstairs), 539 Bloor West, Toronto. For more information:

https://www.facebook.com/events/132055346969942/

### **23-28 APRILE 2013 / MONTREAL**

15th Annual Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival www.bluemetropolis.org

# 2 MAGGIO 2013 / MONTREAL

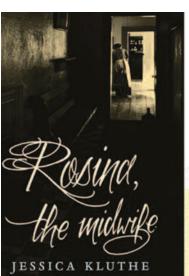
Thursday May 2, 2013, 7:30PM Italian Cultural Institute, 1200 Dr. Penfield, Montréal. Free admission.

RSVP: (514) 849-3473. iicmontreal@esteri.it.

The 8th Accenti Magazine Awards: discover the images and words that matter Italian-style as Accenti celebrates the winners of its contests as part of the Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival.

For the past eight years, Accenti Magazine has encouraged creative expression through its annual writing contest and its "Capture an Italian Moment" photo competition. The winner of each contest will receive \$1000 and publication in Accenti Magazine. Second and third place winners receive \$250 and \$100 respectively.

Founded in Montreal in 2002, by Domenic Cusmano and Licia Canton, 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. www.accenti.ca.



You're invited to celebrate the launch of

### Rosina, the midwife

the debut book of MacEwan University's own Jessica Kluthe

> March 14, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. City Centre Bookstore

RSVP to mcleans21@macewan.ca.

Joh us for a reading, signing and refreshments with author Jessica Kluthe

About Rosina, the midwife

This is 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 1960s. This charming memoir is at once a Canadian story and an Italian one. Brindle and Glass - \$19.95 - paperback

#### 2 MAGGIO 2013 / MONTRFAL

Thursday May 2, 2013, 6:30PM Italian Cultural Institute, 1200 Dr. Penfield. Free admission.

RSVP: (514) 849-3473, iicmontreal@esteri.it.

Elena Lamberti – Italian author, literary critic and literature professor at the University of Bologna – speaks with editors Licia Canton and Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni.

The Association of Italian Canadian Writers (AICW), in collaboration with the Blue Metropolis Montreal International Literary Festival and the Italian Cultural Institute, presents Writing Our Way Home (Guernica, 2013), creative and critical works. 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..."

A unique volume of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and scholarly essays, Writing Our Way Home features contributors from Canada, Italy and the United States: Annalisa Bonomo, John Calabro, Michele Campanini, Licia Canton, Giusy Cesari, Pietro Corsi, Domenic Cusmano, Marisa De Franceschi, Mike Dell'Aquila, Alberto Mario DeLogu, Delia De Santis, Gil Fagiani, Nino Famà, Venera Fazio, Frank Giorno, Gabriella Iacobucci, Elena Lamberti, Maria Lisella, Ernesto Livorni, Darlene Madott, Michael Mirolla, Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni, Linda Morra, Oriana Palusci, Gianna Patriarca, Maria Tognan, Maria Cristina Seccia, Osvaldo Zappa, and Jim Zucchero.

### **21 MAGGIO 2013** / **BOLOGNA**

Licia Canton presenta "Écrire et traduire les cultures" martedì 21 maggio, ore 10.30 Sala Giunta (Dipartimento LiLeC, Via Cartoleria 5) Università degli studi di Bologna

In collaborazione con il DESE, Doctorat d'Études Supérieures Européennes, "Il Québec in traduzione" è un ciclo di seminari a cura di Paola Puccini e Fabio Regattin.

#### Poet to Poet

Edited by Julie Roorda and Elana Wolff. Guernica Editions: Essential Anthologies Series 2

#### - Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni

This fascinating anthology puts in print what often happens at a live poetry reading: that is, the poet introduces a new piece that was inspired by another poet's work. Editors Roorda and Wolff observed this many times in the poetry circuit, finally proposing a collection that gathered contemporary poems and the backstory about the poet's inspiration. Their call for submissions garnered a healthy response from which they selected the 74 poems and stories in this appealing volume.

Among the selections there are several pieces by Italian Canadian writers, identifying with their own cultural roots. Desi Di Nardo writes about Giacomo Leopardi; Salvatore DiFalco on Luigi Pirandello; Domenico Capilongo on his contemporary and mentor Luciano Iacobelli. Sonia Di Placido was inspired by the films and poems of Pier Paolo Pasolini. Then there is Len Gasparini who refers to his introduction to Irving Layton. My own piece goes to my American roots, describing my affection for Carl Sandberg.

This is a delightful book to read through. The variety of voices, styles, and anecdotes display the range of contemporary Canadian poetry, including a fair selection of our own AICW members.

## The Giulio Metaphysics III

By Michael Mirolla Leapfrog Press / www.leapfrogpress.com



A character named Giulio frees himself from his creator in order to write his own story, only to find himself lost and confused, unable at times to recall his own name. He wanders through landscapes both familiar and alien, struggling to return home. Each story creates a new character, and each character is named Giulio. This neither signifies nor denies any essential

connection: each Giulio is unique, each is universal. Each Giulio is every-man and no-man.

#### **Crossborder**

Crossborder is a meeting of talents across the US-Canada border and the borders of story, character, and technique. It is a collaboration of Leapfrog Press (Fredonia, N.Y.) and Guernica Editions (Toronto, ON). Leapfrog Press seeks writing that expands our connectivity to other human beings and to the range of emotional and literary journeys. Guernica Editions celebrates the pleasurable and profound understanding created along the border where different cultures meet. With Crossborder, the two publishing houses combine their visions and endeavor to give voice to beautiful, powerful literature for the world.

Two issues per year: \$13. Subscribers may also purchase most Leapfrog titles for \$6 each. Shipping is free within the US.

#### Bibliosofia/Canada 3

The third edition of *Bibliosofia/Canada* was launched in the fall of 2013. Edited by Elettra Bedon and Giulia De Gasperi, *Bibliosofia/Canada* focuses on Italian-Canadian writings and on writing of minority cultures in Canada.

With contributions from many AICW members, the first two issues are available at:

http://www.bibliosofia.net/N-1.html http://www.bibliosofia.net/N-2.html

The third issue of recent publication features poems by Joe Ruggeri and the translation of three works on the internment of Italian-Canadians originally published in *Beyond Barbed Wire: Creative Works on the Internment of Italian Canadians* and *Behind Barbed Wire: Essays on the Internment of Italian Canadians* (copublished with Columbus Centre of Toronto, part of the project AICW Remembers (www.aicw.ca/aicw-remembers) produced by the Association of Italian Canadian Writers, in partnership with Guernica Editions and Accenti Magazine. The project was funded by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada (Community Historical Recognition Program - CHRP).

To view the third issue of Bibliosofia/Canada, please visit: http://www.bibliosofia.net/N-3.html.

If you would like to submit you work, please contact Giulia De Gasperi at the following e-mail address: julia.freedom@gmail.com.

#### Accenti Magazine

Issue 29 (Spring 2013)

Accenti Magazine welcomes Joseph Pivato as Guest Editor for its Spring 2013 issue. Look for it in early April. To order a single issue or to subscribe, write to accenti@accenti.ca or visit www.accenti.ca.

#### Rosina, The Midwife

By Jessica Kluthe Brindle & Glass

Through Jessica 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. 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.

For those in Edmonton, celebrate the release of the book at Spinelli's Bar Italia (10878 95 street) on March 23, from 6:30PM to 9:00PM.



#### 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	o caractères maximum / massimo 475 caratteri):
CHOOSE ONE / CHOISISSEZ UN STATUT / SCEGLIERE	<b>E</b> :
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	
Voting member / Membre votant / Socio con Diritto di Voto (2	
Associate Member / Membre associé / Socio Ordinario (1 yea Associate Member / Membre associé / Socio Ordinario (2 yea	
Student member / Membre étudiant / Socio Studente (1 year	
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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:
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

AICW 2011 / 2012