

# DISTU

27-30.05 /26

Complesso San Carlo  
Via San Carlo, 32

VITERBO



## 20th Biennial AICW Conference

Università degli Studi della Tuscia  
Association of Italian-Canadian Writers

### COMMON GROUND, DISTANT SHORES: PROSPETTIVE INTERDISCIPLINARI TRA ITALIA E CANADA

**28 MAGGIO 2026**

**AULA MAGNA ORE 9.00**

Apertura dei lavori e saluti istituzionali

Alla presenza della Magnifica Rettrice, prof.ssa Tiziana Laureti

Relazioni Plenarie Aula Magna

Sessioni Parallele Aule 3-4-6

Comitato scientifico internazionale:

Salvatore Bancheri – University of Toronto

Simone Casini – Università della Tuscia

Francesca De Caprio – Università della Tuscia

Christine Sansalone – Laurentian University

Maria Pia Spadafora – AICW

**Per info e contatti: [simone.casini@unitus.it](mailto:simone.casini@unitus.it)**

Convegno promosso nell'ambito del corso di  
Laurea in Lettere Moderne L10



**Programma  
dettagliato**



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DELLA  
TUSCIA

DIPARTIMENTO  
DI STUDI UMANISTICI  
LINGUE LETTERE  
BENI CULTURALI



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## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 27**

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### **9:30–13:00: WORKSHOPS**

**Via San Carlo, 32 – Room 6**

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- ❖ **9:30–11:00**  
**POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP:** Workshop Leader: SILVIA FALSAPERLA
  
- ❖ **11:30–13:00**  
**PROSE WRITING WORKSHOP:** Workshop Leader: LICIA CANTON

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### **16:00–18:00: WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN VITERBO**

**Meeting place: Via San Carlo, 32 – Distu Department**

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## **THURSDAY, MAY 28**

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### **8:30–9:00: CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

**Aula Magna Entrance (Outdoor)**

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### **9:00–9:30: OPENING REMARKS**

**Aula Magna**

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- ❖ Prof.ssa TIZIANA LAURETI, Rettrice Università della Tuscia
- ❖ Prof. LUCA LORENZETTI, Direttore Distu, Università della Tuscia
- ❖ Prof.ssa CHRISTINE SANSALONE, President Association of Italian-Canadian Writers
- ❖ Prof. SIMONE CASINI, Presidente CdL Lettere Moderne, Università della Tuscia

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**9:30–10:30: KEYNOTE ADDRESS****Aula Magna**

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Chair: SIMONE CASINI, Università della Tuscia

MONICA BARNI, Università di Roma La Sapienza & MASSIMO VEDOVELLI, Università per Stranieri di Siena – Le indagini sull’Italiano nel mondo: metodologie, dati, interpretazioni, interventi. Il possibile ruolo dell’IA

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**10:30–11:45 SESSIONS 1-3**

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**SESSION 1 (Room 3) – ALIENATION AND BELONGING: MIGRATION, RETURN, SELF DISCIPLINE, AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT**

Chair: SALVATORE BANCHERI, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA

1. GIANNI CARPARELLI – *Dancing the Walk* and the Work of Caritas / School of Life in Canada
2. MICHELE CAMPANINI – Back to Italy, Back Home? Italian Emigrants, Homecoming and Displacement
3. FRANCESCA DE CAPRIO, Università della Tuscia – Common Ground, Distant Shores: Roma come spazio di negoziazione identitaria per sovrane

**SESSION 2 (Room 4) – ITALIAN IMMIGRANT WOMEN**

Chair: MATTEO PERIGLI, Università della Tuscia

1. GIULIANA COLALILLO, Independent Scholar & CRISTINA PIETROPAOLO, Independent Scholar – *La Biancheria*: Picking up the Thread
2. CONNIE GUZZO MCPARLAND – Invisible but Not Forgotten: Italian Immigrant Women Workers in Quebec
3. ANNA ROMANO MILNE – Donne Di Ottawa: Preserving the Stories of Ottawa’s Italian Women

### **SESSION 3 (Room 6) – Hidden Meanings and Transnational Journeys in Italian-Canadian Writing**

Chair: DENNIS MAIONE

1. MARIA GIUSEPPINA (GIUSY) CESARI – The Secret of the Settimino
2. GENNI GUNN – *The Cipher*
3. STEFANO PIFFERI, Università della Tuscia – Flaiano e il Canada: viaggio reale e viaggio testuale

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### **11:45–12:30 COFFEE BREAK**

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### **12:30–13:45 SESSIONS 4-6**

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### **SESSION 4 (Room 3) – CULTURAL MEMORY AND LITERARY EXPRESSION IN ITALIAN AND DIASPORIC CONTEXTS**

Chair: MARIA PIA SPADAFORA, Scuola secondaria di I grado Statale “Dante Alighieri”, Pero (MI)

1. IRENE GAMMEL & CHRISTIANE TARANTINO, Toronto Metropolitan University – Italian Sunday: Cultural Memory in Third Generation Italian-Canadian Poetry
2. SILVIA FALSAPERLA – Readings from “The Coastal Waves” and “Poor Souls, Unfortunate Sons”

### **SESSION 5 (Room 4) – BIOGRAPHY AS HISTORY: LIFE WRITING AND CULTURAL MEMORY**

Chair: LICIA CANTON

1. VINCENZO PIETROPAOLO – The Genre of Biography as Untapped History
2. PIETRO VITELLI – Lettura di un brano dal libro *Sveva Caetani di Sermoneta e Dante Alighieri*
3. LUCILLA BONAVIDA, Independent Researcher – I luoghi dell’anima nella poesia di Valentino Zeichen

### **SESSION 6 (Room 6) – NARRATIVES OF AGENCY, ALIENATION, AND MEDIA IN ITALIAN CULTURE**

Chair: FEDERICO MESCHINI, Università della Tuscia

1. GIOVANNA SANTINI, Università della Tuscia – Female warrior: il modello medievale della donna in armi
2. ANNA MARIA CHIERICI, Western University – The Unsettling Power of Words: Portraits of Alienation in Gianni Celati, Franco Basaglia and Sebastiano Vassalli
3. CARLO SERAFINI, Università Pegaso – Letteratura e giornalismo nel Novecento

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**13:45–15:00 LUNCH BREAK**

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**15:00–16:15 SESSIONS 7-9**

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**SESSION 7 (Room 3) – POETRY AND TRANSLATION**

Chair: NICOLE HALDOUPIS, Memorial University

1. NELLA COTRUPÌ – Carol Shields’ Poetry goes to Italy. *La Poesia di Carol Shields*, Curated and Translated by Nella Cotrupi
2. JOHN CALABRÒ – The Minefield that is Self-translation
3. GIULIANA GARDELLINI, Università degli Studi di Urbino – Translating Pasquale Verdicchio's *Contentment*: Work in Progress

**SESSION 8 (Room 4) – WRITING BETWEEN LANGUAGES**

Chair: GIOVANNI FIORENTINO, Università della Tuscia

1. FULVIO CACCIA – Scrivere fra le lingue : la letteratura transnazionale in Canada
2. ROSINA MARTUCCI – “Narrarsi per ritrovarsi”, la letteratura italo-canadese attraverso la prosa e la poesia di Joseph Pivato, Liana Cusmano, Delia De Santis e Sante Arcangelo Viselli
3. SALVATORE BANCHERI, University of Toronto Mississauga – Plurilingualism on Stage: Italian, Sicilian, and Neapolitan in *La S. Rosalia* by Filippo Orioles (1687-1793)

**SESSION 9 (Room 6) – TASTES OF HOME: FOOD, MEMORY, AND ITALIAN / ITALIAN-CANADIAN IDENTITY**

Chair: CHRISTIANE TARANTINO, Toronto Metropolitan University

1. CRISTINA PEPE – In *Vino* there are Memories
2. ANNA MERCURI MAIOLO – Summer at the Villetta
3. LICIA CANTON – Sunbathing with Rosemary and Sage

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**16:15–17:30 SESSIONS 10-12**

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**SESSION 10 (Room 6) – TEACHING ITALIAN BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: COMMUNITY, CULTURE, AND ITALIAN L2**

Chair: FRANCESCA DE CAPRIO

1. SIMONE CASINI, Università della Tuscia & SALVATORE BANCHERI, University of Toronto Mississauga – La Comunità come risorsa sociale e linguistica: strategie di community engagement per l’italiano L2

2. GIUSEPPE CAFISO, ICFF – Il cinema italiano e i giovani: veicolo di lingua e cultura

**SESSION 11 (Room 3) – NARRATING ITALIAN-CANADIAN CHARACTERS: IDENTITY, MEMORY, AND BELONGING**

Chair: CHRISTOPHER DIRADDO

1. DELIA DE SANTIS – Italian-Canadian characters
2. CATERINA EDWARDS – The Great Antonio
3. DANIEL SCARCELLO – A Collection of Coincidences

**SESSION 12 (Room 4) – ITALIAN-CANADIAN POETRY**

Chair: DOMENIC CUSMANO

1. SANTE VISELLI, University of Winnipeg – “Pensieri e canti di un Cuore errante” and “Au-delà de mes pensées: poésie sans titre”
2. WANDA BALZANO, Wake Forest University – Poetic Crossings: Calabria as Diasporic Landscape
3. JOSEPHINE LORE – The Moon and All Her Faces

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## **FRIDAY, MAY 29**

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### **9:00–10:15 SESSIONS 13-15**

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**SESSION 13 (Room 6) – RETURN, DISPLACEMENT, AND DIASPORIC SPACE IN ITALIAN AND ITALIAN-CANADIAN CONTEXTS**

Chair: FRANCESCA DE CAPRIO, Università della Tuscia

1. GUIDO D’ELIA, York University & Università di Napoli L’Orientale – “Quando sono rientrato, ho trovato un’Italia completamente diversa”: The Case of Italian Return Migration from Canada to Lazio (Italy), 1950s–2000s
2. STEFANO MUNERONI, University of Alberta – Negotiating Rootedness and Displacement in Steve Galluccio’s *The St. Leonard Chronicles*
3. NICOLÒ DAL BELLO, Università per Stranieri di Perugia – Traiettorie diasporiche e carte transatlantiche: lo spazio (dis)locato in Giorgio Pressburger

## **SESSION 14 (Room 3) – BORDER IDENTITY – INTEGRATION**

Chair: SALVATORE BANCHERI, University of Toronto Mississauga

1. LORENZO CITTADINI, Universidad de Málaga/Università Ca' Foscari Venezia – Il Carso di Scipio Slapater, Trieste e l'identità di confine
2. PAOLA SICA, Connecticut College – Igiaba Scego's *The Color Line*: Writing Historical Novels with an Ethical Intent

## **SESSION 15 (Room 4) – ITALIAN-CANADIAN FAMILY AND TRADITIONS**

Chair: ROSETTA ROSATI, Università della Terza Età (UNITRE)

1. ROSANNA MICELOTTA BATTIGELLI – *Product of Italy, Made in Canada*: An Immigrant's Love Letter to Food, Family, and Resilience
2. JOSEPHINE LORE – *Le trecce ...* Braiding Stories of Family and Origin into Legacy
3. VIENNA PAOLANTONIO – Good Friday on College Street: Italians, Religion and Spectacle in Toronto

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## **10:15–11:30 SESSIONS 16-18**

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### **SESSION 16 (Room 6) – Journeys of Memory: Family, Migration, and Identity**

Chair: DARLENE MADOTT

1. ELOISE CARBONE – Personal Essay on the Lives of my Two Grandmothers
2. ROSINA FAZZOLARI – *Italian Breakfast*
3. DENNIS MAIONE – *Pietro: Journey from Italy*

### **SESSION 17 (Room 4) – URBAN LANDSCAPE**

Chair: ANNA ROMANO MILNE

1. GUSTAVO ARTECA, Laurentian University – “Aluminum.” “An unnecessary detour.” “The Song of Werögen.”
2. DOMENIC CUSMANO – *Bus Stop*
3. ROSETTA ROSATI, Università della terza età, UNITRE – *The Passport with the Dark Blue Cover*

### **SESSION 18 (Room 3) – ROUNDTABLE: TEACHING ITALIAN AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

Panelists: SILVANA FERRERI (Chair) (Università della Tuscia), SALVATORE BANCHERI (University of Toronto Mississauga), GIUSEPPE CAFISO (ICFF), SIMONE CASINI (Università della Tuscia), CHRISTINE SANSALONE (Laurentian University)

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**11:30–12:15 COFFEE BREAK**

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**12:15–13:30 SESSIONS 19-21**

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**SESSION 19 (Room 3) – Roundtable: la letteratura italo-canadese: una storia che continua**

Panelists: CRISTINA PEPE (Chair), GENNI GUNN, DARLENE MADOTT, MARIA GIUSEPPINA (GIUSY) CESARI, ANNA ROMANO MILNE

**SESSION 20 (Room 4) – NEGOTIATING IDENTITY: ITALIAN POLITICAL AND CULTURAL NARRATIVES**

Chair: SILVIA FALSAPERLA

1. PIER ANGELO PICCOLO – *Amori e Odiologie*
2. DIANE PACITTI – An Italian-Canadian Story
3. SARAH BISON & MARTINA GASBARRI, Università di Bologna – The Concept of Self-Surveillance Between Ferrante and Atwood

**SESSION 21 (Room 6) – ITALIAN CULTURAL NARRATIVES ACROSS MEDIA: LITERATURE, JOURNALISM, VISUAL CULTURE**

Chair: CHRISTINE SANSALONE, Laurentian University

1. GIANMARCO GRONCHI, Università di Genova – Visualità marginali negli anni Ottanta italiani. Moda e fumetto sulle pagine di *Vanity*
2. GIOVANNI FIORENTINO, Università della Tuscia – Ti mangio con gli occhi. Assaggi pubblicitari nel paese del boom economico

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**13:30–15:00 LUNCH BREAK**

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**15:00–16:15 SESSIONS 22-24**

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**SESSION 22 (Room 6) – ROUNDTABLE: THE ROLE OF ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIAL CLUBS IN CANADA**

Panelists: NADIA VERRELLI (Chair) (Laurentian University), CHRISTINE SANSALONE (Laurentian University), PATRICIA OROZCO (Laurentian University), JIM KETCHEN (Laurentian University)

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**SESSION 23 (Room 4) – Roundtable: The Writer Translator Relationship**

Panelists: DARLENE MADOTT (Chair), MARIA PIA SPADAFORA (Scuola secondaria di I grado Statale “Dante Alighieri”, Pero [MI]), MARIA CRISTINA SECCIA (University of Hull, UK), CATERINA EDWARDS

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**SESSION 24 (Room 3) – ITALIAN-CANADIAN QUEER IDENTITIES**

Chair: DELIA DE SANTIS

1. NICOLE HALDOUPIS, Memorial University – *Flinter*
2. CHRISTOPHER DIRADDO – *Sorry for Your Loss*
3. RYAN CALABRETTA-SAJDER, University of Arkansas – Gut Feelings: Affect, Food, and Queer Kinship in *What the Mouth Wants*

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**16:30–17:30: KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Aula Magna**

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Chair: CHRISTINE SANSALONE, Laurentian University  
GIANNA PATRIARCA – Radici ‘Ciociare’ ... A Life in Three Languages

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**17:30–18:00 CLOSING REMARKS**

**Aula Magna**

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Prof.ssa CHRISTINE SANSALONE, President Association of Italian-Canadian Writers  
Prof. SIMONE CASINI, Presidente CdL Lettere Moderne, Università della Tuscia

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**20:00–23:00 CONFERENCE DINNER**

**Ristorante Il Giardino del Papero**

**Via del Giglio, 3 - Viterbo**

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**SATURDAY, MAY 30**

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**9:30–18:00: DAY TOUR**

**DISCOVERING THE POWER OF THE FARNESE FAMILY:**

**FROM PALAZZO FARNESE IN GRADOLI TO PALAZZO FARNESE IN CAPRAROLA**

**Meeting place: Parcheggio di Valla Faul – Via Valle Faul**

**[https://maps.app.goo.gl/abSoXLFwKxVZpVVx7?g\\_st=ic](https://maps.app.goo.gl/abSoXLFwKxVZpVVx7?g_st=ic)**

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**MARIA PIA SPADAFORA**

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Language Studies

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

MISSISSAUGA

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