

HOFSTRA CULTURAL CENTER, HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY  
ITALIAN ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED STUDIES, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI-MARIMÒ, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

*present a Conference*

**FOR A DANGER  US PEDAGOGY:  
A MANIFESTO FOR ITALIAN AND ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES**

**Wednesday-Saturday, April 14-17, 2010**

**A conference intended to provoke a radical rethinking of Italianistica.  
Join us in a very ambitious effort to explore possibilities for a revitalization and  
refocusing of the field.**

**CONFERENCE DIRECTOR**

**Pellegrino D'Acerno**

Professor of Comparative Literature and Languages,  
Queensboro UNICO Distinguished Professor of Italian and Italian American Studies  
Hofstra University

**SPECIAL CONFERENCE ADVISER**

**Stanislao Pugliese**

Professor of History  
Hofstra Cultural Center Fellow  
Hofstra University

*Hofstra University gratefully acknowledges the participation and generous support of:  
Queensboro UNICO Foundation, Inc.; Tiro a Segno Foundation; Coccia Foundation;  
Angelo Fonte Family Foundation; James Periconi, Esq.; National Italian American Foundation (NIAF);  
Long Island Regional Council/American Italian Historical Association.*

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010 HOFSTRA CULTURAL CENTER  
HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY**

**10 a.m.-5 p.m.**

**REGISTRATION and COFFEE**

Rochelle and Irwin A. Lowenfeld Conference and Exhibition Hall  
Joan and Donald E. Axinn Library, 10th Floor, South Campus

**11-11:15 a.m.**

**WELCOMING REMARKS**

**Herman A. Berliner**

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Lawrence Herbert Distinguished Professor  
Hofstra University

# A NECESSARY DIALOGUE, OR FOR A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN ITALIAN STUDIES AND ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

- I. **ON METHODOLOGY: RETHINKING ITALIANISTICA (11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)**
- Soliciting the Discipline: Italianistica in the Contemporary  
University and a Plea for a “Dangerous” Pedagogy*  
**Pellegrino D’Acierno**, Professor of Comparative Literature and Languages,  
Queensboro UNICO Distinguished Professor of Italian and Italian American Studies,  
Hofstra University  
*Conference Director*
- II. **“THEORY-WORK”: DIALOGIZING ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES/  
ITALIANIZING THE CURRICULUM**
- Manifestos/Blasts:**
- Peter Carravetta**, Stony Brook University  
**Thomas Ferraro**, Duke University  
**John Gennari**, University of Vermont
- III. **FOR A TRANSNATIONAL PEDAGOGY:  
ITALIAN AND ITALIAN AMERICAN CATEGORIES (12:45-9 p.m.)**
- 12:45-1:30 p.m. **A: “Border-Work”: Learning From the Diaspora:  
The Old and New Emigration/Immigration**
- Teresa Fiore**, California State University, Long Beach  
**Gregory Pell**, Hofstra University
- 1:30-3:15 p.m. **B: Spectacle Culture: The Artist as Manifesto**
- 1:30-2:15 p.m. *The Next 475 Years of My Art and Life*  
**Lucio Pozzi**, Artist, Verona, Italy  
*Tiro a Segno Foundation Conference Scholar*
- 2:30-3:15 p.m. *The Self as Spectacle*  
**Annie Lanzillotto**, Performance Artist, New York, NY
- 3:15-6 p.m. **C: Ticklish Subjects, or The Migration of the Symptoms  
of the Nation**
- 3:15-4 p.m. **C-1: Anarchism and the Radical Tradition**
- Terrorism Translated*  
**Nunzio Pernicone**, Drexel University
- Learning From Sacco and Vanzetti*  
**Mary Anne Trasciatti**, Hofstra University

- 4-4:30 p.m.                   **C-2: Teaching The Mafia – A Symptomatic Reading**  
**Stefano Vaccara**, Editor, *America Oggi*
- 4:30-5:30 p.m.               **C-3: Diagnosing Mafia – Movie Madness**  
Contributors to *The Mafia Movie Reader*  
**Dana Renga**, Editor, Ohio State University  
**Elizabeth Leake**, Rutgers University  
**Giancarlo Lombardi**, The Graduate Center/CUNY and The College of Staten Island
- 5:30-6 p.m.                   **C-4: Matteo Garrone’s *Gomorra***  
**Dana Renga**, Editor, Ohio State University  
**Simone Castaldi**, Hofstra University  
**Gregory Pell**, Hofstra University
- 6-6:30 p.m.                   **D: Diaspora Blues**  
*Learning From Ellis Island/Dialogizing Italian and Italian American Art*  
**B. Amore**, Artist, New York, NY
- 
- 6:30-8 p.m.                   **DINNER** (*on your own*)
- 
- 8-9 p.m.                       **E: Bis: Diaspora Blues**  
**Between Fable and Documentary: Screening Immigration and the Immigrant Experience – *Nuovomondo* Versus *Pane Amaro***
- Moderator:**               **Christine Noschese**, Hofstra University  
**Gianfranco Norelli**, Director, *Pane Amaro*  
**Teresa Fiore**, California State University, Long Beach
- 9 p.m.                         **SCREENING OF *PANE AMARO* (2009)**, directed by **Gianfranco Norelli**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2010**

**HOFSTRA CULTURAL CENTER  
HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY**

**8 a.m.-5 p.m.**

**REGISTRATION and COFFEE**

Rochelle and Irwin A. Lowenfeld Conference and Exhibition Hall  
Joan and Donald E. Axinn Library, 10th Floor, South Campus

**FOR A CRITICAL AND SELF-CRITICAL PEDAGOGY: ITALIAN AMERICAN CATEGORIES**

**IV. (COUNTER-) IDENTITY-WORK (9 a.m.-Noon)**

**9-9:45 a.m.**

**A: Speaking as an Italian American: Language/Silence: The Dialect as Language of the Skin and the Advent of Literacy**

**Nancy Carnevale**, Montclair State University  
**Mary Anne Trasciatti**, Hofstra University

**10-10:30 a.m.**

**B: Writing as an Italian American: The Construction of a Scriptural Persona**

**Maria Laurino**, Creative Writing Program, New York University  
Author, *Old World Daughter, New World Mother* and *Were You Always an Italian?*

**10:30-11 a.m.**

**C: Writing/Desiring Italy From America**

*Cross-Cultural Love: Italy/L'America*  
**Martha McPhee**, Hofstra University  
Author, *L'America*

**11 a.m.-Noon**

**D: Workshop: Teaching as an Italian American  
On the Modern Language Association Textbook  
*Teaching Italian American Literature, Film, and Popular Culture***

**Moderator:**

**Edvige Giunta**, New Jersey City University

**Kathleen Zamboni McCormick**, SUNY Purchase  
**Peter Covino**, University of Rhode Island  
**Robert Viscusi**, Wolfe Institute for the Humanities, Brooklyn College, CUNY  
**Marisa Trubiano**, Montclair State University

---

**Noon-1 p.m.**

**LUNCH** (*on your own*)

---

**1-2 p.m.**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

*Writing Fiction as an Italian American*  
**Frank Lentricchia**, Duke University  
**Queensboro UNICO Distinguished Conference Scholar**

- V. **OPPOSITIONAL-WORK: POLITICIZING THE DISCIPLINE AND DECONSTRUCTING THE AMERICAN SOCIAL IMAGINARY (2-3:15 p.m.)**
- 2-2:40 p.m. **A: Confronting “Dagotude” or Stigmatic Ethnicity: The Figure and Image of the Italian American Within the Regime of Stereotypes**
- Donald Tricarico, Queensborough Community College, CUNY  
Carl Capotorto, Actor; Author, *Twisted Head*
- 2:40-3:15 p.m. **B: “STIM” on “Dagotude”:** Tutti insieme appassionatamente
- Thomas Ferraro, Robert Viscusi, John Gennari, Edvige Giunta,  
Pellegrino D’Acierno, Stanislao Pugliese
- VI. **MEMORY-WORK: CONSTRUCTING A COUNTER-HISTORY OF THE ITALIAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (3:15-5:30 p.m.)**
- 3:15-4 p.m. **A: For a Rosary of Memories: Italian American Poets and “Memory-Work”**
- Moderator: **Edvige Giunta**
- Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Binghamton University, SUNY  
Peter Covino, The University of Rhode Island
- 4-5:30 p.m. **B: Italoamericana**
- Moderator: **James Periconi, Esq.**  
New York, NY
- Dialogue:**  
**Francesco Durante**, University of Salerno, Italy  
**Joseph G. Astman Distinguished Conference Scholar**
- Robert Viscusi**, Wolfe Institute for the Humanities, Brooklyn College/CUNY
- Supplement: James Periconi, Esq.: On the Necessity of Archival Fever**
- 
- 6-8 p.m. **BANQUET**
- 
- 8:15-9:15 p.m. **PERFIDIA: A TALE OF INTERNMENT**
- A performance of **Jo Ann Tedesco’s** play on the internment of Italian Americans during the Second World War  
Directed by **Bobby Funaro**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010 THE ITALIAN ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED STUDIES  
IN AMERICA, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

**8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. REGISTRATION**

**9-9:15 a.m. WELCOMING REMARKS**

**David Freedberg**

Director, The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America,  
Columbia University

**ITALIAN STUDIES: NEW ANATOMIES, NEW THRESHOLDS**

**9:15-9:30 a.m. OPENING REMARKS**

*Why Study Italy?*

**Pellegrino D'Acierno**, Professor of Comparative Literature and Languages,  
Queensboro UNICO Distinguished Professor of Italian and Italian American Studies,  
Hofstra University  
*Conference Director*

**I. LITERATURE (9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.)**

**9:30-10:50 a.m. A: Rethinking Dante**

9:30-9:50 a.m.

*Globalizing Dante*

**Teodolinda Barolini**, Columbia University

9:50-10:30 a.m.

*Rethinking the Dante-Centric Curriculum*

**Simone Marchesi**, Princeton University

**Ronald Martinez**, Brown University

10:30-10:50 a.m.

**Discussion: Tutti**

**11-11:40 a.m.**

**B: Rethinking the Canon: Missing Texts, Authors, and Problematics**

*Reclaiming Leopardi's Lo Zibaldone: A Conversation*

**Franco D'intino**, University of Rome, La Sapienza, Italy

**Jonathan Galassi**, Editor-in-Chief, Farrar, Straus & Giroux

**11:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**C: Learning From the Renaissance, or the Humanism That Lasts Forever**

**Moderator:**

**Jo Ann Cavallo**, Columbia University

**Jane Tylus**, New York University

**David Marsh**, Rutgers University

---

**12:30-1:45 p.m.**

**LUNCH** (*on your own*)

---

1:45-3 p.m.

**D: *Insegnare la Letteratura Oggi?***

**Moderator:**

**Frank Lentricchia**, Duke University  
**Queensboro UNICO Distinguished Conference Scholar**

*The View From Italy*

**Romano Luperini**, University of Siena, Italy  
**Tiro a Segno Foundation Conference Scholar**

*The View From America*

**Fabio Finotti**, University of Pennsylvania

3-3:30 p.m.

**E: Rethinking Periods and Cultural Dominants**

**Learning From the Novecento or, the Modernism that Failed?**

*Wrestling With Two Angels: Communism and the Church in the Work of Ignazio Silone*

**Stanislao Pugliese**, Hofstra Cultural Center Fellow  
Special Conference Adviser, Hofstra University

*The Modernist Gambit: Male Consciousness in the Modern Italian Novel*

**Andrea Malaguti**, Columbia University

3:30-4:30 p.m.

**F: Rethinking Forms and for a Suturing of Italianistica and Comparative Literature**

**Sonnet Pedagogy: "Rhyme and Freedom"**

**Moderator:**

**Phillis Levin**, Hofstra University

**Sandra Bermann**, Princeton University  
**Robert Viscusi**, Brooklyn College, CUNY

4:30-5:30 p.m.

**G: Rethinking Genres and Registers**

**A Defense of Poetry (Which Needs None)**

**Paolo Valesio**, Columbia University  
**Peter Covino**, University of Rhode Island  
**Jonathan Galassi**, Editor-in-Chief, Farrar, Straus & Giroux  
**Jennifer Scappettone**, University of Chicago

---

5:30-6 p.m.

**BREAK**

---

**II.**

**DANGEROUS TEXTS (5:40-7:40 p.m.)**

5:40-6:20 p.m.

**A: Dangerous Texts: First Movement**

*A Manifesto for Two-Voices*

**Mario Biagioli**, Harvard University  
**Kriss Ravetto**, University of Edinburgh

6:20-6:40 p.m.

**B: Dangerous Texts: Intermezzo**

*A Manifesto for Love and Luck in the Voice of a Fedele d'amore*

**Gioia Timpanelli**, *cantastorie*

Author, *What Makes a Child Lucky*

Kingston, NY

6:40-7:20 p.m.

**C: Dangerous Texts: Second Movement**

*Visconti as Opera Queen*

**Peter Brunette**, Wake Forest University

**Dialogue:**

*Where Have You Gone, Manfredo Tafuri?*

**Joan Ockman**, Van Alen Institute

**Pellegrino D'Acierno**, Conference Director, Hofstra University

7:40-8 p.m.

**Discussion: Tutti**

---

**8-9 p.m.**

**RECEPTION**

---



**SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010**

**CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI-MARIMÒ,  
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**

**8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.                    REGISTRATION**

**9:15-9:30 a.m.                    WELCOMING REMARKS**

**Stefano Albertini**  
Director, Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò,  
New York University

## **THE ITALIAN DIFFERENCE**

**I.    CULTURAL STUDIES: NEW DIRECTIONS (9:30-11 a.m.)**

9:30-10 a.m.                    *'Ma la superficie delle cose è inesauribile': Il fumetto e l'estetica del postmoderno nel dopo-'77 Italiano*  
**Simone Castaldi**, Hofstra University

10-10:30 a.m.                    *Rethinking Fascist Culture: Empire Cinema*  
**Ruth Ben-Ghiat**, New York University

10:30-11 a.m.                    *The Uncertain Future of the Past: Italian Studies in a Preposterous Present*  
**Massimo Riva**, Brown University

**II:    THE OTHER PHILOSOPHY, OR  
WHY ITALIAN PHILOSOPHY MATTERS (11 a.m.-1:40 p.m.)**

**A: The Difference of Italian Philosophical and Theoretical Culture**

11-11:30 a.m.                    **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**  
**Remo Bodei**, University of California, Los Angeles  
**Joseph G. Astman Distinguished Conference Scholar at Hofstra University**

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.                    **Dialogue:**  
**Franca D'Agostini**, Politecnico di Torino, Italy  
**Tiro a Segno Foundation Conference Scholar**

**Achille Varzi**, Columbia University

12:40-1:40 p.m.                    **B: The Differences of Italian Philosophy**

12:40-1 p.m.                    *Vattimo: Weak Thought and Its Aftermath*  
**Peter Carravetta**, Stony Brook University

1-1:20 p.m.                    *Cacciari and Sini: Between Venice and Milan*  
**Alessandro Carrera**, University of Houston

1:20-1:40 p.m.                    **Discussion: Tutti**

---

1:45-2:30 p.m.            **LUNCH** (*on your own*)

---

III.                            **THE SPECTERS OF GRAMSCI: ITALIAN CULTURE AFTER POSTMODERNISM – GLOBAL CULTURE OR "COMA CULTURE"?** (2:30-6:30 p.m.)

**OPENING REMARKS**

2:30 p.m.                    *Italy as the Repeating Peninsula, or — To Pose the Old Crocean Question — What Is Alive and What Is Dead in Contemporary or Post-Italian Culture?*  
**Pellegrino D’Acierno**, Professor of Comparative Literature and Languages, Queensboro UNICO Distinguished Professor of Italian and Italian American Studies, Hofstra University  
*Conference Director*

2:30-2:50 p.m.            *The Way We Were: Is Italy a Racist Country?*  
**Stefano Albertini**, New York University

2:50-3:10 p.m.            *From Organic Intellectual to Pure Vaseline: Cultural Labor in a Society of Spectacle*  
**Roberto Dainotto**, Duke University

3:10-3:30 p.m.            *The View From Napoli*  
**Francesco Durante**, University of Salerno, Italy  
**Joseph G. Astman Distinguished Conference Scholar at Hofstra University**

---

3:30-3:45 p.m.            **BREAK**

---

3:45-4:05 p.m.            *The New Art Scene: The View From Verona*  
**Lucio Pozzi**, Artist, Verona, Italy  
**Tiro a Segno Foundation Conference Scholar**

4:05-4:25 p.m.            *The New Architectural Culture: The View From Rotterdam*  
**Pier Vittorio Aureli**, Berlage Institute, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

4:25-5 p.m.                **KEYNOTE ADDRESS** (invited)  
**Francesco Erspamer**, Harvard University

---

5:5:15 p.m.                **BREAK**

---

5:15-5:25 p.m. *Italian History 101: Belusconi's Re-Writing of La Storia*  
**Stanislao Pugliese**, Hofstra University

5:30-5:50 p.m. *Globalized Italy*  
**Victoria de Grazia**, Columbia University

5:50-6:10 p.m. *Identity/Identities?*  
**Silvana Patriarca**, Fordham University

6:10-6:30 p.m. **Discussion: Tutti**

---

**6:30-7 p.m. BREAK**

---

**IV. THE NEW ITALIAN CINEMA (7-8:15 p.m.)**

**Round Table Discussion:**

**Peter Brunette**, Wake Forest University  
**Kriss Ravetto**, University of Edinburgh, Canada  
**Gianfranco Norelli**, Documentary Filmmaker, New York, NY  
**Maurizio Grimaldi**, Studio Head, Alberto Grimaldi Productions

---

**8:15-9 p.m. CLOSING RECEPTION**

---

## **LODGING INFORMATION**

The Long Island Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Uniondale, La Quinta Inn & Suites in Garden City, have been designated the official conference hotels. The following are the special discounted rates for room reservations.

### **LONG ISLAND MARRIOTT HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER**

101 James Doolittle Blvd.

Uniondale, NY 11553

Attn: Reservations Manager

Tel: (516) 794-3800 or (800) 832-6255

Fax: (516) 794-5936

Room rate: \$159 per night,  
single/double/triple/quadruple occupancy

**Cutoff date: Based on availability**

### **LA QUINTA INN & SUITES**

821 Stewart Avenue

Garden City, NY 11530

Tel: (516) 705-9000 or (800) 531-5900

Fax: (516) 705-9100

Room rate: \$149 per night,  
single/double occupancy

**Cutoff date: Based on availability**

**NOTE:** ALL RESERVATIONS WILL BE HELD UNTIL 6 P.M. ON DAY OF ARRIVAL UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY THE FIRST NIGHT'S ROOM DEPOSIT OR SECURED BY A MAJOR CREDIT CARD. RESERVATIONS AT THE DISCOUNTED RATE ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. WHEN MAKING YOUR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE ***MANIFESTO FOR ITALIAN AND ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES*** AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY.

Scheduled transportation will be arranged between the Hofstra University campus and contracted hotels. Schedules will be available at the Conference Registration Desk as well as at the hotels.

Mail or fax to:

**Dangerous Pedagogy Conference**

Hofstra Cultural Center

113 Hofstra University

Hempstead, NY 11549-1130

Tel: (516) 463-5669 • Fax: (516) 463-4793

To register online, please visit [hofstra.edu/culture](http://hofstra.edu/culture).

**REGISTER  
ONLINE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I have made lodging reservations at:

Long Island Marriott

LaQuinta Inn & Suites

Method of Payment

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(payable to Hofstra University – Dangerous Pedagogy Conference).

MasterCard     Visa

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Returned Checks:** A \$25 handling fee will be charged for returned checks.

**REGISTRATION FEES**

		NO. OF PERSONS	AMOUNT
Regular rate	\$75	_____	\$ _____
Daily Rate (Please indicate day)	\$25	_____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday			
Senior citizen (65 and over)	\$50	_____	\$ _____
Matriculated non-Hofstra/Columbia New York University student	\$25	_____	\$ _____
(must include copy of current school ID)			
Dinner (Thursday, April 15)	\$50	_____	\$ _____
	Total	_____	\$ _____

Hofstra University is 100-percent program accessible to persons with disabilities.

All events (**with the exception of meals**) are FREE to Hofstra/Columbia/New York University students, faculty and staff upon presentation of a current ID card.