
IAWA supports Italian
American Writing.
Please support IAWA.

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www.iawa.net.

Suggested donations:

Membership \$30
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If you prefer to send a check,
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American Writers Association,"
and send it to the following
address:

Treasurer, Italian American
Writers Association,
P.O. Box 418, Brooklyn, NY
11215

Italian American Writers Association

Newsletter, February 2014



"Only silence is shame." -Bartolomeo Vanzetti

Saturday, February 8, 2014

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**Maria Mazziotti Gillan and
James Mammarella**

Sidewalk Café
94 Avenue A & 6th Street, Manhattan
212-473-7373
www.sidewalkny.com

\$8 minimum includes one drink.
Come in time to sign up at 5:30.
5 minute time limit for open mic.

Since 1991, the
organization has
given voice to
writers through
its Open Reading
series every
month.

Maria Mazziotti Gillan is a recipient of the 2011 Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Award from Poets & Writers and the 2008 American Book Award for her book, *All That Lies Between Us* (Guernica Editions). She has published 18 books, including *What We Pass On: Collected Poems 1980-2009*, *The Place I Call Home*, *The Silence in an Empty House*, *Ancestors' Song*, and *Writing*

*Poetry to Save Your Life: How to Find the Courage to Tell
Your Stories.*

Mazziotti is the founder/executive director of the Poetry Center at Passaic County Community College in Paterson, NJ and editor of the *Paterson Literary Review*. She is also director of the Binghamton Center for Writers and professor of poetry at Binghamton University-SUNY. With her daughter Jennifer, she is co-editor of four anthologies. Visit www.mariagillan.com.

James Mammarella is a poet, business journalist and editor. He will read from his newly published poetry collection, *Sonnets for Silvertrees*. He is founding editor and associate publisher of *License! Magazine* leading his team to a Neal award, known as the "Oscars"

Send announcements of readings and literary events by the 15th of the preceding month to Lisa Paolucci at newsletter@iawa.net. **Please format in third person and in this order for events: Day, Date, Type of event, Event and Name of Participants, Time, Place of event and address, Admission price; Contact information Web site.** We do not open attachments; please put all announcements in the body of your email in plain text only; we can't use jpg or anything in all caps. Thank you!

of business publishing. He also won several juried awards, including the Godfrey Lebhar Award for Editorial Excellence and the Jesse Neal National Business Media Award.

He studied poetry at George Washington University and performed at antiwar rallies in Washington, D.C. in the 1970s, Native American-based cultural events and most recently at the Enigma Bookstore in Astoria as a member of the group Queens Writers Read at Enigma Bookstore. Mammarella is currently studying Italian.

Get Involved

If you are interested in participating in IAWA event planning, please contact Robert Agnoli at Rdiangelica@aol.com. We welcome your involvement!

Upcoming IAWA Readings

March 8: Marisa Labozzetta and Christopher Castellani @ Cornelia St. Cafe

April 12: Mark Saba and Joey Nicoletti @ Sidewalk Cafe

May 10: Fred Misurella and Frank Lentricchia @ Cornelia St. Cafe

June 8: Maria Terrone and Paola Corso @ Sidewalk Cafe

The Launching of IAWA-East

April marked the inauguration of a second venue for the Italian American Writers Association's (IAWA) Literary Reading Series, one of the longest-running series in New York City that began in 1991.

Sidewalk Café in New York City's East Village will host IAWA-East bimonthly readings during the even months and IAWA-West readings will continue during the odd months at Cornelia Street Café in the West Village.

The Italian American literary canon has grown exponentially over the past 20 years. Among the literary luminaries who have been featured at IAWA are Poets House Executive Director, Lee Briccetti; *Chelsea* Magazine founder and editor, Alfredo de Palchi; Beat poet and activist, Diane di Prima; translator and CEO of Farrar Straus and Giroux, Jonathan Galassi; and Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Daniela Gioseffi, Jo Gattuso Hendin, Frank Lentricchia, Jim Shepherd, Gay Talese and IAWA co-founder and president Robert Viscusi, author of *Astoria* and *Ellis Island*. IAWA also presents a bilingual series of readings with internationally-recognized translator Luigi Bonaffini.

IAWA Joins One Percent for Culture Campaign

IAWA joined the One Percent for Culture campaign as have hundreds of other organizations in New York City. One Percent for Culture is a non-partisan, grassroots, five-borough campaign whose mission is to demonstrate the value of culture to New York City. The campaign will generate private and public support for an increase in the city's financial commitment to the nonprofit cultural community, including artists of all

disciplines, to a full one percent of the municipal expense budget. New York City's 1,200 plus cultural organizations and thousands of artists are essential to the economy and identity of the city, creating more than 100,000 jobs and generating \$7.6 billion in economic activity. And yet, nonprofit culture receives less than one-fourth of one percent of the overall city expense budget. Individuals are also encouraged to join the campaign by signing on at [<http://www.oneforculture.org/>].

Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 6th and Friday, February 7th Neuroscience Symposium: The Default Mode Network in Aesthetics and Creativity. This workshop will bring together neuroscientists from the New York area and beyond to present their research and methodological approach toward the rapidly-developing subject of the Default Mode Network. Given the vast interest in the role of the DMN in aesthetics and creativity, we will focus on this area, and will bring in more research on the DMN and its constituent nodes. The event, hosted by the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America at Columbia University in cooperation with the College of Arts and Science at New York University, will feature talks by Randy Buckner, Felicity Callard, Maurizio Corbetta, Rex Jung, Bill Kelley, Daniel Margulies, Marcus Raichle, Nathan Spreng (Cornell), Yvette Sheline, and Ed Vessel. Free and open to the public. Space is limited. Please reserve seats. RSVP at http://www.italianacademy.columbia.edu/events/2013-2014/DefaultModeNeuroscience/defaultmode_neuroscience.html.

Wednesday, February 12th The E.R. Lorch Memorial Recital: Emanuele Arciuli, piano. *Variations in f minor* - Haydn; *Out of Doors* - Bartók; *Hymne à la Nuit* - Liszt; *Ishi's Song* - Martin Bresnick (b. 1946); *Earth-Preserving Chant* - Kyle Gann (b. 1955) *Phrygian Gates* - John Adams (b. 1947). Free and open to the public. http://www.italianacademy.columbia.edu/events_calendar.html
The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, 1161 Amsterdam Avenue (between 116th & 118th Streets), New York, NY 10027.

Thursday, February 13th Writers Read Series: Michael Parenti reads from *Waiting for Yesterday: Pages from a Street Kid's Life* (Bordighera Press, 2013). *Waiting for Yesterday* details political scientist Michael Parenti's youth in the 1940s in New York City's East Harlem along with some of the influences that helped shape his lifelong commitment to activism and social justice. The memoir provides vignettes about growing up in a three-generation, working-class Italian-American family, as well as sharply recalled predicaments typical of a street kid's life. In a story that is both personal and broad-ranging, often sweet and occasionally bitter, Parenti challenges many stereotypes faced by Italian Americans and other ethnic groups. 6:00 pm. Free & Open to the Public. All events are held at the Calandra Institute. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, 17th floor, New York, New York 10036 (Between 5th and 6th Avenues). RSVP by calling (212) 642-2094. RSVP encouraged but not required. For further information see www.qc.edu/calandra.

Thursday, February 13th Holocaust Remembrance Symposium: *Gender and Anti-Semitism: Women's Rights Yesterday and Today*. Victoria De Grazia (Columbia), Yasmine Ergas (Columbia), Elissa Bemporad (Queens College CUNY). The Italian Academy at Columbia University. RSVP at http://www.italianacademy.columbia.edu/events_calendar.html.

Friday, February 21st Reading: "Queens Writers": David Bellantoni, Gil Fagiani, Sandi Leibowitz, Maria Lisella, James Mammarella, Susan Weiman. 6:30 – 8:30 PM. Enigma Bookstore, 33-17 Crescent Street, Astoria, NY. Directions: From Times Square or 59th and Lexington stop. Take the N or Q train to the Broadway stop. Walk west on the south side of Broadway towards 30th Street. Turn left on Crescent Street and walk 2 blocks to Enigma. Quick trip from Queensboro Plaza - About 19 minutes door to door.

Tuesday, February 25th Women's & Trans' Poetry Jam & Open Mike. Featured Writers: Aimee Herman & Ilka Scobie. Aimee Herman's poetics deconstruct the architecture of gender and bodies. She experiments with the language of bones, cracks them open, counts the syllables stuffed inside, and smears what translates onto the page. Ilka Scobie's poems are written through the filter of being a feminist, native New Yorker, traveler and teacher. "A passionate song to the city in all its stripped down, scaffolded, merciless and brave beauty" - Janine Pommy Vega. 7pm – 9pm. Open mike (for women & trans) – sign-up at 7 pm – 8 minute limit. Bring your poetry, your prose, your songs, and your spoken word. \$5 suggested donation. This series, started in 1999, is hosted by Vittoria repetto – the hardest working guinea butch dyke poet on the lower east side. Bluestockings Bookstore, 172 Allen St. (between Staton & Rivington), 1 1/2 blocks south from E.Houston, NYC. Take V or F train to 2nd Ave. and exit from the 1st Ave exit and walk south down Allen St. (aka. 1st Ave) 1 1/2 blocks to the store. [212-777-6028](tel:212-777-6028) info@bluestockings.com <http://www.bluestockings.com/>.

Saturday, February 22nd The Vito Marcantonio Forum - Dramatic Reading of Leonard Covello's *The Heart is a Teacher*. The Mulberry Street Branch of the New York Public Library is hosting the Vito Marcantonio Forum for a book party, dramatic reading and discussion of Leonard Covello's *The Heart is the Teacher*. Recently reprinted and reissued by the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute's series dedicated to all aspects of the Italian diaspora. Professor Gerald J. Meyer who wrote the Afterword for the reissued book, will contextualize Covello's work and discuss its pedagogical relevance in today's multi-cultural society. New York based playwright/actor, performance and multidisciplinary artist, LuLu LoLo will dramatize portions of the book while Roberto Ragone will take on Vito Marcantonio's perspective as the seven-time elected Congressman from East Harlem who was a close friend to Covello. 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Refreshments will be served. Free admission. 10 Jersey Street, corner of Mulberry and Prince Streets between Lafayette Street and Mulberry Street, one block south of E. Houston Street. Directions: B/D/F/M trains to Broadway/Lafayette, the 6 train to Bleecker Street, or the R train to Prince Street. The library is handicapped accessible. <http://www.nypl.org/locations/mulberry-street> For more information about the Vito Marcantonio Forum, visit <http://vitomarcantonioforum.com/>

Tuesday, March 11th Writers Read Series: Luigi Bonaffini and Joseph Perricone read from *Poets of the Italian Diaspora: A Bilingual Anthology* (Fordham University Press, 2014). The worldwide Italian diaspora reportedly numbers more than sixty million people. Until now, however, there has not been an anthology devoted to the literature of the Italian diaspora that places it in a global context. This landmark volume, co-edited by Luigi Bonaffini and Joseph Perricone, presents an international selection of works by more than seventy Italian-language poets who are writing in countries from Australia to Venezuela. Their poetry is organized according to eleven geographical regions. The history and current state of Italian-language poetry in each region receives a critical overview by a scholar who also introduces each poet and provides a bibliography of his or her work. *Poets of the Italian Diaspora* is part of a long-range project, by the editors and contributors, to expand the boundaries of Italian literature. 6:00 pm. Free & Open to the Public. All events are held at the Calandra Institute. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, 17th floor, New York, New York 10036 (Between 5th and 6th Avenues). RSVP by calling (212) 642-2094. RSVP encouraged but not required. For further information see www.qc.edu/calandra.

Friday, March 28th Reading: The Italian American Writers Association presents the 3rd reading in its Ethnic Encounters Series featuring Gil Fagiani, reading in Italian and English, Marisa Frasca, reading in Sicilian and English, and Claudia Serea, reading in Romanian and English. 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Enigma Bookstore, 33-17 Crescent Street, Astoria, NY. Directions: From Times Square or 59th and Lexington stop. Take the N or Q train to the Broadway stop. Walk west on the south side of Broadway towards 30th Street. Turn left on Crescent Street and walk 2 blocks to Enigma. Quick trip from Queensboro Plaza - About 19 minutes door to door.

Sunday, March 30th Reading: IAWA Board Member Amy Barone will be a featured poet at Great Weather Presents Spoken Word Sundays NYC @The Parkside Lounge from 4 to 6 pm. Includes five minute open mic at start of reading. Address is 317 East Houston Street (at Attorney Street), Lower East Side, NYC. Host is David Lawton.

Members' News

Anthony S. Maulucci's new three-act play, *The Rose Garden*, has just been published in a Kindle edition by Lorenzo Press. In this second play in Maulucci's series about Italian American life in the 20th century, a mysteriously beautiful rose garden forms the backdrop to a young World War Two veteran's story of self-discovery. Sandro Argenti, a talented jazz musician, is living with his wife Gabriella and her parents in a Hartford, Connecticut suburb in the year 1948. He works in a typewriter factory during the day and attends jazz concerts at a local club on weekends. After a jam session one Saturday night, he is offered a place as sax player with an up-and-coming band. He must choose whether to stay with his loving wife and her somewhat demanding family or go on the road to fulfill his dream. This is a sequel to Maulucci's play, *The Square* (La Piazza). Click here to order http://www.amazon.com/Rose-Garden-Anthony-S-Maulucci-ebook/dp/B00HQ0PG10/ref=sr_1_1?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1389041611&sr=1-

[1&keywords=maulucci](#) A pdf copy of the script is available for interested actors, directors, and producers. Contact the author at quietcities@gmail.com.

Daniela Gioseffi has published an all new website of Ecological Poetry with Commentary and News and Action on Climate Crisis at www.Eco-Poetry.org/ It features Joanne Monte, Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Maria Lisella, Gil Fagiani, Marie Torrone, Rob Marchesani, Stephen Massimilla, Grace Cavalieri, Paola Corso, Barbara Fragoletti Hoffman, Angelina Oberdan, Nancy Mercado, D. Nurkse, Quincy Troupe, Annie Finch, Burt Kimmelman, Juanita Torrence Thompson, Ishmael Reed, Marge Piercy, Allen Ginsberg, Eliot Katz, Vivian Demuth, George Held, Myra Shapiro, Fran Castan, Pat Falk, Colette Inez, Wendy Larsen and others, along with master poets, i.e. Ernesto Cardenal, Galway Kinnell, Robert Bly, Wendell Barry and classic poets like Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Rumi, and even a poem by Al Gore, There'san editorial "Climate Crisis Is Here! Time is short for Habitable Earth: That's the Reality!" by Daniela Gioseffi at www.eco-poetry.org/climate_crisis-is-here.html --newly designed and built by Daniela herself as webmaster and editor.

A new long poem, *Waging Beauty as the Polar Bear Dreams of Ice*, calling for a passionate response to climate crisis, is recently published today on the Norwegian website devoted to ecological issues regarding climate change. <http://forfatternesklimaaksjon.wordpress.com/dikt/> Daniela's bio.note, links to www.350.org and the divest from fossil fuels campaign here in NY City. The Norwegian site, similar to www.Eco-Poetry.org, publishes poetry and essays regarding the dangers of global warming by some of Norway's leading authors. Daniela's essay on the need to naturalize wetlands is also linked on the Norwegian site. The editor of the Norwegian site found www.Eco-Poetry.org/ on the internet and wrote to Daniela, asking for a contribution to the Norwegian site, expressing a desire to make this international exchange. Find this connection from across the sea at this link: <http://forfatternesklimaaksjon.wordpress.com/dikt/> Several Italian American authors at www.eco-poetry.org have thereby been linked to the Norwegian site and the global campaign to divest from filthy fossil fuels which are destroying habitable Earth.

Daniela Gioseffi's poem, "Earth's Body in True Genesis," was published in *Estrellos in el Fuego*, Stars in the Fire, The New Year's Day Spoken Word Performance Extravaganza, 2014 Anthology and Daniela also read New Year's day with several poets, many Latinos of NY City, at the Neuyorican Poets' Cafe in Lower Manhattan.

Anna Filameno's book *So You Wanna Be Italian?: An Artist's Journey Exploring Her Roots* is now available for IPAD at <http://goo.gl/F3bCB5> and Amazon for kindle at <http://goo.gl/vJzfDC>.

Michael Palma's essay on John Frederick Nims, originally published in *Gradiiva* in 1999, was posted on the *Best American Poetry Blog* on November 20th, the one hundredth anniversary of Nims's birth: <http://blog.bestamericanpoetry.com/>

Louisa Calio is the First Prize Winner for the "Messina Città d'Arte" Poetry Competition for her poem entitled "Bhari". She will be awarded a medal and gifts from the organizers. Ms. Calio was named to the Advisory Board of Arba Sicula as well.

Lou Macaluso's murder mystery, *In Search of Sal*, inspired by the true story of Italian-American Hollywood character actor and multimillionaire Stanley DeSantis, hit the Amazon Best Seller List topping out number 27 in its first week. To order a copy, go to www.loumacaluso.com and hit Buy Now.

Paola Corso's poetry collection *The Laundress Catches Her Breath* is the winner of the Tillie Olsen Award for Creative Writing from the Working Class Studies Association. Judge Jeff Gundy had this to say: "*The Laundress Catches Her Breath* is a precisely visionary evocation of working-class Pittsburgh and the struggles of working women, in particular. Paola Corso's laundress is a vivid, richly detailed character, hard-working, chain-smoking, grouchy and smart, memorably imperfect and entirely winning. The book is stylistically varied and ingenious as well. "Hold for Ten Seconds" is a sort of magical realist sequence that involves washing clothes – maybe the first since *100 Years of Solitude*. And the long, astonishing "Heiress to Air" is brilliant, a moving tour de force that William Carlos Williams would certainly have loved." For more information: <http://www.paolacorso.com/laundress.htm>

Maria Terrone's long poem, "The Makeover," won the 2013 Mathiasen Prize from *Harmony*, a magazine from the Program in Medical Humanities at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. Her poems were recently published in *The Evansville Review*, *Paterson Literary Review*, *The Common*, and *The Museum of Americana*, and her poem "Cyborg Anthropologist" is forthcoming in *Green Mountains Review*. In October, *The Common* posted the slide show "Desire in Jackson Heights" by photographer Whitney Light with narrative by Terrone consisting of excerpts from her 2012 Guggenheim Museum-commissioned essay "At Home in the New World." To view, visit: <http://www.thecommononline.org/features/desire-jackson-heights>

A sixth book for educators by **Dr. Marie Menna Pagliaro**, *Academic Success: Applying Learning Theory in the Classroom*, was published in October by Rowman and Littlefield. Five of her other books have recently been published. Their titles are: *Educator or Bully? Managing the 21st Century Classroom*; *Exemplary Classroom Questioning: Practices to Promote Thinking and Learning*; *Differentiating Instruction: Matching Strategies with Objectives*; *Research-Based Unit and Lesson Planning: Maximizing Student Achievement*; and *Mastery Teaching Skills: A Resource for Implementing the Common Core State Standards*. *Educator or Bully* was the first book to be reviewed by Choice and was "recommended". These education books are in addition to her novel, *That Woman and the Mafia Don*, the profits of which go to help prevent young people from joining all kinds of ethnic gangs. To view the covers, synopses, and endorsements, visit her website at www.mariepagliaro.com.

Catherine Gigante-Brown has written a stirring historic novel set in Depression-era Brooklyn. *The El* is a finely-crafted, memorable saga about a loud, lusty Italian-American family. You can explore the first few chapters for free on Amazon (<http://www.amazon.com/The-El-ebook/dp/B009M98CFA/>), iTunes (<http://itunes.apple.com/us/book/the-el/id568119002?mt=11>) and Nook

(<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-el-catherine-gigante-brown/1113387703?ean=9781624880940>) *The El* is available as an ebook from Volossal Publishing (www.volossal.com).

Santi Buscemi has published his article "Meeting Antonin Scalia" at <http://www.timesofsicily.com/meeting-antonin-scalia/>.

New Perspectives Theater is producing an evening of **Richard Vetere's** ten minute plays *Richard Vetere Explains the World -- Ten Minutes at a Time* opening night on Halloween running through November. Please support this small but long running theater and get your tickets now. You will have a fun and thoughtful time. Follow this link for information and to order tickets.

Susanne Petite-Egielski's historical fiction, *Nelson's Castle: A Bronte Fairy Tale*, set in 1877 Sicily, is now available at Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.com. For excerpts and a brief history of Bronte, please visit *Nelson's Castle's* website at: <http://www.nelson-and-bronte.com>



IAWA President **Robert Viscusi's** *Ellis Island (Bordighera)* was reviewed in *Publisher's Weekly*. Read the review at the following link: <http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-1-59954-033-7>.

IAWA Board Member **Gil Fagiani** chaired a panel on Saturday, June 8th at the Left Forum titled "Vito Marcantonio: Spokesperson for the Left," that included Professor Gerald Meyer and Robert Ragone. His poem "The Freak" was chosen as an Editor's Choice for the 2013 Allen Ginsberg Poetry Awards, and his poem "Firstborn" was an Honorable Mention in the 8th Annual Amy Trites Needle Award. Recent poetry publications include: "The Weeds," Spring/Summer 2013, *Newtown Literary*, "I Dreamed I Spoke Italian with Grandma," *Feile-Festa, 2013*, "Bughouse Birthday," *New York City Voices*, Spring/Summer 2013. His poems "Job Titles" and "Tip Jars" were published in the Spring 2013 issue of *Blue Collar Review*.

IAWA Board Member **Amy Barone's** poems "Channeling the Wind," "Disappearing Diners" and "Desert Scape," appear in *The Rutherford Red Wheelbarrow No. 6*, an annual anthology. The publication is available online at http://www.lulu.com/shop/red-wheelbarrow-poets/the-rutherford-red-wheelbarrow-6/paperback/product-21164095.html?jsessionid=671C82CBD1603B2A9581477146FBFE9D?mid=social_facebook_pubsharefb

IAWA Board Member **Maria Lisella's** poem "Our Date" was published in *New Verse News*, which is edited James Penha. <http://newversenews.blogspot.com/>

Susan Weiman's blog can be read at <http://scwnynotebook.blogspot.com/>. She also runs a business in organization. Susan provides a free consultation and can help you establish goals and priorities; sort and clean up paperwork and computer files; design, implement and maintain new systems, rid of old papers, journals and financials; track

information; downsize your apartment or office; set up medical files and reimbursement system; and organize projects, collections and memorabilia. Contact Susan at 718-728-8409/smallbizrescue@gmail.com

Courses, Workshops & Resources for Writers

University of Iowa's International Writing Program invites you to register for its first Massive Open Online Course: "Every Atom: Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself*." The IWP is delighted to announce the opening of its first MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), which will offer new opportunities for the study and practice of creative writing and literary analysis to an unlimited number of participants around the world. Funded by the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the University of Iowa, the IWP's MOOCs are available to anyone who wishes to enroll; there are no application requirements. The first MOOC, **Every Atom: Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself***, offers participants the opportunity to read, consider, and discuss the epic poem over a six-week course. Roy J. Carver, Professor of English Ed Folsom, and International Writing Program Director Christopher Merrill will lead the examination of *Song of Myself* through video lectures, live breakout sessions, and ongoing online discussion. Hosted by the University of Iowa's Virtual Writing University, **Every Atom** will open in mid-February 2014. Click here for a complete course description and schedule: <http://courses.writinguniversity.org/info/every-atom>
Course Dates: Monday, February 17, 2014 to Saturday, March 29, 2014.

Dr. Emelise Aleandri is now a Field Editor for the Edwin Mellen Press soliciting manuscripts that make a contribution to scholarship or advance the knowledge of other scholars. Interested scholars may contact her about publishing their manuscripts.

Dr. Emelise Aleandri, Field Editor
The Edwin Mellen Press
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[347 964 7892](tel:3479647892); cell 917 821 1036
office: [212 675 1003 ext. 6](tel:2126751003)

Publishers' News, Book Reviews, Contest Winners & Awards

MiroLand, Guernica's imprint, proudly presents its first publication: **Maria Mazziotti Gillan's *Writing Poetry To Save Your Life***, the only book you'll ever need to bring out your inner poet. It combines Maria's personal story as a writer with her suggestions for writers at all stages of development. The voice in this book is that of a friend who sits with you in a warm kitchen sipping espresso or a cup of herbal tea, while offering support and encouragement. It is designed to help you find the stories you have to tell and the words to tell them. It is based on the belief that when you find the courage

to explore your memories, you will find the source for evocative writing. It can be used in classrooms, by writer's groups, or by an individual while writing at home or in a coffee shop. It will jumpstart your creativity, giving you permission to use the power of words to save your life.

Writing Poetry to Save Your Life: How to Find the Courage to Tell Your Stories

By Maria Mazziotti Gillan

ISBN-13: 9781550717471

Pub date: April 30, 2013

Available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Small Press Distributors

Guernica Editions has just published *Writing Our Way Home*, a volume of creative and critical texts, featuring contributors from Canada, Italy and the United States: Annalisa Bonomo, John Calabro, Michele Campanini, Licia Canton, Maria Giuseppina 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, Jim Pignetti, Frank Polizzi, Maria Cristina Seccia, Maria Tognan, Osvaldo Zappa, Jim Zuccherò. {*Guernica Editions*}
<http://www.guernicaeditions.com/title.php?id=9781550718027>

Chelsea Editions has published *Paradigm: New and Selected Poems, 1947-2009* by Alfredo de Palchi; Selected, Edited, and Introduced by John Taylor; Translated by Luigi Bonaffini, Barbara Carle, Ned Condin, Anamaria Crowe Serrano, Michael Palma, Sonia Raiziss, I.L. Salomon, Gail Segal, John Taylor.

Chelsea Editions has also published *The Poetry of Alfredo de Palchi: An Interview and Three Essays* by Giuseppe Panella, translated from the Italian by Jeremy Alden.

Three Rooms Press is pleased to announce the upcoming release of a new novel by Richard Vetere, *The Writers Afterlife*. The book will be published worldwide in the English language in trade paper and ebook in Fall 2013. Details will be forthcoming on preorder information at threeroomspress.com.

About *The Writers Afterlife*: *The Writers Afterlife* is the story of Tom Chillo, a 44-year-old writer on the verge of fame, who suddenly dies of a stroke and finds himself transported to a place where all writers are sent after they die. After mingling with "The Eternals" – including Shakespeare, Wilde, Keats, and Tolstoy – he discovers that his true "peers" in this new world are all haunted by the same regret: They never achieved the fame they felt they deserved during their lifetime. There's still a chance, though. Every writer has the opportunity to return to Earth for exactly one week, and convince someone to set the wheels in motion to give their life's work widespread notoriety. The trick is to come up with the perfect plan, the first time. Failure is not an option.

About Richard Vetere: Richard Vetere is a playwright, novelist, poet, film, TV writer and actor. He wrote the novel *The Third Miracle* (Simon & Schuster), which is now in several languages. He co-authored the screenplay adaptation for the movie produced by Frances Ford Coppola, starring Ed Harris. Vetere's plays include *Machiavelli*, *Caravaggio*, *Gangster Apparel*, *The Marriage Fool* and his Pulitzer-nominated *One Shot, One*

Kill. He's a member of the Writer's Guild, the Author's Guild, Dramatist Guild, Poets & Writers and the NY Playwright's Lab. He holds a master's degree from Columbia University and teaches a master screenwriting class at NYU and Queens College. He lives in New York City. For preorder and distribution, please submit requests to info@threeroomspress.com

BkMk Press of the University of Missouri-Kansas City announces the Dec. 3, 2012, publication of *Garbage Night at the Opera: Stories*, a fiction debut by **Valerie Fioravanti**, chosen by bestselling author Jacquelyn Mitchard for the G. S. Sharat Chandra Prize for Short Fiction. The linked stories in *Garbage Night at the Opera* depict an extended Italian-American family living collectively in one apartment building in Brooklyn, New York, across decades as their neighborhood suddenly loses the factory jobs that support it, languishes for a generation, then gentrifies.

"*Garbage Night at the Opera* is among the most accomplished and emotionally resonant story collections I have read in years, writes fiction writer Peter Orner. Novelist Kevin McIlvoy writes, "These interrelated stories are a group of small, intense fires that form a large-scale conflagration. Fioravanti's working-class characters try to reverse the spell of hopelessness they have been cast under by family members or by lovers or by the broken promises of Brooklyn."

A native of New York City, Valerie Fioravanti now lives in Sacramento, California, where she directs the Stories on Stage reading series, and teaches for the UCLA Writers' Extension. She has held a Fulbright fellowship to Italy and holds degrees from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, and the New School in New York City. Her work has appeared in such publications as *North American Review*, *Cimarron Review*, and *Hunger Mountain*. *Garbage Night at the Opera*, the title story of which received a special mention in *Pushcart Prize XXVIII*, is her first book.

For more information about *Garbage Night at the Opera* (ISBN 978-1-886157-84-2, 192 pp. trade paper, \$15.95), please contact Ben Furnish at BkMk Press, 816-235-2558, furnishb@umkc.edu. The book will be available through SPD (www.spdbooks.org) in Berkeley, California, as well as through Ingram and Baker & Taylor.

Jennifer Scappettone has received the 2012 Raiziss/de Palchi Book Prize, an award of \$10,000 for the translation of Modern Italian Poetry, for her translations of Amelia Rosselli in *Locomotrix: Selected Poetry and Prose of Amelia Rosselli* (University of Chicago Press, 2012). For more information, visit <http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/22981>

Literary & Research Queries

Dennis Barone seeks Italian American Protestant sermons from the years 1900-1930. If anyone knows of locations of such work at historical societies, religious organization archives, family collections, or elsewhere, please let me know. I have contacted the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Yale Divinity, and the Immigration History Center in Minnesota. Thank you. Dennis Barone, University of Saint Joseph, 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117. Email: dbarone@usj.edu.

Magazines, Contests & Calls for Submissions

The Una Vita Foundation is committed to capturing the essence of Italian and Italian-American life in its new online story anthology. If you are an Italian, Italian-American, or have an engaging story that relates to Italy, submit your writing in 2000 characters or less and read stories by other contributors at <http://www.una-vita.org/>. From the home page, click on the blue “Submit a Story” tab and write away! Every month a panel of judges will choose one outstanding story from our website submissions and its author will receive a \$100 Nordstrom gift card. The story will also be translated into Italian and published in the Italian magazine *Clarus*, which is circulated in Southern Italy. mwright.unavita@gmail.com

Feile-Festa is an annual publication that comes out in the spring of each year. Though our preference is for creative work related to Irish and Italian/Sicilian themes, we are open to other Mediterranean cultures, all of which can relate to the respective country of family origin or the diasporas to America, Canada, etc. We are also interested in writing that evokes life in New York City. The reading period starts October 1st and ends January 1st. Please do not send submissions outside the time frame mentioned in the guidelines. www.medcelt.org/feile-festa/index.html

The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute is happy to announce the re-launching of its bi-annual journal the *Italian American Review* (IAR). The IAR features articles about the history and culture of Italian Americans, as well as other aspects of the Italian diaspora. The journal embraces a wide range of professional concerns and theoretical orientations in the social sciences and in cultural studies. Information for contributors can be found at: <http://qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/calandra/italrev/iarcont.html>.

Journal of Italian Translation is a non-profit international journal devoted to the translation of literary works from and into Italian-English-Italian dialects. Subscription price is \$25 per year. Submissions and inquiries should be sent to Luigi Bonaffini at l.bonaffini@att.net. All past issues can be downloaded from the journal’s website at www.jitonline.org

Pyramid Arts and Poetry Magazine – “Where Rome and New York Meet” Pyramid Arts and Poetry is divided into three sections: Visual Art; Poetry & Literature; and Film. Listings of gallery exhibits, poetry readings, and film showings in New York and Rome accompany each section. For submission guidelines, visit <http://www.pyramidmagazine.org>

VIA, Voices in Italian Americana, is published semi-annually in the Spring and Fall. Issues include sections of essays, fiction, poetry, review essays, reviews, and guest spots by prominent Italian/American writers. Subscriptions are \$20.00 per year (\$15.00 for seniors, students, and un[der]employed). For subscriptions & advertising, contact Anthony Julian Tamburri at tamburri@bordigherapress.org.

Italian Americana is the first and only cultural as well as historical review dedicated to the Italian experience in the New World; subscription price is \$20 a year, \$35 for two years, to: Italian Americana, University of Rhode Island/Providence, 80 Washington Street Providence, RI 02903-1803. Check out the new Website supplement to the journal at www.italianamericana.com

The Monday Night Playwrights’ Series is curated by Richard Fulco; interested playwrights could submit their work at richardfulco@aol.com

Websites

Vincent Casale, author of *The Coparazzi*, invites bloggers to comment on his new blog, thecoparazzi.blogspot.com. The blog is a discussion for those that would like to share their views on the NYPD and/or Pop-Culture!

www.PoetsUSA.com will feature a special section on* Ecological Poetry *edited by Daniela Gioseffi and featuring Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Maria Lisella, Gil Fagiani, Marie Torrone, Rob Marchesani, Stephen Massimilla, Grace Cavalieri, Barbara Fragoletti Hoffman, Angelina Oberdan, Nancy Mercado, D. Nurkse, Annie Finch, Burt Kimmelman, Juanita Torrence Thompson, Eliot Katz, Vivian Demuth, George Held, Myra Shapiro, Fran Castan, Pat Falk, Colette Inez, along with master poets, i.e. Ernesto Cardenal, Galway Kinnell, Robert Bly, and classic poets like Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Henry David Thoreau, Rumi, etc., The Feature on "Eco-Poetry" with links to essays by Al Gore, Bill McKibben and Mary Oliver, etc. will be up and continue to be free at <http://www.PoetsUSA.com>* of which www.ItalianAmericanPoets.com is a part.

Visit the Italian American Writers Cafe blog at <http://www.i-italy.org/bloggers/italian-american-writers-cafe>.

Italian Cultural Institute of New York, 686 Park Ave, Manhattan
www.iicnewyork.esteri.it Click on their monthly newsletter available in digital format.

Casa Belvedere, The Italian Cultural Foundation, a unique 2.75 acre cultural campus and community center on Staten Island for all to enjoy, is a registered 501(c) (3) not for profit organization that seeks to preserve, promote and celebrate the rich heritage of Italy by encouraging an appreciation of the Italian language, arts, literature, history, fashion, cuisine, and commerce through educational programs, exhibits and events. To subscribe to the mailing list and learn more about the upcoming events and programs, call 718-273-7660, e-mail info@casa-belvedere.org or click on to www.casa-belvedere.org.

BigFatPrize.com lists over 500 Writing Contests and competition categories like Essay, Fiction, Poetry, Short Story, Young Writers, Songwriting, Screenwriting, Playwright and Journalism

Working Writer newsletter offers solid information with a good dose of humor and a spirit of writing camaraderie. WW is filled with articles on promotion, publishing, freelancing, different genres, how-to, and how-not-to, written by readers across the country. To receive a free copy (no obligation) by e-mail, send a request to workingwriters@aol.com. Or check out www.workingwriter1.com

I-Italy: The Italian American Digital Project (<http://www.i-italy.org>) is online. This site is a forum for discussion and debate over Italian American social and cultural issues, home to numerous Italian American blogs, and the place to read leading Italian American commentators' columns on Italian American life.

Readers are requested to visit www.italianamericanpress.com to order or obtain information about the fascinating books listed below written by Italian Americans on a variety of interesting topics. At *The Italian-American Press*, there are links for finding

translators, a literary marketplace, and writers' guilds, aside from links such as Tools for Italian American Writers, Italian American Books, Italian American Publishers, and the Internet's best selection of self-published Italian American Books (84 Titles).

KIT-Kairos Italy Theater's mission is to create a cultural exchange program between Italy, the US and the international community, to unveil artistic and creative sides of these two countries to the world. <http://www.kitheater.com/>

New York Foundation for the Arts, Visit NYFA Source, the most comprehensive database of awards, services, and publications available to artists in all disciplines. www.nyfa.org/

The Write Stuff – Online Newsletter of Word Journeys at www.wordjourneys.com contains articles on self-publishing, new services and grist for the pen: tips.

The ACLS History E-Book Project www.historyebook.org is an electronic resource that includes over 1230 full-text, cross-searchable books in the field of history selected by historians for their continuing importance to students and scholars. Individuals can also subscribe through a membership in the American Historical Association or the Renaissance Society of America.

Accenti, The Canadian Magazine with an Italian Accent at www.accenti.ca/

The AA Independent Press Guide is a free, online resource for writers at <http://www.thunderburst.co.uk>. The guide has detailed listings on over 2,000 literary and genre magazines and publishers from around the world, plus links to over 750 Internet magazines.

virtualitalia.com is an online resource for Italians, Italian Americans and enthusiasts of Italian culture.

littap.org is a new resource for literary presenters, with tools such as Guidelines for Writers Fees. In addition to featuring Italian American, Italian Canadian and Italian writers, the site has reviews and links to the sites of writers of Italian Australian, Italian French and Italian Latino American origins.

For the calendar of events for the Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò, go to <http://www.nyu.edu/pages/casaitaliana/events.html>

For the calendar of events for the Italian Academy at Columbia University, go to <http://www.italianacademy.columbia.edu/calendar/calendar.html>

The Immigration History Research Center is at <http://www.ihrc.umn.edu>

See Poets & Writers for leads to prizes for writers, and places to get away and write, links to grants, conferences and residencies. <http://www.pw.org/toolsforwriters>

ItalianAmericanWriters.com is an archive of samples of contemporary Italian American writing; writers include Dennis Barone, Marisa Frasca, Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Bob

Viscusi, Anthony Tamburri, Fred Gardaphe, Stephen Massimilla, Alfredo de Palchi, Peter Covino, Paola Corso, Gil Fagiani, Louisa Calio, etc. Also check out the other website edited by Daniella Gioseffi - www.PoetsUSA.com/

Of Interest

She remains the most famous women poet of the Beat Generation; her friend Allen Ginsberg calling her "heroic in life and poetics". THE POETRY DEAL: A FILM WITH DIANE DI PRIMA is an impressionistic documentary about legendary poet Diane di Prima. The most well-known female writer of the Beat Era, di Prima is fierce, funny, and philosophical, still actively writing in her late 70s in San Francisco, where she is poet laureate. She is a pioneer who broke boundaries of class and gender to publish her writing, and THE POETRY DEAL opens a window looking back through more than 50 years of poetry, activism, and cultural change, providing a unique women's perspective of the Beat movement. Much of the story is told through di Prima's recorded readings, including a deeply moving reading of her unpublished poem The Poetry Deal, reflecting on her relationship with her art. THE POETRY DEAL puts di Prima's life and work on screen in a unique, beautiful portrait using rare archival material, impressionistic scenes shot in Super8 and 16mm, stories told by friends and colleagues – and di Prima's powerful writing.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3nFIpZcROQY>

IAVANET Mentoring Program: Founded in 2007, the Italian-American Visual Artists' Network (IAVANET) is a group of 18 painters, sculptors, photographers, and designers based in the greater New York City area. The collective credentials of the artists encompass the worlds of museum and gallery exhibitions, art education, and work in the marketplace of art and design. To view their portfolio, visit www.iavanet.org. Mindful of the great tradition of Italian excellence in the visual arts and its artistic heritage, the group is currently establishing a mentoring program for aspiring Italian-American visual artists of high school and college age. In the program participants will review and evaluate portfolios, offer advice on improving particular technical skills, and suggest projects that would be suited to the individual's artistic personality. IAVANET will also curate shows of the work of students who participate in the program. Interested student artists can contact Richard Laurenzi at info@iavanet.org, specifying the area of mentoring they are seeking (painting, sculpture, photography, or design arts), to set up an interview.

Diasporic Continuities: A Salon Discussion Point on the Changing Face of Italian Unification on the Verge of its 150th Anniversary
<http://disunification.blogspot.com/> How you can join the conversation: Still a work in progress, for now, please join the conversation by commenting on one of the existing posts or become a follower of the discussions. If you would like to post something yourself (rather than comment), please email Laura Ruberto (lruberto@peralta.edu) or Pasquale Verdicchio (pverdicchio@yahoo.com).

Association of Friends of Piedmont in New York: We are a group of artists, professionals, scientists and business owners sharing an interest for the Piedmont Region, either because we were born there or because we appreciate the contribution

that people from Piedmont have made to the arts, sciences and industry. You can learn more about the Association at <http://piedmontinnewyork.blogspot.com>

Vittoria repetto rents her charming vacation house in Framura, in the Ligurian region on a weekly to monthly basis at a reasonable price. It is the perfect place for vacation especially great if you are a writer or a painter. The occupancy is for 4 people; there are 2 bedrooms. The town is 3 towns north of the Cinqueterre towns. For detailed information and pictures, <http://www.homeaway.com/vacation-rental/p211239>

Italian American Writers, a Cablevision television series hosted by Vito De Simone, runs each month on many New York area and other Cablevision systems, including Manhattan, Long Island and some Brooklyn systems. Check local listings for channels and times.

The New York-based Italian-American Playwrights Forum meets at the Calandra Institute three Thursdays a month to develop plays and carry out discussions about Italian-American identity/themes. The work itself does not have to be about an Italian-American theme. Please contact Gian Di Donna gian@att.net for information.