
IAWA supports Italian
American Writing.
Please support IAWA.

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Membership \$30
(students and seniors \$20)

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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, September 2012



"Only silence is shame." -Bartolomeo Vanzetti

Saturday, September, 2012

5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

**Poetry and Prose Features
plus Open Mike**

Cornelia St. Café, 29 Cornelia Street,
Manhattan
212-989-9319

www.corneliastreetcafe.com

\$8 minimum includes one drink.

Come in time to sign up at 5:45 pm.

Bring poetry Bring prose Bring script Bring a friend
5 minute time limit for open mike

Featured Readers:

**Francesca Marguerite Maxime
& Frank Perero**

Francesca Marguerite Maxime, a broadcast
journalist, will read from her first poetry collection,

Rooted, which will be published by *New York Quarterly Books* in October. Her work has appeared in such literary journals as *Lips* and *The Paterson Literary Review*. She was awarded Honorable Mention for her poem, "Christmas Cards," in the 2012 Allen Ginsberg Poetry Competition. Her writing is inspired by her multicultural background as an Italian-Haitian-Dominican American.

Maxime recently joined global news network Ebru-TV as a full-time anchor. She formerly worked as a reporter for WPIX-TV. Raised outside Boston, Maxime graduated from Harvard with a degree in English literature and studied poetry at SUNY Binghamton with Maria Mazziotti Gillan. She resides in Brooklyn and

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

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!

often hosts fundraising events for animal rescue and other charities in the city.

Frank Perero, a writer and balladeer, will publish his first collection of poems, *Drive through the Night*, in December. The title poem and others were recently published by Dublin-based Seven Tower Press in the anthology, *Census 3*. Perero has written songs for such prominent Irish singers and musicians as Damien Dempsey. His poetry has appeared in various literary journals and Hyatt's corporate newsletters. A Queens native, Perero is campaign director for former New York City Council Member Allan Jennings' Congressional run. He holds a degree in Creative Writing from Queens College and a Master's Degree from St. John's University.

Special Event

STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND: A HISTORY OF ITALIAN-LANGUAGE AMERICAN IMPRINTS, 1830 - 1945



From the Collection of IAWA member James J. Periconi
Grolier Club, second-floor gallery, 20
September - 2 November, 2012

SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW TOUR FOR IAWA MEMBERS ON SEPTEMBER 15!

Jim has agreed to give a special "sneak preview" (i.e., prior to the show's opening) tour of the exhibition for IAWA members only on Saturday, September 15 at 11 a.m.!

To sign up, send Jim an e-mail at jpericoni@periconi.com to let him know.

This tour of approximately 60 minutes will be limited to the first 20 IAWA members (paid up dues, please) who sign up.

Anarchist terrorism and the suppression of political speech, deporting troublesome immigrants — if not executing them, *see* Sacco and Vanzetti —, political organizing and union-busting, left versus right, and pro- and anti-fascism are among the themes of one of the Grolier Club's fall exhibitions in a groundbreaking examination of the legacy of Italian-language publishing in pre-war America. Opening to the public on September 20, *Strangers in a Strange Land* will showcase a wide range of literary works that entertained, educated and inflamed an Italian-language audience during a period of critical historical development. Drawn from the collection of James J. Periconi, nearly 150 books, pamphlets, handbills, chromolithographs and photographs will illuminate this little-known literary field, which wielded a lively social influence for generations. This industry created and reflected a vibrant national literary and political culture among a broad spectrum of permanent as well as transient Italians living

and working in the United States. The publishers included the Società Libreria Italiana, or Italian Book Company (which published Riccardo Cordiferro and Bernardino Ciambelli, the Balzac or Zola of Mulberry Street) for imaginative literature; and numerous political presses, such as Libreria dei Lavoratori Industriali del Mondo (or I.W.W. press), and those that were mostly the publishing arms of anarchist or other radical newspapers, such as Luigi Galleani's Cronaca Sovversiva press and Carlo Tresca's Il Martello press.

LOCATION AND TIME: *Strangers in a Strange Land* will be on view at the Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York, from September 20 – November 2, 2012. The exhibit will be open to the public free of charge, Mondays to Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additional information and directions are available at www.grolierclub.org.

Special Event

ITALIAN AMERICAN WRITERS AT THE FEAST OF SAN GENNARO

The Petrosino Lodge (OSIA), the Italian American Writers Association, and Old St. Patrick's Basilica are hosting the Italian-American authors' book table at the San Gennaro Feast throughout its duration -- that is, **from September 13 through September 23**. The hours for the table at 32 Prince Street near Mulberry Street, will extend from 11 AM to 11 PM Saturdays and Sundays, and during the week Monday through Friday from 5 PM to 11 PM.

Italian-American authors are invited to participate and sell their books. Bob Agnoli of the IAWA Board will help organize the schedule for the authors' book table and will be the contact for reservations (rdiangelica@aol.com). Please reserve with Bob immediately if you are interested. All other questions can be addressed to Emelise Aleandri (EAleandri@aol.com) as the liaison between the Lodge, IAWA and St. Patrick's.

This notice is going out first to only a small circle of authors so as to give them the opportunity to reserve the times they would like to have space at the table. In a few days, we will open this to a wider group of authors. Therefore we strongly suggest that you reserve your space with Bob Agnoli ASAP by emailing him at rdiangelica@aol.com. Requests for time slots will be honored on a first-come first-served basis.

Some logistical considerations for this event:

1. There will be no provision for storing of books. Any books you bring for

- display and sale must be brought and removed by you each day.
2. You must supervise your books at the table at all times. They cannot be left for someone else to sell or to watch.
 3. Of course, there is no parking in that neighborhood, especially during the feast.
 4. If you need to change the time of your reservation, do so as soon as possible, so that your slot can be reassigned. However, there is no guarantee that space will be available in another time slot.
 5. There will be no charge to us from either the San Gennaro Society or St. Pat's. However, we are requesting that a small voluntary donation in the amount of your choice be contributed to the church's fund-raising campaign, but there is no obligation.
 6. In addition to the tables for the authors' books, there will be an old-time pushcart in the courtyard where the tables are located, and this will be available for display of posters, flyers, books, etc. Any materials displayed will be your own responsibility.
 7. St. Patrick's Youth Center on Mulberry St between Prince and Houston will be open for rest rooms.

Emelise Aleandri be there most of the time. Bob Agnoli will be there some of the time. We look forward to seeing and meeting you and I am sure this will contribute an exemplary cultural Exhibit for the feast.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 8 Festa: Il Comitato per il Ripristino della Festa della Madonna Nera cordially invites you to the **Ninth Annual Festa in Honor of the Sicilian Black Madonna del Tindari** at the former site of her devotion, The Phoenix Bar. Join us for a night together, to reclaim our past, revel in our creativity, engage the sacred, activate the political, and more. This *festa* recognizes the Sicilian community who operated a store front chapel/social club at this location from 1913 to 1987 in devotion to the black Madonna del Tindari. In 1998, the space was converted into the Phoenix Bar. Over the years, the various owners of the Phoenix Bar, the bartenders, and patrons have graciously opened their space each year for this event. T-shirts based on a flyer from the original social club/chapel will be available for \$25 apiece. Reservations are not required. 6PM. The Phoenix Bar, 447 East 13th Street, off of Avenue A, Manhattan.

To learn more about the historic community and contemporary *festa*:

<http://www.nyfolklore.org/pubs/voic30-1-2/madonna.html>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/09/05/nyregion/thecity/05mado.html>

<http://www.i-italy.org/bloggers/4113/la-madonna-nera-new-york-city>

<http://www.i-italy.org/bloggers/4424/what-s-so-funny-about-virgin-mary>

Thursday, September 13 Reading: Maria Mazziotti Gillan and Sotere Torregian. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704. 7:30 PM, Free. Contact: Joyce Jenkins. 510-849-2087.

Saturday, September 15 Reading: Maria Mazziotti Gillan. Book Passage's Corte Madera store. 51 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera, CA 94925. 1 PM. Free. Contact: Allison Bildsoe. 415-927-0960 x 233.

Sunday, September 16 Reading: Maria Mazziotti Gillan and A.D. Winans. Petaluma Poetry Walk, *Copperfields Books*, 140 Kentucky Street, Petaluma, CA 94952. 3 PM. Free. Contact store 707-762-0563.

Tuesday, September 18 Reading: Maria Mazziotti Gillan. Berkeley City College, Berkeley Auditorium (Room 21), 2050 Center St., Berkeley, CA 94704. 7 PM. Free. Contact: Sharon 510-981-2800.

Thursday, September 20 Reading: Maria Mazziotti Gillan. University of La Verne. 1950 3rd St. Laverne, CA 91750. 10:30 AM – Noon. Contact: Ken Scambray 909-539-3511.

Thursday, September 20 Reading: Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Wanda Coleman, and Amelie Frank. Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd, Venice, CA 90291. 7:30 PM. \$7 Admission, \$5 students/seniors/children. Members free. Contact: Event Manager at bbproposals@gmail.com.

Thursday, September 20 Writers Read Series: **Jonathan Galassi reads from *Left-handed: Poems*** (Knopf, 2012). *Left-handed*, a new book of poems by Jonathan Galassi, chronicles in three sections the painful yet liberating transformation the poet underwent when he discovered, as a married, middle-aged man, that he was gay. In the first part, he grapples with growing older and its attendant regrets; the second section concerns an unrequited love for a younger man; and the final third is devoted to describing a new life and love. Together the poems narrate, in language both elegant and emotionally revealing, his thoughtful journey to the wisdom of desire. Galassi, in addition to being a poet, is the president of Farrar, Straus and Giroux as well as the translator of Eugenio Montale's and Giacomo Leopardi's poetry. "Galassi's verses can be pithy and playful, and it's a joy to watch the flame light so blue and so high for love in these poems." -- *Interview* magazine. 6 PM. Free admission. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 W. 43rd Street, 17th floor (between 5th & 6th Avenues), Manhattan. RSVP at (212) 642-2094. Please note that seating is limited and we cannot reserve seats. www.qc.edu/calandra.

Friday, September 21 Poetry Reading: Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Penny Perry, and other poets. *Village Idiots Literary Society*. Vista, CA.

Saturday, September 22 Eco-Poetry "Book End Event:" for The Brooklyn Book Festival, largest selling book fair in the Met Area. Reading hosted by Daniela Gioseffi launching PoetsUSA feature of "Poetry of Ecological Sanity" with poems of Gil Fagiani, Maria Lisella, Juanita Torrence Thompson, D. Nurkse, Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Stephen Massimilla, Nancy Mercado, Myra Shapiro, Fran Castan, Galway Kinnell, George Held, Maria Terrone, Rob Marchesani, Eliot Katz, Colette Inez, Mary Oliver, James Wright, Robert Bly, Pat Falk, Ernesto Cardenal, Burt Kimmelman, Vivian Demuth, Barbara Fragoletti Hoffman, Grace Cavalieri, Paola Corso, etc. (Readers to be announced for Sat.) at The Brooklyn Heights Public Library, 280 Cadman Plaza West at Tillary St. All trains to Borough Hall Brooklyn. All featured sell/ table books free at www.PoetsUSA Book

Table, on next day Sun. 23rd. Free.

<<http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/locations/brooklyn-heights/>> Info.

PoetsUSA.com: Tel. 1-718-643-3837

<<http://www.brooklynbookfestival.org/BBF/Home>>

Saturday, September 22 Reading: Trish Dugger, Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Mai Lon Gittelsohn, Steve Kowitz, and Seretta Martin. Coronado Public Library, Winn Room, 640 Orange Avenue, Coronado, CA 92118. 3 PM – 5 PM, (619) 522-7390.

Saturday, September 22 Annual Motori D'Italia Italian Car & Motorbike Show: This event, held on our beautiful grounds, will showcase classic and modern Italian motor vehicles of all kinds. In addition to the exhibition, there will be fine food, a café, music/entertainment, exhibits, rides for children and much more. This show is sponsored in part by Ferrari Maserati of Central New Jersey. And NEW this year, we have a special raffle for a 7-Day Italian vacation package for two courtesy of Ciao Italy & Carrani Tours. All event ticket holders earn a chance to win! Admission is \$10. 11 AM. We are currently seeking Italian car & motorcycle owners to exhibit their vehicles at the show, as well as sponsors and vendors for the event. Information is on our web site at www.casa-belvedere.org

Sunday, September 23 Award Winning Poet, **Louisa Calio**, directs the **10th Poets and Writers Piazza** for Hofstra's 20th Italian Experience sponsored by Arba Sicula/Legas Press at Leo A. Guthart Cultural Center Theater, Axinn Library at *Hofstra's South Campus*. Celebrating the literary word is an essential part of Italian culture at Hofstra's Italian Festival. Gifted contemporary Italian and Italian American writers will read and perform their works. Featuring: Poet Peter Covino (*Voices of Italian Americana*), Joanna Clapps Herman (*Anarchist Bastard*), Frank Ingrassiotta (*Blood Type Ragù*). Musical interlude by Michela Musolino, Stanley Barkan (*cccpress*), Nino Provenzano with David Risk and friends, Laura Marciano, Bee Amore, Carrie Anne Tocci, Jay Mancini, Gaetano Cipolla, Marisa Frasca, Stanislao Pugliese, Louisa Calio and surprise guests. 12:30 to 4:30 pm. Book signings throughout the day. For information contact Louisa Calio 516-627-7103 email: louisacalio.1@juno.com or Jessie A. Garcia 516-463-6580 email: Jessie.A.Garcia@hofstra.edu. fax: 516-463-6132 > cultrs@hofstra.edu.

Monday, September 24 "Documented Italians" Film & Video Series: *Painting Rules* (2012), 30 min. Marylou and Jerome Bongiorno, dir. *The Poetry Deal: A Film with Diane di Prima* (2011), 27 min. Melanie La Rosa, dir. These two films present Italian-American artists and focus in particular on their relationships with their creative works. *Painting Rules* provides an engaging look at the philosophy and technique of process painter Jerry Carniglia. Filmed at the famed MacDowell Colony while he and the directors were fellows, the documentary shows Carniglia at work and captures the abstract artist's creative method and inspiration – the influence of nature, the importance of being sensitive to the integrity of materials, and the need to exercise restraint while assessing a painting's internal dynamics. *The Poetry Deal: A Film with Diane di Prima* is an impressionistic documentary about poet, prose writer, playwright, teacher, and political activist Diane di Prima. She became best known as an important poet of the Beat movement who broke gender and class boundaries in publishing her writing. In 2009,

the city of San Francisco proclaimed her its Poet Laureate. Now in her seventies, di Prima reveals herself in the film as fierce, funny, and philosophical. Much of her story is told through her recorded readings, including one of the unpublished poem "The Poetry Deal," which reflects on di Prima's relationship with her art. Post-screening discussion with the directors led by Fred Gardaphé, Queens College, CUNY. 6 PM. Free admission. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 W. 43rd Street, 17th floor (between 5th & 6th Avenues), Manhattan. RSVP at (212) 642-2094. Please note that seating is limited and we cannot reserve seats. www.qc.edu/calandra.

Saturday, September 29 Symposium: Finding Joseph Tusiani: The Poet of Two Lands. This symposium takes its name from the documentary on Joseph Tusiani made in 2011 by Sabrina DiGregorio. A major voice in American and Italian letters, Tusiani has dedicated his professional life to the creation, promotion, and promulgation of Italian Studies in the United States. An international award-winning poet, he writes in four different languages (English, Gargano Dialect, Italian, Latin) and has published his work worldwide. 10AM to 4 PM. Lang Recital Hall, North Building, Hunter College, East 68th St. (between Park and Lexington Avenues). John D. Calandra Italian American Institute. This symposium is sponsored in part by the Italian Heritage and Culture Committee NY, Inc. Free and open to the public. RSVP by calling (212) 642-2094. Please note that seating is limited and we cannot reserve seats. For further information see our website at www.qc.edu/calandra.

Sunday, September 30 Reading: Maria Mazziotti Gillan and Laura Boss. Scali Caffè, 245 Bleecker Street, West of Carmine Street, Manhattan, 4 PM, Contact: Mike Graves at mikegraves50@hotmail.com.

Thursday, October 4 "Documented Italians" Film & Video Series: *Columbus Day Legacy* (2011), 27 min. Bennie Klain, dir. *Columbus Day Legacy* explores the conflict between the two communities that have the closest connection to the eponymous federal holiday: Italian Americans and Native Americans. Filmed in Denver, where Columbus Day was first observed, the movie is a testimony to the director Bennie Klain's efforts to give equal airing to the holiday's different interpretations. Spokespeople from the American Indian Movement believe that the holiday's focus on the fifteenth-century navigator is misguided and that it fails to recognize the subsequent genocide of Native Americans. Representatives of the local Italian-American community, however, maintain the holiday is a fitting recognition of the achievements of an immigrant group and the pride of its descendants. Post-screening roundtable discussion with Nancy Carnevale, Montclair State University; Bennie Klain, director; and Robert Viscusi, Brooklyn College, moderated by Anthony Tamburri, Calandra Institute. 6 PM. Free admission. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 W. 43rd Street, 17th floor (between 5th & 6th Avenues), Manhattan. RSVP at (212) 642-2094. Please note that seating is limited and we cannot reserve seats. www.qc.edu/calandra.

Tuesday, October 23 Film Screening: *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis (Il giardino dei Finzi Contini)* Vittorio De Sica / Italy / Drama / 1970 / 94 min. Winner of an Academy Award for Best Language, this Italian classic centers on the wealthy, sophisticated Finzi-Contini family in the 1930s. Oblivious to the fascism burgeoning around them, their

adult children, Micòl and Alberto, entertain lavishly at their walled villa. Giorgio, a fellow Jew, falls for Micòl. Though he fails to burst her garden reverie, the forces of politics close in. Guest speaker: Alexander Stille, journalism professor, Columbia University. 7:30 pm. \$11 general; \$8, seniors. The Avon Theatre, 272 Bedford Street, Stamford, CT. Co-sponsor: The Italian Cultural Institute of New York
Tickets can be purchased at <http://www.ccgreenwich.org> or (203) 552 - 1818.

Monday, November 5 The Philip V. Cannistraro Seminar Series in Italian American Studies: **Italian-American Foodways and the Making of Modern New York**. Rocco Marinaccio, Manhattan College. Rocco Marinaccio will discuss the foodways associated with New York's Italian immigrants in the early twentieth century. His focus is on the ways a developing Italian-American cuisine was incorporated into broader public discussions of moral, intellectual, and physical health within the immigrant population. He will also consider both a range of institutional actions – such as the New York City pushcart-reform legislation and various public health and dietary initiatives – and representations of Italian immigrant cuisine in various media. Ultimately, mainstream responses to this cuisine comprised a program of “culinary reform,” designed to police and to assimilate the immigrant, fashioning both the citizenry and the urban landscape according to emergent conceptions of “modern” New York. 6 PM. Free admission. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 W. 43rd Street, 17th floor (between 5th & 6th Avenues), Manhattan. RSVP at (212) 642-2094. Please note that seating is limited and we cannot reserve seats. www.qc.edu/calandra.

Saturday, November 10 Theater: *8 Ways my Mother was Conceived*, written and performed by Michaela Di Cesare. The one-woman show that enjoyed a holy trinity of successful runs, an even holier trinity of MECCA nominations (Best Actress, Best Text and Revelation), an eventual win for Best Text and Toronto's Launchpad Award for Emerging Artists, is coming to New York City to participate in the largest jury-run festival of solo shows in the world! Her Catholic Italian family believes her mother was conceived by a virgin, the logic being that her grandparents were unmarried when it happened. Therefore, act of God, NOT of the bod. A harmless myth – until she realized she suffered from a Virgin Complex that was sabotaging her love life. “Di Cesare is a wonderful storyteller... Her characters are so well fleshed out that one feels almost like a part of the family after seeing the play. She seamlessly transitions from her adult self, to her mother, to a “bro” she dated, to her 8-year old self, each played with consistent and easily-distinguished voices and mannerisms...a remarkable snapshot of a distinctive slice of Montreal's culture.”-Chris Lane, *The Charlebois Post*. 9 PM. Theatre Row. 410 West 42nd Street, Manhattan. \$18. www.telecharge.com. [212-239-6200](tel:212-239-6200). When placing your reservation, please provide: the festival name (United Solo Theatre Festival), the name of theatre (Theatre ROW – The Studio Theatre), and the specific day and time of the show you would like to see. Contact: Michaela Di Cesare, [514-773-6452](tel:514-773-6452), michaeladicesare@gmail.com, www.8waystheplay.com, www.facebook.com/8waystheplay, @michamusing.

Wednesday, November 14 Writers Read Series: **Paul LaRosa reads from *Leaving Story Avenue: My Journey from the Projects to the Front Page*** (Park Slope Publishing, 2012).

In *Leaving Story Avenue*, Paul LaRosa details his life journey from childhood in a Bronx housing project to working at the *New York Daily News* during the turbulent 1970s and early 1980s. Subsequently, he moved on to television production, most notably with the CBS News magazine *48 Hours*, where he worked for almost 20 years. The memoir is a newsman's lively account of a now-legendary period in New York journalistic history, a time that included the Son of Sam homicides, the 1977 blackout and ensuing looting, and the city's near plunge into bankruptcy. "[LaRosa] sprinkles wisdom about New York, the pull of peers and family, the ambition and pride that propels a working class kid to succeed." --Ken Auletta, *The New Yorker* 6 PM. Free admission. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 W. 43rd Street, 17th floor (between 5th & 6th Avenues), Manhattan. RSVP at (212) 642-2094. Please note that seating is limited and we cannot reserve seats. www.qc.edu/calandra.

Thursday, December 6 The Philip V. Cannistraro Seminar Series in Italian American Studies: **The Art of Making Do in Naples**. Jason Pine, Purchase College, SUNY. Anthropologist Jason Pine will present his research on *neomelodica*, a musical form from Naples that combines traditional songs with contemporary stories of love, betrayal, loss, and violence. Neapolitans' artistic and economic ambitions are sometimes forced to contend with local crime forces, notably the Camorra. Exploiting the vulnerability of impoverished would-be performers, crime bosses frequently serve as managers and performance impresarios, ultimately ensnaring young singers with money and drugs to control not only their work but their lives. In his book *The Art of Making Do in Naples* (University of Minnesota Press, 2012), Pine recounts how his ethnographic work also depended on the careful handling, and sometimes even the aid, of these forbidding figures as he became partially caught up in a web of shadowy and complex relationships that create and foment this music. 6 PM. Free admission. John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 25 W. 43rd Street, 17th floor (between 5th & 6th Avenues), Manhattan. RSVP at (212) 642-2094. Please note that seating is limited and we cannot reserve seats. www.qc.edu/calandra.

Members' News

Maria Mazziotti Gillan has a new book due out September 15, 2012, from NY Quarterly Books, called *The Place I Call Home*. The link to the publisher's website is: <http://www.nyqbooks.org/title/theplaceicallhome#.T5rR3ekVj2c.email>. Gillan won the 2011 Barnes & Nobles Writers for Writers Award from *Poets & Writers*, and the 2008 American Book Award for *All That Lies Between Us* (Guernica Editions). She 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 Creative Writing Program and Professor of Poetry at Binghamton University-SUNY. She has published fourteen books of poetry and, with her daughter, Jennifer, she is co-editor of four anthologies. More information can be found on Gillan's new website www.mariagillan.com, and blog www.mariagillan.blogspot.com. Upcoming readings are listed above in the Events section.

Vincent Casale, author of *The Coparazzi*, will be featured in an upcoming episode of Vito DeSimone's Italian Writers series. Look for it on www.youtube.com.

Anthony S. Maulucci's *Nine Narrative Poems* has been released from Lorenzo Press (www.lorenzopress.com) and is currently available in a Kindle Edition from Amazon. These nine poems tell the stories of the emotional lives of lovers, artists, writers and others who struggle to hold onto their own self-worth when confronted with the insanity and indifference of the contemporary world. ". . . rich with the hard-won lessons of experience and the irreducible complexities of existence." -- Michael Palma, poet and translator of Dante (W.W. Norton edition in terza rima)

Santi Buscemi has published the article "A Vision of Sicily" in *Primo* magazine. Second Edition 2012.

Maria Terrone's new Wikipedia page can be found at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maria_Terrone. She has also had poems included in several recent anthologies: *A Face to Meet the Faces: An Anthology of Contemporary Persona Poetry*, University of Akron Press; four poems in *Token Entry: New York Subway Poems*, Small's Books; and *Becoming: What Makes a Woman*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Gender Programs.

Four books written by **Dr. Marie Menna Pagliaro** for educators have just been published by Rowman & Littlefield. The titles are: *Educator or Bully? Managing the 21st Century Classroom*; *Exemplary Classroom Questioning: Promoting Thinking and Learning*; *Differentiating Instruction: Matching Strategies with Objectives*; and *Research-Based Unit and Lesson Planning: Maximizing Student Achievement*. *Educator or Bully* was the first book to be reviewed by Choice and was "recommended". Her new book, *Mastery Teaching Skills: A Resource for Implementing The Common Core State Standards*, will be published in December. 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.

Louisa Calio's poem "Desert Flower" written about the murder of Afgan poet Nadia Anjurman by her husband, was characterized by Peter Covino as a great poem, strong and moving, and will be published in the Fall issue of *Voices of Italian Americana*. On Sunday, September 23rd, Calio will direct the 10th anniversary of the Poets and Writers Piazza for Hofstra's Italian Experience featuring an exciting, wide range of Italian/American writers. See above entry in Events for details.

MaryAnn Diorio's novella entitled *A Christmas Homecoming* will be released by Harbourlight Books, an imprint of The Pelican Book Group, in December of this year.

Maria Lisella's poem "Another Venus" was included in the latest issue of *First Literary Review-East*. <http://www.rulrul.4mg.com/>.

Vittoria repetto has posted the poem *Confession* by Susan Gerardi Bello at <http://italianamericanwriters.wordpress.com/2012/07/11/poem-confession-by-susan-gerardi-bello/> and a review of Maria Mazziotti Gillan's *A Place I Call Home* at

<http://italianamericanwriters.wordpress.com/2012/07/11/review-of-maria-mazziotti-gillans-the-place-i-call-home/>.

Anne Kristoff has written a story about the seniors at St. Anthony's in the South Village (NYC) for *NY Press/Our Town Downtown*. <http://nypress.com/the-last-of-the-italians/>.

An inclusive list of Italian American Women Writers has been created for Wikipedia to bring awareness and validity. If you'd like to contribute to the list, please e-mail **Samantha DeMuro**, srdemuro@gmail.com, with writer names and/or corrections. This is a project of the **Malia Collective**.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Italian_American_Women_Writers

Frank Canino's play *Aleksandar Leaving* made it to the final Top 13 in the Canadian Short Screenplay Competition out of several hundred entries from 21 countries including Canada, US, UK & Australia. His play *Via Crucis: Way of the Cross* was the Platinum Prize Winner in the Drama category in the FilmMakers International Screenwriting Competition, where it was chosen from a total of 1400 entries which places it in the top 10 scripts submitted and top 1%. This was a multi-stage competition, extending over a year, which included two cuts to quarter-finalist to semi-finalist to finalist to the Top 25 scripts in 3 categories, making this the longest competition Frank ever entered. Previous citations for *Via Crucis* include Screenplay Search Screenwriting Competition – Finalist, Write Movies International Contest - Quarter Finalist, Cynosure screenwriting Awards - Quarter Finalist, Indie Gathering Script Writing Contest – Honorable Mention, and Westfield Screenwriting - Honorable Mention. Frank did another rewrite for *The Reunion [A Fine Week in Goa]* screenplay in early May with co-writer Alessandra Piccione for a projected reading in Toronto in the fall.

A poem entitled "Three Figs" by **Maria Fama** has been posted on a wordpress blog maintained by **Vittoria repetto**

<http://italianamericanwriters.wordpress.com/2012/05/25/three-figs-a-poem-by-maria-fama/>.

Anthony Buccino has published *Greetings From Belleville, New Jersey: Collected Writings*. The 40-plus collection of essays about life in his hometown in northern New Jersey includes tales about growing up while living upstairs from his grandmother who only spoke Italian, which he did not. His writing about life in northern New Jersey has been published in area newspapers *Belleville Patch*, *NJ Voices*, *Baristanet* and other publications. The print book is available at <https://www.createpace.com/3876854> and on Amazon's Kindle. For more information, visit www.anthonybuccino.com.

Amber Tamblyn has organized an online collection of donations to **Diane Di Prima** at <http://www.giveforward.com/donationsfordianediprima>. Help Poet Laureate and feminist icon Diane Di Prima through a series of painful and life threatening operations. Log on to the site to learn about Di Prima's situation and read a note from her.

Publishers' News, Book Reviews, Contest Winners & Awards

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>.

Mary Bucci Bush's novel *Sweet Hope* has recently been named a winner or finalist in three awards: 1. Winner: Working Class Studies Association's Tillie Olsen Award for Published Book 2. "Finalist": Binghamton University's John Gardner Book Award (they will note this on announcement flyers & on their website. Winner: Meg Wolitzer's *The Uncoupling*). 3. "Finalist": 2012 Paterson Fiction Prize. (Winner: Steve Almond's *God Bless American: Stories*). *Sweet Hope* is a novel about the friendship between two families, one Black and one Italian, living and working together on a Mississippi Delta cotton plantation 1901-1906. Italians were illegally imported to the South under false pretenses and held in a contract labor system designed to put and keep them in debt while the few remaining African American sharecroppers taught the Italians to work cotton, speak English, and survive. A vicious manager/overseer, an absentee plantation owner, a rape, an interracial "Romeo and Juliet" love affair, a murder, and hints of a Federal investigation complicate the characters' lives as they learn bitter truths about race and friendship in America.

For more information:

<http://italianamericanwriters.wordpress.com/2012/05/25/mary-bucci-bushs-novel-sweet-hope-winner-or-finalist-in-3-awards/>

Descant 154: Sicily, Land of Forgotten Dreams, a North American anthology of nearly fifty contributors is available from www.decant.ca (\$15). Guest Editors: Michelle Alfano and Venera Fazio. American literary contributors include Gioia Timpanelli, Maria Fama, Louisa Calio, Gaetano Cipolla, Gil Fagiani, Salvatore Marici, Gilda Morina Syverson, Tasha Cotter, Enriqueta Carrington, and Harry Groome. Photo essays by Vincenzo Pietropaolo, Erik Kruthoff and Stephen Adamian.

Italice Press has published *Medieval Naples: A Documentary History, 400-1400*

<http://www.italicapress.com/index287.html> and *Torquato Tasso Love Poems for Lucrezia Bendidio* <http://www.italicapress.com/index426.html> For a complete catalog, <http://www.italicapress.com>.

Classes, Workshops & Conferences:

The **John D. Calandra Italian American Institute** has announced a Call for Papers for the conference "**Lingue Migranti: The Global Languages of Italy and the Diaspora**" which will take place on April 25-27, 2013. Italy as a cultural zone developed throughout the centuries with a plethora of distinct languages. Regionally-based Romance languages--e.g., Neapolitan, Sicilian, Tuscan, Venetian--and their local variants were the numerous languages spoken by illiterate peasants as well as professionals,

scholars, and creative writers. In the aftermath of unification in 1861, the state sought to impose the Tuscan dialect as the national standard in an attempt "to make Italians" in the same period that mass emigration began in earnest. Tensions emerged during that time and, with the onset of a more recent immigration, continue to inform the interrelated spheres of language and migration, from issues concerning standard Italian versus dialects, especially along a north-south divide; to representations of "Italian" as the esteemed language of the Renaissance versus the marginalized language of working-class emigrants and their descendants; to responses to "foreign" influences of vocabulary and literatures. This conference seeks to build on the growing literature dealing with language and migration as it concerns Italy and the diaspora. **The deadline for submissions is September 16, 2012.** For submission guidelines and further information, visit www.qc.edu/calandra.

Classes Begin at **Casa Belvedere** the week of October 1st. In Person Registration is available Wednesday, September 5th, Thursday, September 6th & Monday September 10th from 3 PM – 7 PM in the Casa Belvedere Office located in the building in the rear of the mansion at 79 Howard Avenue. No appointment necessary. Kindly park across the street in the Notre Dame Academy parking lot and walk down the steps on the left of the mansion down to the office. Offering: **Parliamo Italiano**, 12-week Italian Language Instruction for Toddlers, Children, Teens & Adults. A variety of traditional and specialty classes will run for a 12-week session. Class schedules and registration forms will be available soon on the web at www.casa-belvedere.org - Family/Sibling Discount Available.

And, back by popular demand, anyone who wants to learn how to cook Italian – from the novice to the more experienced home chef – is invited to join one of our hands on **In Cucina** classes. Casa Belvedere's "In Cucina" Culinary Program is a hands-on series designed to be both an educational and a fun experience. Classes are conducted in an intimate setting (not to exceed ten students). Held in the Casa Belvedere Carriage House kitchen, participants will expand their skills, learn new techniques and gain confidence in the kitchen. The "In Cucina" program is a 5 class course that students can buy as a whole or as an individual class. A discount will be given to the students who purchase the entire program. Consider signing up with a friend or family member and take part and share in the fun and learning together. *Each NEW student receives a Free Apron!* Pricing, Registration and Payment: Classes meet on Fridays from 6:30 – 8:30 PM Pricing: \$75 per class or \$340 for a series of Five classes. Registration and payments accepted by phone, online or in person. To register and pay online, click the "Donate Now" button, complete the form, and please indicate in the comments box your selected class or series. For additional information, call 718-273-7660 or email info@casa-belvedere.org. Space is limited. Gift Certificates are also available.

Literary & Research Queries

Linda Baldanzia is a student at Drew University in NJ in a Poetry in Translation MFA program. "I am looking for a translator to help me with literal translations of several short poems. I do not read Italian well. It would be best if the Translator has lived in

Italy. The translating will begin this June." Contact Linda at 201-482-0597 or lindabaldanzi@mac.com.

Dom Giordano, talk show host with WPHT 1210 AM Radio in Philadelphia, is looking for contributors to his book of recipes, *Feast of the Seven Fishes*, featuring stories and other Italian/family traditions and recollections of the Christmas season. Contact www.thefeastofthesevenfishes.com or Askdomg@aol.com.

Alexandra Maffei holds a Masters in Italian Literature and runs two blogs, one in English breakingnews.blogspot.com the other in Italian, telegrafite.blog.espresso.repubblica.it/telegrafite. "I'm an excellent translator, fully conversant in Italian and American cultures, so consider me, should you know of or need services" viridiana430@msn.com

R. D. Williams is writing about her immigrant experience and is willing to meet other writers. Also, seeking advice on how to obtain publisher. Contact: rosaria@gmail.com.

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.

Luigi Monteferrante is looking for a special edition on work by Italian/Italian American/Italian Canadian authors in the magazine: Chicago Quarterly Review <http://www.chicagoquarterlyreview.com/> Work should be submitted to luigimonteferrante@yahoo.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.jjtonline.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.

Theatre Submissions: *Post Road Magazine* (Boston, Ma), a literary/visual arts journal, is accepting theatre submissions of very short one-act plays, sketches, and monologues. david@postroadmag.com.

The American Italian Historical Association Newsletter is now accepting submissions of book reviews. Please send all submissions Anthony.Tamburri@qc.cuny.edu.

Websites

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.

Anthony Buccino has created a blog for New Jersey poets to post info about events, links to their web sites and publishers and literary magazines. You can get email notices- no strings attached - when new items are posted. <http://njpoetspoetry.blogspot.com/>.

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.