

Maria Teresa De Luca (mariateresa.deluca@rutgers.edu) earned her BA at the Università di Lecce (Italy), and a Ph.D. in Italian linguistics at the Universität des Saarlandes (Germany). Her research during this time focused on aspects of Italian language, its structure and history, from the Medieval period, the Renaissance, and the 20th Century. Her main current research interests are in Italian literature, culture, and history during the Medieval and Renaissance periods. She is also working on the reconstruction of the editorial history of manuscript Ashb. 956, one of the very few southern Italian manuscripts on mathematics, and a strategic linguistic and lexical source for understanding southern Italian culture of the Middle Ages.

Marino Forlino (mforlino@scrippscollege.edu) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Italian at Scripps College. He received a Laurea Magistrale in Foreign Languages and Literatures (English and German) from the University of Florence, a graduate Diploma in American Studies from Smith College, and an MA and Ph.D. in Italian from Rutgers University. His areas of specialization include Italian literature from the Medieval through the Baroque periods (with a particular focus on Boccaccio and Basile), the history of the Italian short story, and the birth of the fairy tale. He is currently working on a manuscript on the influence of the Arabic prose tradition on Italian literature, focusing on a series of motifs – such as esotericism, eroticism, and exoticism – shared between Boccaccio’s *Decameron* and Basile’s *Pentamerone* and the heritage of *A Thousand and One Nights*.

Giuseppe Grispino (giuseppe.grispino@rutgers.edu) is currently a Ph.D. student in Italian at Rutgers University. Giuseppe holds an M.A. in Languages and Civilizations of Asia and Mediterranean Africa (2018) from Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy. He also holds an M.A.T. in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages (2018) from Capital Normal University in Beijing, China. Giuseppe completed his B.A. in Languages, Cultures, Societies of Asia and Mediterranean Africa (2016) at Ca' Foscari University of Venice while simultaneously completing the university honors program at the International College Ca' Foscari (2016). Giuseppe is also a Red Cross Nordic United World College (2013) alumnus. Prior to Rutgers University, Giuseppe taught at Colgate University (Hamilton, NY) and at Ca' Foscari School for International Education (Italy). Giuseppe's current research interests include modern Italian and Chinese literature, queer literature and cinema, gender studies, popular culture studies, and translation studies.

Livio Horra is an Italian science fiction author. His first short stories are based on the New Wave poetics of Anglo-American science fiction and beat literature. “Where the Locoweed Dies,” published by *Galassia* in 1977, won the Premio Italia for best science fiction story. Horra then collaborated with Trieste’s local radio networks and private broadcasters, while also publishing his works on *Gamma*, *Galassia* and *Verso le stelle*. His first novel, *Grattanuvole*, came out in 1981. Many of his subsequent writings appeared online on American sites. In 2001, he published the novel *Il Buddha dell’età oscura*.

Alberto Iozzia (ali24@pitt.edu) is a 2010 graduate from the Università di Siena. He earned his PhD in Italian Studies in 2018 from Rutgers University by defending a dissertation on post-apocalyptic narrative. His research mainly focuses on contemporary literature and film. He is currently Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Pittsburgh.

Joseph Polsky (joseph.polsky@pomona.edu) is a senior at Pomona College double majoring in Italian and religious studies. He is currently working on a research and translation project drawing from renaissance-era Italian exorcist texts. Further research interests include 20th century Italian

literature, in particular the work of Luigi Pirandello, whose short story “Ciàula scopre la Luna” inspired the piece featured here. He is the recipient of the American Voice Award as well as several national gold medals for poetry collections awarded by Scholastic Art and Writing Competition, a finalist for the National Student Poets Program, and his work has been featured in numerous anthologies.

Andrew Robbins (andrew.robbins@rutgers.edu) has a BA (2010: Italian Studies, minor in Sociology) from Emory University and a MA (2013: Italian Studies) from Georgetown University. Working mainly with the history of evolution and its entanglement with the culture of post-Unification Italy, his dissertation focuses on the way Darwinian evolution interacts with ideologies of progress. He has also published translations of two of the three authors on whom he writes: Scipio Sighele (with Nicoletta Pireddu, *The Criminal Crowd and Other Writings on Mass Society*) and Italo Svevo (*Journal of Italian Translation*, fall 2018). Andrew’s research interests include modernist culture, scientific and social-scientific writing, and the historical interaction of science and technology with the culture and politics of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Gregorio Tenti was born in Arezzo in 1993 and is a PhD Candidate at the University of Turin. In 2015, he was shortlisted for the literary prize “Opera Prima,” promoted by *Poesia 2.0*. His writings have been published on blogs and journals, such as *eexxiitt* and *Nazione Indiana*. His first collection of poems, *Corpi sommi*, is forthcoming for Transeuropa.