

**ASMI Annual Conference 2011: The Italian 'Character': Virtues and Vices**

**IGRS, Senate House, 15-16 December 2011**

**Organisers: Carl Levy (Goldsmiths), Charlotte Ross (Birmingham), Marcella P. Sutcliffe (Newcastle)  
Definitive Programme**

**Thursday 15 December**

**9.30-10.15 Registration and Coffee**

**10.15-10.30 Welcome (Organisers) Room G22/26**

**10.30–11.30 Keynote talk Silvana Patriarca (Fordham University)**

**11.30-13.00 *Session I***

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| <b>a. The Risorgimento: Virtue, Gender and Sexuality</b><br>Room G34<br>Chair: Marcella Sutcliffe                                                             | <b>b. Fascism</b><br>Room: G35<br>Chair: Richard Bosworth (Jesus College, Oxford)                                                                                                            |
| 1. Roberto Bizzocchi (Università di Pisa),<br><i>Corruzione sessuale, virtù militare degli Italiani</i>                                                       | 1. Rosario Gennaro (Artesis University College, Antwerp),<br><i>La patria e il mondo in epoca fascista. Gli stereotipi nazionali nella rivista 'Augustea'</i>                                |
| 2. Marjan Schwegman (NIOD, Institute for War, Amsterdam), <i>Sanguinary heroines. Unsettling representations of female brigands in post-unification Italy</i> | 2. Tamara Colacicco (University of Reading),<br><i>L'opposizione tra 'virtù' degli italiani e 'vizi' degli inglesi nella propaganda fascista contro la Gran Bretagna (1935 – 1940)</i>       |
| 3. Mark Seymour (University of Otago),<br><i>Dilemmas of Virility: National Character on Trial in Liberal Italy</i>                                           | 3. Eugenia Corbino (Università di Firenze),<br><i>A piedi nudi, con le mani mai vuote: il volto 'nobile' di una nazione allo sbando. Contadini italiani e prigionieri alleati, 1943-1945</i> |

**13.00-14.30 Lunch (A list of local cafes is included in the information pack)**

**14.30-16.00 *Session II***

**Gender and Sexuality in the Berlusconi Era**

Room: G35

Chair: Charlotte Ross (Birmingham University)

1. Sabrina Provenzani (Independent Journalist),  
*L'immagine della donna italiana negli ultimi anni del Berlusconismo: dalle Olgettine a 'Se non ora quando*

2. Christian Moretti (University of Kent),  
*Da Gomorra a Sodoma:  
l'omosessualità nell'era berlusconiana tra retaggi fascisti e false moralità*

16.1.16.30 **Tea**

**16.30 Presentation of ASMI Postgraduate Prize 2011 and the Christopher Seton Watson Prize 2011**

**16.45-17.45 Guest Speaker: Lorella Zanardo (*Il Corpo delle Donne*) Chair: Charlotte Ross (University of Birmingham)**

**18.00– 19.00 ASMI Annual General Meeting**

**19.45 Conference Dinner – Pescatori Italian Seafood Restaurant, 57 Charlotte Street, London W1T 4PD tel. 0207-5803289**

**Friday 16 December 2011**

**9.30- 11.00 Session III**

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| <p><b>a.Colonialism, Racism and Otherness</b><br/>Room: G34<br/>Chair: Carl Levy (Goldsmiths)</p>                                                                                          | <p><b>b. The Risorgimento from Abroad</b><br/>Room: G35<br/>Chair: Mark Seymour (University of Otago)</p>                                                                   |
| <p>1.Valeria Deplano (Università di Cagliari),<br/><i>Colonialisti d'Italia: il ruolo della storia coloniale nella definizione dei caratteri nazionali tra età liberale e fascismo</i></p> | <p>1. Massimo Vittorio (Università di Catania),<br/><i>'Young America' e 'Giovine Italia': Vizi e Virtù dell'Italia nel Risorgimento 'Americano'.</i></p>                   |
| <p>2.Alessandro Giardino (McGill University),<br/><i>The Italian as a hypocrite: Struggles for Identity in Giorgio Bassani's Il Romanzo di Ferrara</i></p>                                 | <p>2. Konstanze Baron (Martin Luther Universität Halle-Wittenberg), <i>An Astonishing Lack of Enthusiasm: French Liberal Views of the Italian Character (1809-1866)</i></p> |
| <p>3.Mario Prisco (University of St. Andrews),<br/><i>Italianess redefined by the Migrant-Other in the novel 'Scontro di Civiltà' in Piazza Vittorio di Amara Lakhous</i></p>              | <p>3. . Oliver Logan (East Anglia University),<br/><i>The clericalist counterpoint: corruption and character in 'La Civiltà Cattolica' (1850- c.1950)</i></p>               |

**11.00– 11.30 Coffee**

**11.30 – 13.00 Session IV**

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| <p><b>Constructions of Italian Women</b><br/>Room: G35<br/>Chair: Penny Morris (Glasgow University)</p>                                                                                                                  |
| <p>Francesca Calamita (Victoria University of Wellington),<br/><i>'Questioning Fascist Female Identity through Body and Food: Wanda Bontà's Signorette and Paola Masino's 'Nascita e Morte della Massaia'</i></p>        |
| <p>Niamh Cullen (Marie Curie CARA postdoctoral fellow, Università degli Studi di Milano),<br/><i>'No Girl should make a vetrina of herself': Dress, Display, Character, and Consumption in the Economic Miracle'</i></p> |

**13.00 – 14.00 Lunch (please make own arrangements)**

**14.00 – 15.30 Session IV**

| <b>a. Constructions of Italian Identity since the Second World War</b><br>Room: G34<br>Chair: Marjan Schwegman<br>(NIOD, Institute for War, Amsterdam) | <b>b. The Italian Nation-State since the Second World War</b><br><br>Room: G35<br>Chair: Massimo Riva (Brown University)                                                                                       |
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| Anne Bruch (University of Hamburg),<br><i>'Meglio di ieri' – National Information Policy and the medial construction of Italian Identity</i>           | Elisabetta Cassina Wolff<br>(University of Oslo),<br><i>'Neofascist Interpretations of the 'Italian character' and Criticism to the Mussolinian Project on Anthropological Revolution in Italy (1945-1955)</i> |
| Penny Morris (University of Glasgow)<br><i>Kinsey in Italy</i>                                                                                         | Roberta Suzzi Valli (Birkbeck College)<br><i>'Made in Britain': British Historians and the Making of the Italians</i>                                                                                          |
| Catherine O'Rawe (Bristol University)<br><i>Virtuous Minorities and 'Bad' Publics: the Politics of Italian Film Reception</i>                          | Sharon Hecker,<br>(Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano)<br><i>"If the Boot Fits...": Luciano Fabro's 'Italie'</i>                                                                                   |

**15.30– 17.00 Roundtable**

**Moderator/Chair Carl Levy (Goldsmiths)**

**Discussants:**

**Richard Bellamy (UCL), Maurizio Isabella (Queen Mary, University of London),  
Silvana Patriarca (Fordham University), Massimo Riva (Brown University)**

**17.00 – 17.15 Summing up and Future Plans**