Speakers and chairs of the plenary sessions

**Teodolinda Barolini** is Lorenzo Da Ponte Professor of Italian at Columbia University. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the Medieval Academy of America. She served as fifteenth President of the Dante Society of America (1997-2003). A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College (B.A. 1972) and Columbia University (M.A. 1973, Ph.D. 1978), Barolini taught at the University of California at Berkeley and New York University before returning to Columbia University in 1992 as Chair of the Department of Italian, serving in that capacity until 2004. The first volume of her edition and commentary to Dante’s lyrics, *Rime giovanili e della “Vita Nuova”* (notes by M. Gragnolati), was published by Rizzoli in 2009. She is also the author of *Dante’s Poets: Textuality and Truth in the “Comedy”* (Princeton, 1984; Italian trans. *Il miglior fabbro: Dante e i poeti della “Commedia”*, Bollati Boringhieri, 1993; winner of the Marraro Prize of the Modern Language Association and the John Nicholas Brown Prize of the Medieval Academy), *The Undivine Comedy: Detheologizing Dante* (Princeton, 1992; Italian trans. *La Commedia senza Dio: Dante e la creazione di una realtà virtuale*, Feltrinelli, 2003), and *Dante and the Origins of Italian Literary Culture* (Fordham, 2006; Italian trans. Bompiani, forthcoming; winner of the Premio Flaiano). She is the editor of *Medieval Constructions in Gender and Identity* (Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2005) and (with H. Wayne Storey) of *Dante for the New Millennium* (Fordham, 2003) and *Petrarch and the Textual Origins of Interpretation* (Brill, 2007).

**Piero Bassetti** (Milan, Italy, 1928) graduated in Business and Economics from Bocconi University, Milan and perfected his studies at Cornell University, subsequently specialising in Economic Sciences at the London School of Economics. Board member and Councilor at Milan Town Council from 1956 to 1967, he was the first President of the Lombardy Region from 1970 to 1974. Member of Parliament from 1976 to 1982, he was also President of the Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture in Milan (1982-1997) as well as President of the Union of Italian Chambers of Commerce (1983-1992). From 1993 to 1999 he was President of the Association of Chambers of Commerce Abroad (CCIE). Currently President of Globus et Locus, an association of institutions whose objective is to analyse global and local relations. He is also President of the Gianninno Bassetti Foundation, the purpose of which is the study of "responsibility in innovation". Author of political essays and economic studies, he has written *Occidente Scomodo* (Vallecchi, 1978), *L’Italia si è rotta* (Laterza, 1996), *Milanesi senza Milano* (Mursia 1999),
Daniela Bini is Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature, and chair of the French and Italian Department at the University of Texas, Austin. Her publications include several books: *A Fragrance from the Desert: Poetry and Philosophy in Giacomo Leopardi* (Anma Libri, 1983); *Carlo Michelasteder and the Failure of Language* (University Press of Florida, 1992); *Pirandello and His Muse: The Plays for Marta Abba* (University Press of Florida 1998); a translation and introduction of a selection from Leopardi’s *Zibaldone*, with Martha King (peter Lang 1992); the textbook *Italiano in diretta* with Antonella Pease (McGraw-Hill, First Edition 1989), and numerous articles. She was president of the American Association for Italian Studies from 2000-2003, and serves on the editorial board of several scholarly journals.

Kevin Brownlee is Professor of Romance Languages at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of *Discourses of the Self: Autobiography and Literary Models in Christine de Pizan and Poetic Identity in Guillaume de Machaut*. His edited works include *Rethinking the "Romance of the Rose"; Text, Image, Reception; The New Medievalism; and Discourses of Authority in Medieval and Renaissance Literature*. His research involve the Duecento and Trecento, from Brunetto Latini to Petrarch; and focus on issue of authority, identity, intertextuality, and the changing status of the Italian vernacular. He has published widely on Dante’s transformative rewritings of the Classical poets (especially Ovid and Virgil), as well as on Dante's language theory. His current work involves: 1) the politics of authorial subjectivity in both Petrarch and Boccaccio, especially vis-à-vis their responses to Dante; 2) the construction of Italian literary genealogies tied to issues of cultural authority; 3) Franco-Italian literary/cultural interactions (13th–early 16th centuries); 4) the first-person voice in medieval Italian narrative and lyric; poetry and prose; 5) philology and literary theory.

Marina S. Brownlee is the Robert Schirmer Professor of Spanish and Professor of Comparative Literature at Princeton University, with an emphasis on the Medieval and Early Modern periods. Before joining Princeton’s faculty in 2002, she taught at Dartmouth College (1977-88), and the University of Pennsylvania (1988-2001). She has been awarded fellowships by the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Her books include, *The Poetics of Literary Theory: Lope and Cervantes* (1981); *The Status of the Reading Subject in the ‘Libro de Buen Amor’* (1985); *The Severed Word: Ovid’s ‘Heroides’ and the ‘Novela Sentimental’* (1990), and *The Cultural Labyrinth of María de Zayas* (2000). She has also co-edited volumes on *Romance: Generic Transformation from Chrétien de Troyes to Cervantes* (1985); *Boundary and Transgression in Medieval Culture* (1990); *The New Medievalism* (1991), and *Cultural Authority in Golden Age*
Spain (1995). Her current research explores the nature and impact of 16th-century tabloid literature in Spain, cultural interactions between Spain and the New World, and issues of periodization in Medieval and Early Modern Spain.

Nancy Carnevale is Associate Professor at Montclair State University. Her area of specialization is the history of immigration, race and ethnicity in the U.S. Her research has focused on Italian immigration. Carnevale’s recent book, A New Language, A New World: Italian Immigrants in the U.S., 1890-1945 (University of Illinois Press, 2009) is an inquiry into the experience of language for Italian immigrants and their children. She has held fellowships from the NEH, the Social Science Research Council, and the Rockefeller Foundation. Currently, she is working on a comparative study of Italian American and African American relations in urban and suburban New Jersey. She is a member of the Board of Advisers for the Joseph and Elda Coccia Institute for the Italian Experience in America. She also serves on the Executive Boards of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society and the American Italian Historical Association. Since 2005, Carnevale has been a Commissioner with the New Jersey Italian and Italian American Heritage Commission.

Fabio Finotti is Mariano DiVito Professor of Italian Studies, Graduate Chair, Director of the Center for Italian Studies and Director of the Penn-in-Florence Summer Program at the University of Pennsylvania. He studied at the University of Pisa, and at the Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa. His research explores the relationships among different national traditions, codes, media, genres, and social structures. He is the author of several books, including Sistema letterario e diffusione del decadentismo (1988); Critica letteraria e linguaggio religioso (1989); Una ferita non chiusa. Misticismo, filosofia, letteratura in Prezzolini e nel primo Novecento (1992); Retorica della diffrazione. Bembo, Aretino, Giulio Romano e Tasso: letteratura e scena cortigiana (2004), as well as many articles on literary theory and on Italian literature, from Dante to the 20th century. He published editions of Fogazzaro, Prezzolini, D’Annunzio, Prati, Aleardi, Grossi, Carducci. He is currently working on the rhetorical metamorphosis and multiplications of the 'self' in Italian literature, from the medieval stage to contemporary writers. A member of the advisory Board of Lettere Italiane, Prof. Finotti is Presidente Vicario of the AISLLI (Associazione Internazionale per gli Studi di Lingua e Letteratura Italiana).

Fred Gardaphé is Distinguished Professor of English and Italian American Studies at Queens College. He is Associate Editor of Fra Noi, an Italian American monthly newspaper, editor of the Series in Italian American Studies at State University of New York Press, and co-founding-co-editor of Voices in Italian Americana, a literary journal and cultural review. He is current President of MELUS (2003-2006) and past President of the American Italian Historical Association (1996-2000). He is president-


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Giulio Lepschy is Emeritus Professor at the University of Reading, Honorary Professor at the University College London, Visiting Professor at the University of Cambridge, Professor at the University of Toronto. He is Fellow of the British Academy, and Corresponding Fellow of the Accademia della Crusca. Prof. Lepschy was awarded a Doctorate 'Honoris Causa' by the University of Turin (1998), the Serena Medal for Italian Studies by the British Academy in July 2000. He has been the Emilio Goggio Visiting Professor in Italian Studies at the University of Toronto, and has been the President of the Modern Humanities Research Association. He was awarded the title of Commendatore (Ordine della Stella della Solidarietà Italiana) by the Repubblica Italiana, and the prize ‘Una vita per l’italiano’ by the University of Venice. Two volumes of essays were dedicated to Giulio Lepschy in his honour: Italiano e dialetti nel tempo. Saggi di grammatica per Giulio C. Lepschy, ed. by P. Benincà, G. Cinque, T. De Mauro, N. Vincent, Rome 1996. In amicizia. Essays in Honour of Giulio Lepschy, ed. by Z.G. Baranski & L. Pertile, Reading 1997. Professor Lepschy’s publications include over 450 items. (A bibliography up to 1997 is printed in the In amicizia volume quoted above.) The main ones are listed below:


Millicent Marcus is Professor and Chair of the Department of Italian at Yale University. Her specializations include Italian cinema and medieval literature. She is the author of An Allegory of Form: Literary Self-Consciousness in the ‘Decameron’ (1979), Italian Film in the Light of Neorealism (1986), Filmmaking by the Book: Italian Cinema and Literary Adaptation (1993), After Fellini: National Cinema in the Postmodern Age (2002), and Italian Film in the Shadow of Auschwitz (2007). She has also published numerous articles on Italian literature and on film, and is currently studying the relationship between cinema and collective memory in the formation of the Italian national self.

Gaetana Marrone-Puglia is Professor at the Department of French and Italian, Princeton University. She joined the Princeton Faculty in 1985 and has served as Departmental Representative in Romance Languages and Literatures for eight years and as Director of the Program in Italian Studies from 1991-97. She currently serves on the Film Studies Committee, Program in the Study of Women and Gender, and Program in Italian Studies. Prof. Marrone-Puglia specializes in modern Italian literature and postwar Italian cinema. Her principal publications include articles in the 19th- and 20th- century literature, film, and cultural studies. She is the author of La drammatica di Ugo Betti: Tematiche e archetipi (1988; American Association of Italian Studies Presidential Award); New Landscapes in Contemporary Italian Cinema (1999), edited for Annali d’Italianistica: The Gaze and the Labyrinth: The Cinema of Liliana Cavani (2000; Scaglione Prize by the Modern Language Association of America); Lo sguardo e il labirinto (2003; rev. and enlarged Italian edition); a critical edition of Ugo Betti, Delitto all’isola delle capre (2006); and is General Editor of a two-volume Encyclopedia of Italian Literary Studies (2007), the first comprehensive reference work on Italian literature and
culture to be published in English. Marrone-Puglia has also produced award winning films, including *Woman in the Wind* (starring the late Colleen Dewhurst), a documentary feature on Princeton’s intellectual and social history, *Images of a University* (1996), and *Zefirino: The Voice of a Castrato* (2007), a documentary film that traces the artistic evolution of the famed castrati singers. She teaches interdisciplinary courses on cinema in conjunction with the Program in Visual Arts, the Program in the Study of Women and Gender, and the University Center for Human Values. Marrone-Puglia lectures and publishes internationally on contemporary authors, visual culture and gender. She serves on several editorial boards and has been a consultant to university presses. Marrone-Puglia is currently working on a critical study of filmmaker Francesco Rosi.

**Anna Laura Momigliano Lepschy** is Professor Emeritus at University College London; Senior Fellow, Institute of Germanic and Romance Studies, University of London; Visiting Professor at the University of Cambridge; Honorary Fellow, Somerville College, Oxford; Honorary Professor, University of Bangor; Professor, University of Toronto. In 1994 prof. Momigliano Lepschy was appointed Ufficiale al Merito of the Italian Republic and in 2003 she was appointed Commendatore (OSSI). In July 2009 she was awarded the prize ‘Una vita per l’italiano’ by the University of Venice. At University College Londono, Prof. Momigliano Lepschy was Head of the Italian Department for fifteen years (1984-1999), founded the Centre for Italian Studies, was Chair of Equal Opportunities. She was twice Chair of the Society for Italian Studies and Chair of the British Pirandello Society. She was a member and also Chair of the Italian Panel for the Research Assessment Exercise. She is Vice-President of the Associazione Internazionale per gli Studi di Lingua e di Letteratura Italiana (AISLLI). Prof. Momigliano Lepschy is co-editor, with Z. Baranski, of the series “Italian Perspectives”, published by Maneys. Among her publications (over 200) are the following volumes:

Francesco Nonino is professor of photography at the University of Udine (Faculty of Literature and Philosophy), since 2007. His scientific education (MA in medicine and PhD in neurology) paralleled with an interest in photography, pursued by practice and by attending courses at the University and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna. His work is included in the collections of the Archive and Study Centre of Communication (CSAC, Parma University), the National Institute of Graphics (Ministry of Culture, Rome), the Bibliothèque Nationale de France (Paris), the Musée de l’Elysée (Lausanne). His published monographs include “Habitat” (2008, text by Luca Panaro; GMV Libri publisher, Villorba), “Atmospheres” (2005, text by Roberta Valtorta; Damiani publisher, Bologna) and “Hortus Pictus” (2005, text by Roberto Daolio; Daniela Facchinato Image Gallery, Bologna). Since 1998 he collaborates with the Center for Research and Archive of Photography (CRAF) of Spilimbergo, from which he received in 1999 the “Friuli Fotografia” award. He lives and works in Modena.

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Sanja Roić was born in Pola. She is Professor of Italian Literature at the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy of the University of Zagreb and teaches Croatian and Serbian at the University of Trieste. She has been Visiting Professor at the Universities of Naples, Chieti-Pescara, Bari, Ljubljana, Zara, Montenegro and at the Freie Universität in Berlin, as a recipient of a grant from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. She has taken part in many international conferences in Europe, the United States, and India. She has published numerous books in Italian Studies and Comparative Literature (primarily related to her research on Italian-Croatian crosscultural interferences) and has edited the acts of international conferences, as well as Croatian translations of Italian classics and contemporary authors. In 2007, she was named “Commendatore della Repubblica Italiana per meriti culturali.”

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Barbara Spackman, Ph.D. Yale University, is Professor of Italian Studies and Comparative Literature, and holder of the Giovanni and Ruth Elizabeth Cecchetti Chair in Italian Literature, at the University of California, Berkeley. She has taught at Yale, Northwestern, UC Irvine, and NYU. She works on nineteenth and twentieth century Italian literature and culture, with special interests in decadence, the cultural production of the fascist period, feminist theory, travel writing and Italian Orientalism. She has published on topics as diverse as Macaronic poetry, fascist film, the rhetoric of sickness at the fin de siècle, monstrosity and feminist theory, and the rhetoric of Mussolini’s speeches. Her first book, Decadent Genealogies: The Rhetoric of Sickness from Baudelaire to D’Annunzio, was brought out by Cornell UP in 1989. Her second book, Fascist Virilities: Rhetoric, Ideology, and Social Fantasy in Italy (University of Minnesota Press, 1996) won the 1998 MLA Howard R. Marraro, and Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prizes for Italian Literary Studies. Her major work in progress is a study of Italian Orientalism, entitled Detourism: Traveling Fictions from Italy to Islam.

Jonathan Steinberg is the Walter H. Annenberg Professor of Modern European
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**Wayne Storey** is Professor of Italian at Indiana University, Editor-in-Chief of *Textual Cultures* (journal of the Society for Textual Scholarship), Associate Editor of *Medioevo letterario d’Italia*, writes on and edits works in the early Italian tradition, and teaches medieval Occitan and Italian philology, codicology, and history of the book. His latest projects include a diplomatic-interpretative edition of Petrarch’s *Rerum vulgarium fragmenta* and a book on the anthology and methods of anthologization in early and early modern Italy.

**Anthony Julian Tamburri** is Dean of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute of Queens College/CUNY and Professor of Italian & Italian/American Studies. While at UC Berkeley, he was awarded a Regents Scholarship and the Italian-American Fellowship. He also received a Certificate of Appreciation for Distinguished Contribution to the National Defense while at Purdue University, where he also received numerous Research Foundation Grants. Southern Connecticut State University named him its Distinguished Alumnus for 2000. In 2006, he received the Association of Italian American Educators Award for Promotion of Italian Language and Culture.
Tamburri is a member of a number of organizations for which he has also held several administrative positions. He was a Delegate for Foreign Languages of the Modern Language Association, a member of its Executive Committee for the Division on Modern Italian Literature, and co-founder, with Fred Gardaphé, of the Discussion Group on Italian/American Literature. He was the newsletter editor for the American Italian Historical Association for eight years, a member of its Executive Council since 1993, and its president from 2003-2007. He was the vice president of the American Association of Teachers of Italian for the biennial 2006-2007 and took over as president for 2008-2009. In addition to more than eighty journal articles and book chapters, his authored books include:

- *Of Saltimbanchi and Incendiari: Aldo Palazzeschi and Avant-Gardism in Italy* (1990);
- *To Hyphenate or not to Hyphenate: the Italian/American Writer: Or, An “Other” American?* (1991);
- *Per una lettura retrospettiva. Prose giovanili di Aldo Palazzeschi* (1994);
- *A Reconsideration of Aldo Palazzeschi’s Poetry (1905-1974): Revisiting the “Saltimbancos”* (1998);
- *A Semiotic of Ethnicity: In (Re)cognition of the Italian/American Writer* (1998);
- *A Semiotic of Re-reading: Italo Calvino’s “Snow Job”* (1999);
- *Italian/American Short Films & Videos: A Semiotic Reading* (2002);
- *Semiotics of Re-reading: Guido Gozzano, Aldo Palazzeschi, and Italo Calvino* (2003), which also appeared in Italy as *Una semiotica della ri-lettura: Guido Gozzano, Aldo Palazzeschi, e Italo Calvino* (2003), and


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Vincenzo Todisco (Switzerland), has a degree in Italian and French Literature and Linguistics. He is an author and a professor and linguist at the trilingual Alta scuola pedagogica dei Grigioni di Coira (Switzerland). He has published the novels Il culto di Gutenberg e altri racconti (1998), Quasi un western (2003) e Il suonatore di bandoneon (2006), as well as a children book, Angelo e il gabbiano (2003). All his works have been published also in German translation by Maja Pflug. Todisco has written texts for the theater and radio, including some musicals. His literary works have received numerous prizes, among which the Premio Letterario dei Grigioni (2005). Between 1998 and 2004 he was the editor of the cultural journal Quaderni grigionitaliani. At the l’Alta scuola pedagogica dei Grigioni, Todisco is a professor in Teaching Italian and Foreign Languages and conducts research in the field of multilingualism. In addition, he deals with Italian in the context of teaching and linguistic planning. He is currently working
Lorenzo Tomasin is Associate Professor in Italian Linguistics at the University "Ca' Foscari" of Venice. He is also Recurrent Visiting Professor at the University "L. Bocconi" of Milan (since 2006). He has been Visiting Professor at the University of Ferrara and Assistant Professor at the Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa, where he received his Laurea degree and PhD degree. His research activity focuses on the history of the Italian language and on Veneto dialects. Books: Il volgare e la legge. Storia linguistica del diritto veneziano (Padua, 2001), Testi padovani del Trecento. Edizione e commento linguistico(Padua, 2004), Storia della lingua e filologia. Per Alfredo Stussi (editor, with M. Zaccarello: Florence, 2004), “Classica e odierna”. Studi sulla lingua di Carducci (Florence, 2007), “Scrivere la vita”. Lingua e stile nell'autobiografia italiana del Settecento (Florence, 2009).

Robert Viscusi, is professor at Brooklin College, New York. Viscusi has published a critical study entitled Max Beerbohm, or the Dandy Dante: Rereading with Mirrors (Johns Hopkins UP, 1986), the novel Astoria (Guernica, 1995; American Book Award 1996), the long poem An Oration upon the Most Recent Death of Christopher Columbus (VIA Folios, 1993), a poetry collection entitled A New Geography of Time (Guernica, 2004), a critical history entitled Buried Caesars, and Other Secrets of Italian American Writing (SUNY Press, 2006), and numerous essays on Italian American literature and culture. He is a Broeklundian Professor, an executive officer of the Wolfe Institute for the Humanities, the president of the Italian American Writers Association, and he has held fellowships from the NEH and the Calandra Italian American Institute.

Rebecca West is the William R. Kenan, Jr. Distinguished Service Professor of Italian Literature, and the Department of Cinema and Media Studies at the University of Chicago. Professor West's scholarly work concentrates on the areas of modern and contemporary Italian literature and culture, especially lyric poetry and narrative; on Italian and Italian American cinema; and on gender studies, with a particular interest in feminist theory and practice, and constructions of masculinity. She earned her PhD from Yale University in 1974, and has been on the faculty of the University of Chicago since 1973. Her books are entitled Eugenio Montale: Poet on the Edge (Harvard UP, 1981), winner of the MLA's Marraro Prize, and Gianni Celati: The Craft of Everyday Storytelling (U of Toronto Press, 2000), winner of the MLA's Scaglione Publication Prize. She has edited or co-edited several volumes including The Cambridge Companion to Modern Italian Culture; Italian Feminist Theory and Practice: Equality and Sexual Difference; and
Pagina, pratica, pellicola: Studi sul cinema italiano. Professor West has published widely on her areas of interest in American and Italian journals, and serves on several editorial boards for book series and journals.