

MARIA ANNA MARIANI

Assistant Professor of Modern Italian Literature
Department of Romance Languages and Literatures
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FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

- 1st July 2015: Assistant Professor of Modern Italian Literature at the University of Chicago.
- 1st March 2013-30th June 2015: Assistant Professor of Italian at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea.
- 1st March 2011-28th February 2013: Full Time Lecturer in Italian at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea.

EDUCATION

- 1st September 2007-4th November 2010: Ph. D. in Italian Literature, Comparative Literature and Literary Theory at Università degli studi di Siena. Dissertation title: *Memoria-racconto. Per una teoria dell'autobiografia contemporanea* (Memory-Telling. For a Theory of Contemporary Autobiography). Supervisor: Prof. Guido Mazzoni).
- 1st September 2005-3rd April 2007: MA in Book Industry and Multimedia Publishing at Università per Stranieri di Siena. Dissertation title: *Simulacri di Aron Hector Schmitz. Svevo e l'autobiografia come impostura* (Aron Hector Schmitz's Simulacra. Svevo and the Autobiography as Deception). Supervisors: Prof. Pietro Cataldi and Prof. Gabriele Frasca. Final Grade: 110/110 with merit.
- 1st September 2001-16th February 2005: BA in Literature and Philosophy at Università degli Studi di Siena. Dissertation title: *«Petrolio» come riscrittura* (Pasolini's *Petrolio* as a rewriting process). Supervisor: Prof. Romano Luperini. Final Grade: 110/110 with merit.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *Primo Levi e Anna Frank. Tra testimonianza e letteratura* (Primo Levi and Anne Frank. Between Testimony and Literature), Carocci, June 2018.
Reviews. **Print:** *Il Sole 24 Ore*, 07/08/2018, *Avvenire*, 09/04/18; **Web:** *Librobreve*, 07/15/2018, *Le parole e le cose*, 09/04/18; **Radio:** *Il posto delle parole*, 08/06/2018; *Radio 3 Fabrenehit*, 10/17/18.
- *Sull'autobiografia contemporanea. Nathalie Sarraute, Elias Canetti, Alice Munro, Primo Levi* (On Contemporary Autobiography. Nathalie Sarraute, Elias Canetti, Alice Munro, Primo Levi), Carocci 2012.
- (with Roberto Saviano, Elena Angioloni, Lorenzo Giustolisi, Graciela Muller Pozzebon, Sara Panichi), *LiberaMente. Storia e antologia della letteratura italiana* (*FreeMind. History and Anthology of Italian Literature*), 3 vols., Palumbo 2010.

Book chapters

- “Paper Memories, Inked Genealogies: About Primo Levi’s *The Search for Roots*,” in Arthur Chapman, Minna Vuohelainen (eds.), *Interpreting Primo Levi: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, Italian and Italian-American Studies Series, Palgrave Macmillan 2015, pp. 163-172.

Essays and Articles

- “The Witness’ Two Bodies,” *MLN*, forthcoming, 2019.
- “On the Posthumous Life of Anne Frank,” in *Dibur*, forthcoming, 2019.
- “Com’è possibile che un sopravvissuto sia grasso? Lettura di *Una lapide in via Mazzini* di Giorgio Bassani,” in *Allegoria*, 76, 2017, pp. 46-57.
- “Lettura analfabeta. Su una pagina della *Tregua* di Primo Levi,” in *Esperienze letterarie*, 4, XLI, 2016, pp. 35-42.
- “Uscire dalla finestra. Su *Carried Away* di Alice Munro,” in *Allegoria*, 69, 2014, pp. 393-402.
- “Il sopravvissuto: una vita,” in *Contemporanea*, 12, 2014, pp. 57-64.
- “Regresso e fallimento in *Petrolio*,” in “Pier Paolo Pasolini entre régression et échec,” ed. by Paolo Desogus, Manuele Gragnolati, Christoph F.E. Holzhey, and Davide Luglio, *La Rivista. Études culturelles italiennes Sorbonne Universités*, 4, 2014, pp. 159-162.

- “Spazzolare la vita a contrappelo: Elias Canetti autobiografo,” in *Intersezioni*, 3, 2014, pp. 1-9.
- “Memoria di carta, genealogia d’inchiostro. Sulla *Ricerca delle radici* di Primo Levi,” in *Quaderni d’Italianistica*, 25, 1, 2014, pp. 127-134.
- “Zeno autobiografo,” in *이탈리아어문학*, 40, 2013, pp. 301-332.
- “La pinacoteca dei ricordi. Benjamin, Canetti, Warburg,” in *Letteratura & Arte*, 10, 2012, pp. 183-191.
- “Svevo, Perec e la memoria,” in www.leparoleele cose.it, May 31, 2012.
- “Una teoria dell’autobiografia,” in www.leparoleele cose.it, January 20, 2012.
- “Decantare il ricordo. Fiction e non fiction in Primo Levi,” in *Esperienze letterarie*, 26, 4, 2011, pp. 127-135.
- “Avant qu’ils disparaissent. Memoria e oblio in *Enfance* di Nathalie Sarraute,” in *Francofonia*, 60, 31, 2011, pp. 59-73.
- “Memoria-racconto,” in *Iride. Filosofia e discussione pubblica*, 2, 2011, pp. 267-284.
- “Svevo e Nietzsche,” in *Allegoria*, 21, 59, 2009, pp. 71-91.
- “Jonathan Littell, *Le Benevole*,” in *Allegoria*, 58, 20, 2008, pp. 226-231.
- “*Petrolio* come riscrittura,” in *Allegoria*, 52-53, 18, 2006, pp. 117-133.

Book Reviews

- Han Kang, *The White Book*, in www.alfabeta.2.it, November 10, 2017.
- Han Kang, *La vegetariana*, in *Allegoria*, 76, 2017, p. 186.
- Gilles Deleuze, *L’esausto*, in *Allegoria*, 74, 2016, p. 223.
- Winfried Georg Sebald, *Soggiorno in una casa di campagna*, in *Allegoria*, 67, 2013, p. 162.
- Julie Otsuka, *Venivamo tutte per mare*, in www.puntocritico.eu, February 28, 2012.
- Paolo Sortino, *Elisabeth*, in *Allegoria*, 64, 23, 2011, p. 203.
- Antonella Anedda, *La vita dei dettagli* & Anne Carson, *Antropologia dell’acqua*, in *Italian Poetry Review*, 5, 2010, pp. 372-374, and in *Atelier. Trimestrale di poesia e critica letteraria. Numero monografico su Antonella Anedda*, 63, 2012, pp. 48-49.
- Anne Carson, *Nox*, in *Semicerchio. Rivista di poesia comparata*, 46, 2012.
- Elias Canetti, *Party sotto le bombe. Gli anni inglesi*, in *Allegoria*, 19, 2007, p. 244.

Book manuscript in progress

- *Italy and the Bomb. Literary Recreation in a Nuclear Age.*

Non-Academic Publications (creative non-fiction):

Book:

- *Dalla Corea del Sud. Tra neon e bandiere sciamaniche* (fictionalized reportage, Exòrma publisher, September 2017).

Reviews. **Print:** *La Repubblica* (09/17/17), *Il Fatto Quotidiano* (09/18/17), *Touring* (10/01/2017), *Il Manifesto* (12/02/17). **Web:** *Chronicalibri* (09/24/17), *Librobreve* (09/29/17), *Sul Romanzo* (09/30/17), *Toscanalibri* (10/13/17), *Il Messaggero Umbria* (10/15/2017), *L'Indice dei libri del mese* (10/20/17), *Giuditta legge* (10/27/17), *Azione Migros* (12/25/17), *MiTomorrow* (01/19/18), *La Balena Bianca* (03/12/18), *Penne d'Oriente* (10/02/18). **Radio:** *Radio Capital* (09/21/17), *Il posto delle parole. TRS radio* (10/14/17), *Radio 3 Fahrenheit* (10/20/17), *Radio 24* (02/04/18), *Radio Noventa* (07/23/18).

Media:

- “Un sedentario nell’altrove,” in *Il Manifesto*, July 31, 2018.
- “Il tribunale delle poetesse,” in *Il Manifesto*, April 27, 2018.
- “Mi rifaccio le palpebre per ottenere il rispetto,” in *Il Manifesto*, February 28, 2018.
- “Il patriottismo militare e la cecità (degli spettatori),” in *Il Manifesto*, January 31, 2018.
- “Il volto di Anna Frank,” in www.alfabeta2.it, October 29, 2017.
- “Rocket Man vs Dotard,” in www.alfabeta2.it, September 26, 2017.
- “Di cosa è fatto il niente: *Lecture on Nothing* di Robert Wilson al Festival di Spoleto, in www.nazioneindiana.it, July 18, 2016.
- “Una contro-storia della commedia dell’arte”: Tim Robbins a Spoleto”, in www.alfabeta2.it, July 10, 2016.
- “Plastilina e Shoah. *Kamp* degli Hotel Modern al Festival di Spoleto,” in www.leparolelecole.it, July 14, 2015.
- “Non parla così il futuro,” in www.laletteraturaenoi.it, February 2014.
- “Oro botanico e ferro equino,” in www.laletteraturaenoi.it, October 2013.
- “Più applaudi, meno muori,” in www.laletteraturaenoi.it, September 2013.
- “Anatomia dell’irrequietezza (a Moheyon),” in www.laletteraturaenoi.it, September 2013.

- “Una certezza universale. Lettere dalla Corea del Sud,” in www.laletteraturaenoi.it, August 2013.
- “Un delirio eugenetico. Lettere dalla Corea del Sud,” in www.laletteraturaenoi.it, August 2013.
- “Monzone e semaforo. Lettere dalla Corea del Sud,” in www.laletteraturaenoi.it, August 2013.
- “Pornografia: Gombrowicz e Ronconi,” in www.leparoleelecose.it, July 19, 2013.

INVITED TALKS

- “Close Reading of a Title: On Primo Levi’s *Survival in Auschwitz*,” Invited talk. University of Erlangen. October 12, 2018.
- “Anna Frank in versi,” Invited talk. Università per Stranieri di Siena. March 26, 2018.
- “Close Reading of a Title: On Primo Levi’s *Survival in Auschwitz*,” Invited talk. Northwestern University. February 27, 2018.
- “The Witness’ Two Bodies: Primo Levi, Anne Frank, Jorge Semprún,” Invited talk. Bard College. February 15, 2018.
- “On Anne Frank,” Invited talk. Oakton College, November 8, 2017.
- “Primo Levi’s Evil Wet Nurse and The Sin of Fiction,” Invited talk. “Fact and Fiction: Creation, Forms, Boundaries” conference. University of Chicago, May 19, 2017.
- “On Primo Levi’s *Survival in Auschwitz*,” Invited talk. Oakton College, April 4, 2017.
- “Comment un rescapé des camps d’extermination peut-il être gros? À propos de *Une Plaque Commemorative Via Mazzini* de Giorgio Bassani,” Invited talk. “Le regard des arts contemporains sur le fascisme italien. Réinterprétations, remontages, déconstructions” Seminar. EHESS-CETA, Paris, December 8, 2016.
- “How Can a Survivor from the Camp be Fat? On Fleshy Excess in Bassani’s *A Memorial Tablet in Via Mazzini*,” Invited talk. Giorgio Bassani Conference. University of Chicago, November 4, 2016.
- “On the Posthumous Life of Anne Frank,” Invited talk. Franke Institute for the Humanities. University of Chicago, February 17, 2016.
- “Why Autobiography is a Double-Crosser,” Invited talk. Fiction/Non-Fiction Conference. University of Chicago, November 13-14, 2015.
- “The Survivor: A Life,” Invited talk. Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Chicago, January 29, 2015.

- “Zeno autobiografo,” Invited talk. Liceo “Pontano-Sansi–Leoncillo Leonardi”, Spoleto, March 7, 2011.
- “Bianco, nero, Pasolini,” Invited talk. Liceo “Pontano-Sansi–Leoncillo Leonardi”, Spoleto, March 2, 2011.
- “Antologizzare il contemporaneo,” Invited talk. Liceo “Pontano-Sansi-Leoncillo Leonardi”, Spoleto, October 9, 2010.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Poesia come deterrente: *La bambina di Pompei* di Primo Levi,” AAIS conference. Sant’Anna Institute, Sorrento. June 14-17, 2018.
- “Pompei, Auschwitz, Hiroshima: il confronto tra catastrofi nella poesia-monito di Primo Levi,” Paper presentation. “The Future of the End. Narrations and Representations of the Apocalypse” conference. University of Warsaw. December 4-6, 2017.
- “L’intellettuale, le formiche e l’atomica. Alberto Moravia a Strasburgo,” Paper presentation. AAIS/CSIS Conference. Ohio State University, April 20, 2017.
- “On Two Opposite Meanings of Survival,” Paper presentation. Mancept Workshop in Political Theory. University of Manchester, September 1-3, 2015.
- “Regressione e scacco in *Petrolio*,” Paper presentation. International Conference *Pier Paolo Pasolini entre régression et échec*. Université Paris-Sorbonne, Paris, May 9-10, 2014.
- “On Analogy: a Problem within the Geopolitics of Disciplines,” Paper presentation. International Deleuze Studies Conference *The Territory in-between*. University of Lisbon, July 8-10, 2013.
- “Paper Memories, Inked Genealogies: About Primo Levi’s *The Search for Roots*,” Paper presentation. International Primo Levi Conference, Edge Hill University, UK, July 6-7, 2012.
- “*All’epoca mi nutrivo di Svevo*. Firmato: Georges Perec,” Paper presentation. International Conference on Italo Svevo. University of Oxford, December 16-17, 2011.
- “Su *Open Secrets* di Alice Munro,” Paper presentation. “Sul narrar breve” conference. Università degli studi di Siena, February 17-18, 2010.
- “Analogie, posture, territori,” Paper presentation. Seminar on the Italian critic Giacomo Debenedetti. Università degli studi di Siena, July 7, 2009.

PANELS, CONFERENCES, AND EVENTS ORGANIZED

- Panel co-organizer (with Elizabeth Scheiber): “Primo Levi,” NeMLA Conference, Washington, DC, March 21-24, 2019.
- Event co-organizer (with Armando Maggi): *Political Phonospheres: Plurality and Crowds*, Talk by Adriana Cavarero. University of Chicago, November 5, 2018.
- Event organizer: *Primo Levi’s Hidden Philosophy of Power*, Talk by Simona Forti, University of Chicago, November 2, 2018.
- Panel organizer: “Sopravvivenza,” AAIS Conference, Sant’Anna Institute, Sorrento (Italy), June 14-17, 2018.
- Event organizer: “Women in Their Off-Hours: Antonioni Through the Eyes of Anne Carson,” Talk by prof. Alessia Ricciardi. University of Chicago, February 22, 2018.
- Event co-organizer (with Haun Saussy): “The Universality of Literary Value in the *Guanmong* and the *Divine Comedy*,” Talk by Prof. Sangjin Park. University of Chicago, February 7, 2018.
- Panel Chair: “The Future of the End. Narrations and Representations of the Apocalypse” conference. University of Warsaw, December 4-6, 2017.
- Event organizer: “Four Young Soldiers”: A Lecture on Primo Levi and Translation, with Ann Goldstein. University of Chicago, October 26, 2017.
- Panel Chair: “Post-Apocalyptic Narratives,” AAIS Conference, Ohio State University, April 20, 2017.
- Conference co-organizer (with Armando Maggi): “Going Forward With Our Heads Forever Turned Back. Re-reading Giorgio Bassani,” University of Chicago, November 4, 2016.
- Conference co-organizer (with Arnold Davidson and Armando Maggi): “Unfamiliar Lexicon. Rediscovering Natalia Ginzburg,” University of Chicago and Chicago Italian Cultural Institute, October 20-21, 2016.
- Organizer of the XI Italian Language in the World Week (in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute of Seoul and the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies), October 20-26, 2011.

TEACHING

Courses taught at the University of Chicago

- Primo Levi (graduate). Autumn 2017.
- Theories of Autobiography (graduate). Autumn 2016.
- The Dark Side of Italo Calvino (undergraduate/graduate). Winter 2018.
- Italy and the Bomb (undergraduate/graduate). Winter 2017.
- On Survival (undergraduate/graduate). Spring 2016.
- Poetic Postures of the 20th Century (undergraduate/graduate). Winter 2016.
- Italo Svevo (undergraduate/graduate). Autumn 2015.
- Reading and Practice of the Short Story (undergraduate). Autumn 2017, Autumn 2016.
- Readings in World Literature (required core course. Undergraduate). Winter 2018, Winter 2017, Winter 2016.
- Time, Narrative, and Memory (**independent study** course designed for a COMP LIT undergraduate student). Autumn 2017.
- Literary Theory (**independent study** course designed for a RLL graduate student). Spring 2017.
- On Trauma (**independent study** course designed for a RLL graduate student). Summer 2015.

Courses taught at the Hankuk University for Foreign Studies

A vast array of courses (12 per year) on Italian Language and Culture specifically developed for Korean university students. Courses ranged from Elementary Italian Conversation to Public Speaking and Creative Writing for advanced learners.

ADVISING

PhD Dissertation Committee, University of Chicago

Advisor

- 2017-present : Elizabeth Tavella (Italian), “From Oppression to Compassion: Redefining the Relationship with Animals through Contemporary Italian Narratives.”

Member

- 2016-present: Chiara Nifosi (French), “Dire le temps par l’espace. Construction et fonctionnement d’une métaphore proustienne.”
- 2016-present: Fadil Moslemani (Italian), “Filosofia letteraria e romanzo storico. Un’analisi della rappresentazione della Storia attraverso il prisma foucaultiano del “carnevale del tempo.”
- 2016-present: Silvia Guslandi (Italian), “Belonging to the Threshold. *Appartenenza* and *Sradicamento* in early 20th Century ‘Italian’ Literature.”
- 2016-2017: Elizabeth Fiedler (Italian), “An Investigation into the Detective. The Protagonist’s Power to Challenge, Shape, and Mend through Social Critique.”

MA thesis, Advisor

- 2017: Liz Tereza Jonas, “Lexicon of Form.”

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO)

- 2015 – present: Italian Undergraduate Adviser, RLL Department.
- Winter 2018: RLL Admission Committee.
- Autumn 2017: Search Committee for a position as Assistant Professor in Latin American Literature, RLL Department.
- September, 28, 2017: Fulbright Selection Committee.
- 2016-2017: Member of the “Fact and Fiction” Working group, Neubauer Collegium, Chicago.
- “Close Reading of a Title: On Primo Levi’s *Survival in Auschwitz*” Lecture. “Humanities Day” 2016. University of Chicago, October 15, 2016.
- Respondent to Boris Maslov and Rocco Rubini, “Disciplines of Literature Conference,” University of Chicago, May 27-28, 2016.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2016-present: Editorial Board for the journal *Allegoria* (academic journal of Literary Theory, Palermo: Palumbo publisher).

- 2007-2011: Editorial Board for the journal *Moderna* (academic journal of Literary Theory, Pisa: Fabrizio Serra publisher).
- Referee for journal articles: *Comparative Literature* (Duke University Press).
- Reader's reports for Harvard University Press.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- January 2019-June 2019: DePaul Humanities Center Visiting Fellowship.
- 2018-2019: Franke Institute Residential Fellowship.
- 2018: Bobbi Josephine Hernandez-Sze and Morgan Chia-Wen Sze Teaching Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching.
- May 2010-July 2010: Visiting student researcher at Columbia University.
- February 2009-April 2009: Visiting student researcher at École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris.
- September 2003-February 2004: Erasmus scholarship at Université Paris VII *Denis Diderot*, Paris.
- 2004: Literary prize "Genius Loci" (Theater section), with a *pièce* performed at the Caio Melisso Theater, Spoleto.

LANGUAGES

- Italian (native);
- English (FCE);
- French (upper intermediate proficiency);
- Ancient Greek (working knowledge);
- Latin (working knowledge);
- Korean (upper elementary reading and speaking proficiency).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- AAIS, ACLA, International Society for Fiction and Fictionality Studies, MLA, NeMLA.