

LUCA COTTINI

Host & Creator of the *Italian Innovators* YouTube show
Associate Professor of Italian Studies (Villanova University)

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Italian Innovators webpage: www.italianinnovators.com

EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, CT

Certificate in Digital Marketing Strategies, 2020. Yale School of Management

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Ph.D. 2012. Romance Languages and Literatures (Italian Studies)

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

M.A. 2007. Italian Studies

Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan, Italy

B.A. *Summa cum laude*, 2003. Classics/Italian

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Italian Innovators

2018- Host & Creator of the YouTube/podcast show *Italian Innovators*

Villanova University, Villanova, PA

2018 - Associate Professor of Italian Studies, Director of the Italian Studies Program

Villanova University, Villanova, PA

2013 - 2018 Assistant Professor of Italian Studies, Director of the Italian Studies Program

McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada

2012 – 2013 Assistant Professor of Italian Studies

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

2009 – 2011 Language Instructor

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

2005 – 2007 Language Instructor

Liceo Sacro Monte – Scuola Media Manfredini, Varese, Italy

2003 – 2005 High School and Middle School Teacher (Italian, Latin, Greek Language & Literature)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- * Italian literature and culture of the 17th century:
 - Baroque poetics, still life painting, Caravaggio, Bernini, Vico, *Commedia dell'arte*.
- * Italian literature of the 19th and 20th centuries:
 - D'Annunzio, De Amicis, Pirandello, Palazzeschi, Marinetti, Calvino, Pavese, Fenoglio.
- * Italian visual culture of the 19th and 20th centuries:
 - Early photography, Italian Futurism, Italian cinema (silent era, Fellini)
- * Italian advertising and design in the 19th and 20th centuries
 - Industrial art (Liberty and avant-gardes), illustrators (Dudovich, Hohestein), Gio Ponti
- * Cultural History of Italian Industrialism from its origins to the present

PUBLICATIONS

Books

I Passaggi obbligati di Italo Calvino. Autobiografia, memoria, identità. Longo Editore, Ravenna, 2017.

Book reviews: Cesare Cavalleri, "Quei racconti postumi di Calvino che forse non voleva pubblicati." *Avvenire*, August 30, 2017; Franco Gallippi, *Rivista di studi italiani*, Agosto 2018; Marzia Beltrami, *Annali d'Italianistica* (2018): 36.

The Art of Objects. The Birth of Italian Industrial Culture, 1878-1928. University of Toronto Press, 2018.

Book Presentations: Hotel La Scala, Milan, Italy (April 18, 2018); Falvey Memorial Library, Villanova, PA (October 29, 2018); Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (February 4, 2019); ISI Florence, Italy (June 26, 2019); Umbra Institute Perugia, Italy (June 27, 2019); Brown University, Providence, RI (September 27, 2019). The book received the **2019 book prize** (20th and 21st century) awarded by the American Association of Italian Studies (AAIS)

Book reviews: Grace Lees-Maffei, *Modern Italy*. Vol. 24, April 22, 2019. Marina Della Putta Johnston, *Forum Italicum*, Vol. 53: 785-787, November 2019; Ara Merjian, *University of Toronto Quarterly*, Vol. 89, n.3, Summer 2020: 603-604; Elena Bellina, *Quaderni d'Italianistica*, Vol. 41, 2020: 155-157.

Refereed Articles

“Pierrot, Perelà, and the Italian Saltimbanco. French *Fumisme* and the Italian Modernist Imagination.” – *Incontri*, 33, 2018, 27-37.

“Palazzeschi’s *La passeggiata* and the Urban Miniatures of the Modern World.” – *Italica*, 94.3 Fall 2017. 488-513.

“Il caso Papini nel panorama modernista italiano.” – *Mosaici. Journal of Italian Poetry*. Vol. 5, Summer 2017 - Special Issue on Italian Modernism.
<<http://www.mosaici.org.uk/?articles=il-caso-papini-nel-panorama-modernista-italiano>>

“Memorie oltre il mito. Il caso di Due Imperi Mancati di Aldo Palazzeschi.” – *Italianistica. Rivista di Letteratura italiana*. XLVI, 1, gennaio/aprile 2017. 107-114.

“D’Annunzio, Bernini, and the Baroque Prelude of *Il Piacere*.” - *Forum Italicum*, vol. 51, n.2, Summer 2017 - Special Issue: Reawakening Beauty: Gabriele D’Annunzio’s Seduction of the Senses. 335-355.

“Ricordare l’indicibile: I *Vent’anni* di Alvaro e la memoria della grande guerra” in *Rivista di Studi Italiani*, Anno XXXIV, n.2, August 2016: 279-297.

“An Italian in Paris. De Amicis, the World Exposition of 1878, and the New Culture of Industrial Modernity” in *Romance Studies*, vol. 33 Nos. 3-4, November 2015, 216-229.

“La Novità di *Maciste Alpino*.” in *Italian Culture*, XXVII, I, March 2009: 43-59.

“I Sentieri che si Biforcano di Fenoglio e di Calvino.” in *Atelier Poesia*, X, September 2005: 49-59.

“L’*Autobiografia di uno Spettatore*: un Passaggio Obbligato di Italo Calvino.” in *Acme*, LVIII, II, May-August 2005: 333-345.

Book Chapters/Conference Proceedings

“Forgotten Memories Behind the Myth. The Case of Palazzeschi’s *Due Imperi Mancati*.” in Marina Della Putta Johnston ed. *Mito e realtà della grande guerra*. Venezia: Marsilio, 2020.

“Food, Adultery, and the Pursuit of the Modern in Matilde Serao’s *La virtù di Checchina*.” In Claudia Bernardi, Francesca Calamita, Daniele De Feo eds. *Food and Women in Italian Literature, Culture and Society. Eve’s Sinful Bite*. New York: Bloomsbury: 2020.

“Buffalo Bill and the Italian Myth of the American West.” in Guido Bonsaver, Alessandro Carlucci, and Mathew Reza eds. *Italy and the USA. Cultural Change Through Language and Narrative*. Legenda: Oxford, 2019: 89-102.

“Time of Science and the Art of Time.” in Antonio Bandirali, Giampiero Tartaglia, and Vincenzo Vocino eds. *Art and Science in the 3rd Millennium*. Lativa: Varese, 2016: 61-66.

“Presente! The Latent Memory of Italy’s Great War in its Photographic Portraits.” in Minghelli, Giuliana, and Sally Hill eds. *Stillness in Motion: Italy, Photography and the Meanings of Modernity*. University of Toronto Press: Toronto, 2014: 149-180.

CONFERENCE GUEST SPEAKER

* *The Pursuit of Excellence. Experimentation, Creativity, and Innovation in the Italian Milieu.* March 25, 2021. International Conference “Italian Experiments” organized by the California Interdisciplinary Consortium for Italian Studies (CICIS)

* *L’immaginario del prodotto italiano negli Stati Uniti del dopoguerra,* June 26, 2021. International Conference “Consumismi Transatlantici Moderni: Culture del consumo e prodotti italiani negli Stati Uniti del dopoguerra, 1949-1972” organized by the Università di Scienze Gastronomiche in Pollenzo (Italy)

@ITALYINPHILLY LECTURES (invited talks sponsored by the General Consulate of Italy in Philadelphia)

* *What does beauty have to do with innovation? The Italian Case.* August 12, 2020

* *How the Italian language made it to the United States. From Da Ponte to Caruso.* October 20, 2020

* *The design of value. A brief history of Italian branding.* November 5, 2020

* *When food became a work of art. On Italian still life painting.* November 24, 2020

* *What does Italian past have to do with the future? On heritage and virtue.* December 14, 2020

* *A human-centered adventure. Italian technology from Leonardo to Olivetti.* January 12, 2021

* *Bicycles, sports, and the birth of Italian tourism.* February 10, 2021

* *Who is the Italian Innovator?* March 10, 2021

* *Italy and the Simultaneous Age.* April 14, 2021

* *The facing autobiographies of Fellini and Calvino.* May 6, 2021

* *The designer as storyteller. The cultural way of Italian industry.* June 8, 2021

* *The Seicento. A Century of Innovation.* September 9, 2021

* *Ricordi, Caruso, and sound recording. The new languages of music.* October 6, 2021

INVITED LECTURES

* Dante Alighieri Society of Vancouver, *Leonardo and the Italian idea of technique.* January 28, 2021

* Dartmouth University, *On Italian still life painting.* January 29, 2021

* University of Edinburgh, *Industrious objects. Enterprising subjects.* February 22, 2021; seminar February 24, 2021

* Seton Hall University. *At the origin of Made in Italy. Fashioning Italian Industrial culture.* March 26, 2021

* Tra Sacro e Sacro Monte Theatre Festival (Varese, Italy). *Dante e l’America,* July 14, 2015.

* Mount Holyoke College. *La virtù di Checchina.* Undergraduate Seminar on Italian Material Culture, February 25, 2015 (Prof. Ombretta Frau).

* Yale University. *Smoke, Cigarettes, and the Modernist Ideal of a Light Being.* February 20, 2015 (Prof. Giuseppe Mazzotta).

* University of Pennsylvania. *Gramophones, Sound Recording, and the New Languages of Music.* Graduate Seminar on Italian Opera, January 30, 2015 (Prof. Mauro Calcagno).

* Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Montréal. *Ciclismo e territorio. Il Giro d’Italia e il mito della bicicletta in Italia.*” October 21, 2012

* Harvard University. *Introduction to Aldo Palazzeschi.* Graduate Seminar on the Italian Poetry of the 20th Century, February 8, 2010 (Prof. Lino Pertile).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “The Toothache of Italian Colonialism. The Case of Flajano’s *Tempo di uccidere*.” Delivered at the API international conference in Siracusa, Italy (July 2-5, 2019).
- “Forgotten Islands. Italy and the Island of Greece.” Delivered at the CSIS conference in Ottawa (Canada). May 13, 2018.
- “Buffalo Bill and the Italian Myth of the American West.” Delivered at the International Conference *Cultures on the Move* organized by the University of Oxford, Oxford, September 23-24, 2016.
- “The Style of Objects. The Making of a Modern Lifestyle in Matilde Serao’s *La virtù di Checchina* and *La conquista di Roma*.” Delivered at the AAIS Conference in Baton Rouge, LA, April 21, 2016.
- “Depero’s Toys and the Making of Italian Design.” Delivered at the NEMLA Conference in Toronto, April 30, 2015.
- “Tempo della scienza e arte del tempo. Orologi, industria e tempi moderni”. Delivered at the International Conference *Arte e scienza nel terzo millennio* organized by the European Commission Joint Research Center, Ispra (Italy), April 24, 2015.
- “The Art of Objects: Designing Italy’s Way to Modernity (1878-1928).” Delivered at the Conference *The Italian Contribution to Knowledge* organized by ISSNAF at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, October 18, 2014.
- “Forgotten Memories Behind the Myth: The Case of Palazzeschi’s *Due imperi mancati*.” Delivered at the International Conference *The Myth of the Great War* organized by the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, April 24, 2014.
- “The Representation of Food in Baroque and Modernist Still Life.” Delivered at the NEMLA Conference in Boston, March 23, 2013.
- “The Latent and Public Memory of Italy’s Great War in Its Photographic Autobiography.” Delivered at the Graduate Conference *Voices from the In-Between: Aporias, Reverberations, and Audiences*, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, April 17, 2010.
- “Ai Margini della Retorica: Guerra ed Emigrazione nella Narrativa Popolare Italiana.” Delivered at the Chiasmi Graduate Conference, Brown University, March 14, 2008.

INTERVIEWS

- Tiziano Dossena, [Italian Innovators: A Podcast, A Website, A Classroom About Italy And Italians...](#) *L’idea*, March 6, 2021
- Filomena Fantarella, [Raccontare l’Italia in inglese. La sfida passa per piattaforme e podcast](#), *La Stampa*, February 16, 2021
- Ana Ilievska, *Pirandello, technology, and Italian modernity*, Facebook Live Pirandello society of America. February 5, 2021
- Filippo Poletti, *New Normal live show*, LinkedIn, December 17, 2020
- Gigli, Daniele, *Quell’intreccio naturale tra cultura e tecnologia*. Heritage Srl., January 10, 2017.
- Poletti, Filippo. *Gli americani studiano l’italiano. Cottini: lingua per aprirsi al mondo*. Business International Magazine (BiMag), November 25, 2016.
- Sabatini, Nicola. *Cosa Prendere e cosa no del modello Usa*. Il sussidiario (web), November 18, 2014.
- Botter, Elena. *Varesini nel mondo. Varese provincia da vivere*. September 2012, n. 2, p. 13.

COURSES TAUGHT

Villanova University

- * Beginning Italian; Intermediate Italian; Conversation and Composition in Italian
- * Fenoglio and the Italian Literature of WWII
- * Faith, Love, and Politics in Alessandro Manzoni's *I promessi sposi*
- * Pinocchio: A Nation in a Puppet
- * Italians: Voyagers, Explorers, Emigrants (Survey of It. Lit and Culture)
- * What is Italian Fascism?
- * Italy in Business
- * A Visual History of Italy
- * A Century of Marvel. The Italian Baroque (in English)
- * Italian Design. The 20th Century Renaissance (in English)
- * Italians and America
- * Italian Poetry
- * Italy & Beauty
- * Italian Theatre

Senior Thesis reader and director

McGill University

- * Italian Literary Composition
- * The Culture of Italian Industrialism
- * Italian Futurism in the European Context (taught in English)
- * Graduate Independent Reading

Harvard University; University of Notre Dame: Beginning Italian I and II

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Villanova

- 2018-2019 Organizer, Lecture Series *Italian Fashion and the Pursuit of Beauty* (Featured speakers: Ann Rosalind Jones, Emanuele Lugli, Eugenia Paulicelli, Nicola Guerini)
- 2017 -2018 Organizer, Lecture Series *Italy and the Design of Modern Beauty* (Featured speakers: Cristina Della Coletta, Giovanni Maddalena, Grace Lees-Maffei, Ara Merjian)
- 2015 Organizer, Lecture Series *The Difference Italy Makes* (Featured speakers: Marco DeCeglie, CEO of Pasta DeCecco; Carlo Alberto Beretta, CEO of Bottega Veneta; Ferdinando Aspesi, Vice-President of Group Quality Novartis; Arrigo Sadun, Former Executive Director of IMF).
- 2014 - 2015 Organizer, Lecture Series *Dante in Our World. 750 Years Later* (Featured speakers: Simone Marchesi, Giuseppe Mazzotta, Mary Watt, John Welle).
- 2014 Curator, Exhibit *Photos of Pavia from the 19th to the 21st Century* hosted in the Presidents' Lounge of Villanova University.
- 2014 - Director, Italian Studies Program

Professional Service

- 2020 Conference organizer. *Flair. The Past, Present, and Future of Italian Fashion and Industrial Design*. December 14, 2020 (sponsored by the Consulate General of Italy in Philadelphia)
- 2014 - Referee, *Modern Italy* (essays); Intellect Books; McGill & Queen University Press (Augusto Del Noce. Lancellotti C. Transl. *The Crisis of Modernity*. 2014).
- 2012 Proofreader, Minghelli, Giuliana and Sally Hill eds. *Stillness in Motion. Photography and the Meanings of Modernity* (University of Toronto Press: Toronto 2014).
- 2011 Research Assistant, Translations of original sources for Henrietta Harrison's book *The Missionary's Curse and Other Tales from a Chinese Catholic Village*. University of California Press: London 2013.
- 2000 Co-Editor, *Temi d'Esame per la Prova di Letteratura Greca*. CUSL: Milano 2000.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2018 Recipient of the Villanova **VERITAS Research Award** for the project *The Americanism of Pope Leo XIII and the Rise of America in Italian Culture (1878-1903)*
- 2014 Recipient of the **ISSNAF Award for the Humanities** for the best unpublished manuscript in North America in the field of Italian Studies.
- 2013 **Fonds Québec de Recherche Société et Culture (FQRSC)** - *Établissement de nouveaux professeurs-chercheurs.*
- 2011, 2009 **Certificate for Excellence in Teaching**, Derek Bok Center (Harvard University).
- 2010 Harvard **Merit Fellowship**.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- MLA (Modern Languages Association)
MSA (Modernist Studies Association)
AAIS (American Association Italian Studies)
ISSNAF (Italian Scientists and Scholars in North America Foundation)
AATI (American Association of Teachers of Italian)
CSIS (Canadian Society of Italian Studies)

LANGUAGES

- Italian: native speaker
English: near-native
Spanish: near-native
French: advanced
Portuguese: intermediate
Latin and Ancient Greek: advanced reading knowledge