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ABA Officers:

Simone Marchesi, Princeton University, President
Kristina Olson, George Mason University, Vice President
Valerio Cappozzo, University of Mississippi, Secretary
Fabian Alfie, University of Arizona, Treasurer

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Message from the President & the Vice President

SIMONE MARCHESI
KRISTINA OLSON

Dear Friends in Boccaccio, “Umana cosa è avere compassione degli afflitti.” At a time in which compassion has been made an issue of political choice, we offer you our greetings with the opening words of the Decameron. Rereading them today, they sound relevant to our present and inspiring in their identification of compassion as the differential quality of humanity. It is with this human principium in mind that we look forward to a new cycle of activities of the ABA. The body of the Newsletter will contain news and reports about the many activities that have seen Boccaccio as their focus in the recent past as well as announcements about upcoming events in which you may be interested in participating. There has been no dearth of events both in Italy and the US.



The same energy and enthusiasm is reflected in the many opportunities to gather around Boccaccio studies that are announced for the immediate future. In addition to the Newsletter, which is recapitulative in nature, the best way to stay abreast of upcoming Boccaccio events is through social media. Thanks to our Secretary, Professor **Valerio Cappozzo**, the ABA has a Public Group on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/796853600461573/>). All members are welcome to peruse its newsfeed and join it to receive the latest information.

The Association is pleased to announce the creation of a new membership category: **Honorary Members**. Honorary Members are scholars from abroad whose careers are distinguished by longstanding contributions to the field of Boccaccio studies. We are very pleased to announce our first two Honorary Members: **Lucia Battaglia Ricci** (Università di Pisa) and **Cormac Ó Cuilleanáin** (Trinity College, Dublin). Please join us in congratulating them on this honor.



The organization of our fourth triennial conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is well underway. The conference, “**Boccaccio’s Legacy: Philology and Hermeneutics**,” will take place from October 3rd to the 6th in the fall of 2019. We are very grateful for the generosity and organizational skill of Professor **Jelena Todorović**, our host, and the financial and administrative support of the Department of French and Italian as well as the Institute of Italian Culture of Chicago. Our four distinguished keynote speakers – **Marco Cursi** (University of Naples – Federico II); **Marilyn Migiel** (Cornell University); **Michael Papio** (University of Massachusetts, Amherst); **H. Wayne Storey** (Indiana University, Bloomington) – will speak on the titular theme of the conference.

We encourage you to send along abstracts for papers or panel proposals on Boccaccio’s life and work to Valerio Cappozzo by **March 3, 2019**.

Presentations may be read in English or Italian. Selected papers will be published in the conference proceedings. We are also happy to continue to offer four travel grants for graduate students and contingent faculty members in the amount of \$250 each.

We look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming sponsored sessions (MLA and RSA), as well as our upcoming triennial conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison in October 2019! Please send us your news about publications, conferences, and any ideas you would like to see the Association pursue.

Thank you for your continued support!





Honorary Members



Lucia Battaglia Ricci

Lucia Battaglia Ricci taught Italian Literature at the Università di Pisa and Roma Tre. Her main area of expertise is medieval vernacular literature, in particular its relation with the visual arts. She has authored and edited more than a dozen books and edited volumes, including *Dante e la tradizione letteraria medievale* (Pisa, Giardini 1983); *Ragionare nel giardino. Boccaccio e i cicli pittorici del 'Trionfo della Morte'* (Roma, Salerno Ed. 1987 e 2000); *Palazzo Vecchio e dintorni. Studio su Franco Sacchetti e le fabbriche di Firenze* (Roma, Salerno Ed. 1990: Menzione speciale Premio Salimbeni 1992); *Parole e immagini nella letteratura italiana medievale* (Pisa, GEI 1994); *Boccaccio* (Roma, Salerno Ed. 2000); *Scrivere un libro di novelle. Giovanni Boccaccio autore, lettore, editore* (Ravenna, Longo 2013). She prepared an edition of Dante's *Inferno* for Franco Maria Ricci-Art'è (2004). She has also prepared a history of the visual tradition of the *Commedia*, titled *Dante per immagini. Dalle miniature trecentesche a oggi*, which is forthcoming in 2018 with the prestigious *Saggi Einaudi* series. She was awarded the *Ordine del Cherubino* on February 15, 2009.

Cormac Ó Cuilleanáin

Cormac Ó Cuilleanáin was educated in Cork, Dublin, Cambridge and Florence. He retired from Trinity College Dublin in September 2016, after more than 30 years' service in the Department of Italian. His main areas of research are Boccaccio, translation, Dante, and creative writing (especially fiction). He has published extensively on medieval Italian literature, starting with his 1984 monograph *Religion and Clergy in Boccaccio's Decameron* (Rome: Edizioni di storia e letteratura, 1984). He has also worked on several edited collections of research, including *Dante and the Middle Ages: Literary and Historical Essays*, co-edited with John Barnes (Dublin: Irish Academic Press, 1995); *Patterns in Dante: Nine Literary Essays*, co-edited with Jennifer Petrie (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2005). One of his larger projects was a new English version of Boccaccio's *Decameron*, based on John Payne's 1886 translation (Ware: Wordsworth Editions, 2004). Recently, he contributed an essay on "Translating Boccaccio" to the *Cambridge Companion to Boccaccio* (2015).



***Boccaccio and His World:
Proceedings of the Third Triennial Meeting
of the American Boccaccio Association***

Duke University, September / October 2016

edited by Valerio Cappozzo, Martin Eisner, Timothy Kircher

«Heliotropia» 2018 (in press)

I. Introduction

II. Literary Contexts

Corrado Bologna, “Boccaccio e l’invenzione del cànone dei Classici moderni”

Roberto Riso, “Essa scrisse una lettera...” Scrittura di lettere e narrativa epistolare in Boccaccio dalla Fiammetta al Corbaccio”

Irene Cappelletti, “La brigata in Purgatorio. Qualche ipotesi sulla struttura del Decameron”

Alberto Gelmi, “Filostrato: an Unintentional Comedy?”

III. Historical Contexts

William Caferro, “The Visconti War and Boccaccio’s Florentine Public Service in Context, 1351-53”

Elsa Filosa, “Messer Pino di messer Giovanni de’ Rossi”

Federico Canaccini, “Giovanni Regina: A Theologian at the Court of King Robert in Naples During Boccaccio’s Time”

Julianna Van Visco, “Beyond Mimesis: Boccaccio’s Engagement with Wool Production in the Decameron”

Christina McGrath, “Manipulated, Misrepresented and Maligned: the Censorship and Rassetatura of the Decameron”

IV. Boccaccio and the Roles of Women

Janet Smarr, “Women Rewrite Griselda: From Christine de Pizan to Julia Voznesenskaya”

Gur Zak, “Between Ghismonda and Massinissa: Boccaccio, Petrarch and the Uses of Tragedy”

Marilyn Migiel. “Tests and Traps in Boccaccio’s *De casibus virorum illustrium*”

V. Epilogue

F. M. Galassi, E. Varotto, G. Spani, F. Toscano, E. Armocida, M. Papio, “Boccaccio e la paleopatologia”

BOCCACCIO'S LEGACY PHILOLOGY AND HERMENEUTICS

Fourth Triennial Conference

University of Wisconsin-Madison

October 3-6, 2019



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- *Marco Cursi*
University of Naples - Federico II
- *Marilyn Migiel*
Cornell University
- *Michael Papio*
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- *H. Wayne Storey*
Indiana University, Bloomington

We invite proposals for papers or panels (in English or Italian) on Boccaccio's life, thought, and works.

Selected papers will be published in the conference proceedings. All participants in the conference need to be members in good standing with the Association.

Please send abstracts of 300 words along with a brief biographical note (100 words max) to the ABA Secretary, Professor Valerio Cappozzo (vcappozz@olemiss.edu) by March 3, 2019.

Four travel grants of \$250 each, sponsored by the American Boccaccio Association, are available for contingent faculty and graduate students who are currently preparing a thesis or dissertation on Boccaccio and would like to present at the conference. Interested parties should send a letter of application and updated CV, along with their proposed paper abstract.

**Sessions Organized by the American Boccaccio Association
at the Renaissance Society of America
Toronto (March 17–19, 2019)**



WRITING THE BODY IN BOCCACCIO'S WORKS

Organizer and Chair: Kristina Olson, George Mason University

- Maggie Fritz-Morkin, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill: “Boccaccio’s Blushing Rubrics and the Pornographic Reader”.
- Anne Robin, University of Lille: “Preserving the Body, Protecting the Life”.
- Chiara Girardi, Johns Hopkins University: “Fiammetta’s antica balia revisited, or the evolution of the female elderly advisor”.

NARRATING IN BOCCACCIO'S DECAMERON

Organizer and Chair: Valerio Cappozzo, University of Mississippi

- Marilyn Migiel, Cornell University: “Narrating for Success in Decameron 4.10”.
- Renzo Bragantini, "Sapienza" Università di Roma: “Between Symbolic and Material Values: Federigo and Monna Giovanna (Decameron 5.9)”.
- Olivia Holmes, Binghamton University, SUNY: “Memorable Doings and Sayings on the Decameron’s Day 10”.

RELIGION, POLITICS, AND DAILY LIFE IN BOCCACCIO'S WORKS

Organizer: Valerio Cappozzo, University of Mississippi

Chair: Teresa Russo, Brock University

- Pina Palma, Southern Connecticut State University: “Birds, Lovers, and Meals in Boccaccio’s Decameron”.
- Marino Forlino, Scripps College: “Decameron VII.6: A meta-textual reading of love triangles in Eastern and Western wor(l)ds”.
- Teresa Caligiure, University of Hamburg: “«Elicona transalpinum» and «Egonis antra». A Political Perspective: Boccaccio Rewrites Petrarca”.



Other Sessions *on Boccaccio's Works*

Sixteenth Century Society, Albuquerque. 2018
Thursday, November 1st, 2018 - 10:30am-12:00pm

Decameron Redux: Rewriting and Remaking Boccaccio's Masterpiece

Organizer: Daniela D'Eugenio, Vanderbilt University;
Chair: Suzanne Magnanini, University of Colorado

The Decameron Comes to Urbino, Michael Sherberg,
Washington University in St. Louis

*'Le cento novella': Updating the Canon of the
Decameron's Rewritings*, Daniela D'Eugenio, Vanderbilt
University

*From Butterfly to Caterpillar: The Reverse
Metamorphosis of the Decameron in Basile's Pentameron*,
Marino Forlino, Scripps College

The 2019 MLA Annual Convention, Chicago, IL
Thursday, 3 January 1:45pm-3:00pm, Old Town
(Sheraton Grand Chicago)

Civic Boccaccio

Presiding: Elissa Barbara Weaver, University of
Chicago

Boccaccio's Civic Offices (1348-55), Elsa Filosa,
Vanderbilt University

Truth and Torture in Decameron 2.1, Justin Steinberg,
University of Chicago

*Tartar Textiles and Ethical Geography in Boccaccio's
Decameron and Esposizioni*, Kristina Marie Olson,
George Mason University



Member news

Eleonora Beck published a new book titled: *Boccaccio and the Invention of Musical Narrative*, EPAP, Florence 2018.

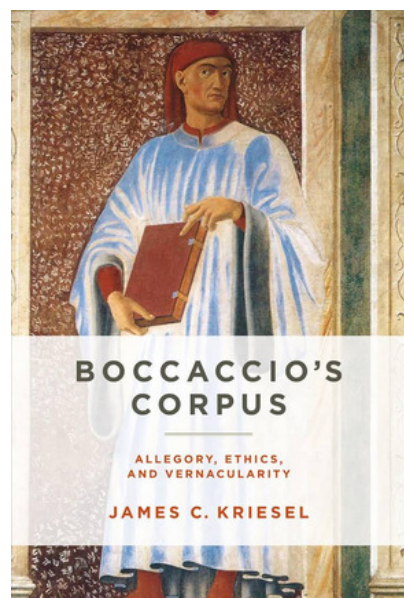
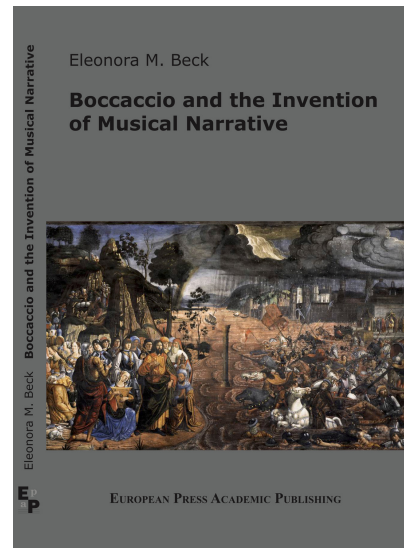
Renzo Bragantini published three articles: *Petrarch, Boccaccio, and the Space of Vernacular Literature*, in *Petrarch and Boccaccio: the Unity of Knowledge in the Pre-modern World*, Edited by I. Candido, Berlin/Boston, De Gruyter, 2018, pp. 313-39; *Tre congedi ovidiani*, in *Avventure, itinerari e viaggi letterari. Studi per Roberto Fedi*, a cura di G. Capecchi, T. Marino e F. Vitelli, Firenze, Società editrice Fiorentina, 2018, pp. 71-77; *Ancora su fonti e intertesti del 'Decameron': conferme e nuovi sondaggi*, in *Boccaccio: gli antichi e i moderni*, a cura di A.M. Cabrini e A. D'Agostino Milano, Ledizioni, 2018 (Biblioteca di Carte romanze, 7), pp. 115-38.

Igor Candido edited a volume titled: *Petrarch and Boccaccio. The Unity of Knowledge in the Premodern World*, Berlin: Walter De Gruyter, 2018

Elsa Filosa published an article in Italian and in English: *Storia di Virginia: ispirazione letteraria tra Livio e Boccaccio*, in *Le storie di Lucrezia e Virginia tra Boston e Bergamo*, edited by M. C. Rodeschini and P. Zambrano. Bergamo: Officina Libraria, 2018. 40-51; *Botticelli's Lucretia and Virginia: the legacy of Livy and Boccaccio*, in *Botticelli: Heroines and Heros*, edited by N. Silver. London: Paul Holberton Publishing, 2019. 78-93.

James Kriesel published a new book titled: *Boccaccio's Corpus: Allegory, Ethics, and Vernacularity*, University of Notre Dame Press, 2018; and the article: *The Marvelous Between Dante and Boccaccio* «Traditio» 73 (2018).

Miguel, Marilyn was invited to deliver a talk: *Female Collusion in the Decameron*, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, 14 November 2018.





You can reach the Virtual Brigata

on the

ABA WebPage:
www.abaonline.us

or by joining the

ABA Facebook Group (American Boccaccio Association):

www.facebook.com/groups/796853600461573/

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