

# ARIELLE SAIBER

## Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures

Department of Romance Languages & Literatures  
Bowdoin College  
Brunswick, ME 04011  
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### EDUCATION

Yale University	Ph.D., Italian Literature	1999
Yale University	M.A., Italian Literature	1994
Hampshire College	B.A., Philosophy	1993
Università di Bologna	Four courses in Philosophy	1991 – 1992

### EMPLOYMENT

Speroni Chair in Medieval & Renaissance Literature & Culture	Uni. of California – Los Angeles (Fall 2018)
Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures	Bowdoin College (2017 – )
Associate Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures	Bowdoin College (2006 – 2017)
Distinguished Visiting Professor of Italian	Uni. of California – Santa Cruz (Jan. 2006)
Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian	Yale University (Fall 2005)
Assistant Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures	Bowdoin College (2001 – 2005)
Visiting Assistant Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures	Bowdoin College (1999 – 2001)

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

1. *Measured Words: Computation and Writing in Renaissance Italy*. University of Toronto Press, 2017.

- The Scaglione Publication Award (Modern Language Association, 2016)
- The Weiss-Brown Publication Award (The Newberry Library, 2017)
- The Bridge Book Award (American Initiative for Italian Culture, 2018)
- The Kendrick Book Prize (Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, 2018)

Italian translation: *Parole su misura: Calcolo e scrittura nel Rinascimento*. Tr. Davide Grossi. Rome: Salerno Editrice. Forthcoming.

2. *Giordano Bruno and the Geometry of Language*. London: Routledge Press, 2005.

3. *Images of Quattrocento Florence: Selected Writings in Literature, History, and Art*. Ed. and Trans. with S. Baldassarri. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000. [350pp.]

### Edited Special Issues

1. *Italian Science Fiction*. Ed. with U. Rossi and S. Proietti. *Science Fiction Studies* 126.42.2 (2015) [206pp.]
2. *Italian Sound*. Ed. with D. Shemek. *California Italian Studies* 4.1 (2014). [403pp.]
3. *General Issue*. Ed. with D. Shemek. *California Italian Studies* 4.2 (2014). [329pp.]
4. *Longfellow and Dante*. Ed with G. Mazzotta. *Dante Studies* 128 (2010). [371pp.]
5. *Mathematics and the Imagination*. Ed with H. S. Turner. *Configurations* 17 (2009). [195pp.]

### Articles & Book Chapters

1. "The Song of the Return: *Paradiso* XXXIII." *Dante Studies*. Forthcoming. [approx. 12,000 words]
2. "Interview with Francesco Verso on Solarpunk, or rather, Solartivismo." *Italian Science Fiction and the Environmental Humanities*, ed. M. Malvasio, D. Andrew, and E. Guaraldo. Liverpool University Press. Forthcoming. [approx. 4000 words]
3. "*Paradiso* 28: Entrusting the Image." *Reading Dante through Images*. Ed. Matthew Collins. Visual Lectura Dantis Vol. 1. Belgium: Brepols. Forthcoming. [approx. 12,000 words]
4. "Dante in American Science Fiction." *Dante Alive*. Ed. Simone Marchesi and Francesco Ciabattoni. London: Routledge. Forthcoming. [approx. 6500 words]
5. "*Lupo siderale*: Il connettivismo di Giovanni De Matteo e la fantascienza italiana, con un'intervista a Giovanni De Matteo." *Narrativa* 43 (2021): 271-287.
6. "*The Lantern of the World Rises to Mortals by Varied Paths*: Paul Laffoley (1935-2015) and Dante." *Forum Italicum* 55.2 (2021): 581-626.
7. "Textual Nonhumans of Renaissance Humanism" *California Italian Studies*. *California Italian Studies*, Vol. 10.1 (2020): 1-15.
8. "'Adrenaline Pulse in the Cables of Reality': A Brief Introduction to Italy's Connettivisti Collective." *Simultanea: The Journal of Italian Pop Culture*. 1.2 (2020): 1-19.
9. "Quadrivial Comedy in Alberti's *Musca*." *Albertiani* 23.n.s.V.2 (2020): 191-205.
10. "Hell, yes! Dante in Contemporary American Satire." *Dante Satiro: The Concept of Satire in the Middle Ages and in Dante's Works*. Ed. Fabian Alfie and Nicolino Applauso. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2020: 171-186.
11. "Laffoley and Dante's Other Worlds." *The Essential Paul Laffoley*. Ed. Douglas Walla. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2016: 20-29, 295-296.
12. "Niccolò Tartaglia's Poetic Solution to the Cubic Equation." *Journal of Mathematics and the Arts* 8 (2014): 1-11.
13. "Coda: Experimental Electronic Music and Sound Art in Italy." *California Italian Studies*, Vol. 4.1 (2014). 5pp.
14. "The *tre giri* of *Paradiso* XXXIII," with Aba Mbirika. *Dante Studies* 131 (2013): 237-272.
15. "The Game of Love: *Caccia di Diana*." *Boccaccio: A Critical Guide to the Complete Works*. Ed. Victoria Kirkham, Michael Sherberg, and Janet Smarr. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013: 109-117.

16. "Flying Saucers Would Never Land in Lucca: The Fiction of Italian Science Fiction." *California Italian Studies* 2 (2011). 47pp.
  - translated into Romanian by Cristian Tamas, *Rivista Nautilus* (2012)
  - translated into Italian by Lea Ciccarese, Part I: *IF: Insolito & Fantastico* 11 (2012): 100-107; Part II: *IF: Insolito & Fantastico* 12 (2013): 92-98. Parts III: *IF: Insolito & Fantastico* 13 (2014): 94-110.
17. "The Middle Ages and Early Renaissance." *Routledge Companion to Literature and Science*. Ed. Bruce Clarke and Manuela Rossini. London: Routledge Press, 2010: 423-437.
18. "Virtual Reality: *Purgatorio XV*." *Lectura Dantis: Purgatorio*. Eds. Allen Mandelbaum, Anthony Oldcorn, and Charles Ross. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008: 151-166.
19. "The Polyvalent Discourse of Electronic Music." *PMLA* 122.5 (2007): 1613-1625.
  - Featured on *Fluid Radio*, January 28, 2014
20. "Flexilinear Language in Giambattista Della Porta's *Elementorum curvilinearorum libri tres*." *Annali d'Italianistica* 23 (2005): 89-104.
21. "The Giordano Asteroid and Giordano Bruno Lunar Crater: A Tale of Two Namings." *Bruniana & Campanelliana* 10 (2004): 183-191.
22. "Ornamental Flourishes in Giordano Bruno's Geometry." *Sixteenth Century Journal* 34 (2003): 730-747.

### Introductions to Special Issues of Journals

1. Introduction to *Italian Science Fiction*, with Umberto Rossi. Ed. Umberto Rossi, Arielle Saiber, and Salvatore Proietti. *Science Fiction Studies* 126.42.2 (2015): 209-216.
2. Introduction to *Italian Sound*, with Deanna Shemek. Ed. Arielle Saiber and Deanna Shemek. *California Italian Studies*, Vol. 4.1 (2014). 12pp.
3. Introduction to *Mathematics and the Imagination*, with Henry S. Turner. Ed. Arielle Saiber and Henry S. Turner. *Configurations* 17 (2009): 1-18.

### Public-Facing Writing

1. "A Present Absence: On Collective Forgetting and the Drive to Remember." Foreword to Kat Mustatea, *Voidopolis*. An augmented reality book presented at Ars Electronica (Austria, 2021): xvii-xxi. Forthcoming with MIT, 2023.
2. "Leonardo da Vinci saw in animals the 'image of the world.'" *The Conversation*, April 2019. Online. (Also published in Towle Road, World Economic Forum, SF Gate, The Raw Story, Feedly, News Republic, Flipboard, and elsewhere.)
3. De Matteo, Giovanni. *The Connectivist Manifesto* (2006). Tr. Arielle Saiber and Salvatore Proietti, 2013.
4. "When in (Renaissance) Rome..." *Cabinet. A Quarterly Magazine of Art and Culture* 35 (2009): 12-15.

### Bibliography and Encyclopedia Entries

1. "A Selection of Italian Science Fiction Novels and Short Stories Translated and Published in English," with Salvatore Proietti. *Italian Science Fiction* 126.42.2 (2015): 354-356.
2. *The Encyclopedia of Italian Literary Studies*. Ed. Gaetana Marrone and Paolo Puppa. 2 vols. (London: Routledge Press, 2006).
  - Folgore da San Gimignano [1331 words] • Rustico di Filippo [1350 words]
3. *The Encyclopedia of Literature and Science* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2002).
  - Literature and Science in Italy • Leonardo da Vinci • Dante • Giambattista Vico

### Web Projects

1. Creator, Editor, Web-Designer: *World Science Fiction Course*. Online since Spring 2015.
2. Creator, Editor, Web-Designer: *Dante Today: Sightings and Citings of Dante's Works in Contemporary Culture*. Online since fall 2006; rebuilt summer 2013 with David Israel, Elizabeth Coggeshall, and Gretchen Williams; Elizabeth Coggeshall has been my co-editor since 2012

### Book Reviews

1. Martin McLaughlin, *Leon Battista Alberti. La vita, l'umanesimo, le opere letterarie* (Florence: Olschki, 2016) for *Modern Language Review* 133.2 (2018): 414-416.
2. Paolo d'Alessandro and Pier Daniele Napolitani, ed. *Archimede Latino. Iacopo da San Cassiano e il Corpus archimedeo alla metà del quattrocento, con edizione della Circuli Dimensio e della Quadratura Parabolae*. Tr. P. d'Alessandro and P. D. Napolitani (Paris: Les Belles Lettres, 2012) for *Renaissance Quarterly* 67.3 (2014): 933-935.
3. Simonetta Bassi, ed., *Bruno nel XXI secolo. Interpretazioni e ricerche. Atti delle giornate di Studio (Pisa, 15-16 ottobre 2009)*, with a bibliography of Bruno studies from 2001-2010 by Maria Elena Severini (Florence: Olschki, 2012) for *Medium Aevum* 82.2 (2013): 376.
4. Anna Laura Puliafito Bleuel, *Comica pazzia: Vicissitudine e destini umani nel Candelaio di Giordano Bruno* (Florence: Olschki, 2007) for *Renaissance Quarterly* 62 (Spring 2009): 207-209.
5. Eugenio Canone and Ingrid Rowland, ed., *The Alchemy of Extremes: The Laboratory of The Eroici Furori of Giordano Bruno* (Pisa-Rome: Istituti Editoriali e Poligrafici Internazionali, 2007) for *The Medieval Review*. (2008) 1806 words.
6. Leo Catana, *The Concept of Contraction in Giordano Bruno's Philosophy* (Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing 2005) for *Renaissance Quarterly* 59.3 (2006): 833-834.
7. Pierpaolo Antonello and Simon Gilson, ed., *Science and Literature in Italian Culture: A Festschrift for Pat Boyde* (Oxford: Legenda, 2005) for *Italian Studies* 60.2 (2005): 255-257.
8. Louis Van Delft, *Frammento e anatomia: Rivoluzione scientifica e creazione letteraria* (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2004) for *Renaissance Quarterly* 58.3 (2005): 990-992.
9. Simon Gilson, *Medieval Optics and Theories of Light in the Works of Dante* (NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 2000) and Alison Cornish, *Reading Dante's Stars* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000) for *Italian Culture* 20.1-2 (2002): 222-225.

### WORKS IN PROGRESS

- *Said the Water to the Glass: The Art of Listening to Things Speak* (monograph)
- with Salvatore Proietti, ed. *Fantascienza: An Anthology of Italian Science Fiction from the 1860s-1960s*. Advance contract with Wesleyan University Press. Approx. 150,000 words.
- “The Platonic Solids,” entry for *The Routledge Encyclopedia of the Renaissance*.
- “A Dante Museum Orbiting the Sun,” essay for *Dante in America*. Ed. Z. Baranski and T. Cachey.

### GRANTS • FELLOWSHIPS • AWARDS

#### **2021**

- Faculty Research Award (Bowdoin) for work on Dante in contemporary visual arts

#### **2019**

- The Kendrick Book Prize (Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts) for *Measured Words*
- Fletcher Family Fund for Research Travel (Bowdoin)

#### **2018 – 2019**

- Faculty Sabbatical Supplement (Bowdoin)

#### **2018**

- The Bridge Book Award (American Initiative for Italian Culture) for *Measured Words*

#### **2017**

- Weiss-Brown Publication Award (The Newberry Library, Chicago, IL) for *Measured Words*

#### **2016**

- Scaglione Publication Award (Modern Language Association) for *Measured Words*

#### **2014**

- Course Development Award (Bowdoin) to develop the “World Science Fiction” course and website

#### **2012 – 2013**

- Faculty Travel Award (Bowdoin) for a month of archive research for *Measured Word*
- Faculty Research Award (Bowdoin) for funding permissions for *Fantascienza: An Anthology of Italian Science Fiction from the 1860s-1960s*
- Faculty Sabbatical Supplement (Bowdoin) for work on *Measured Words*

#### **2008 – 2009**

- Villa I Tatti Fellowship - The Harvard University Center for Renaissance Studies (Florence, Italy) for work on *Measured Words*
- NEH Research Fellowship (declined) for work on *Measured Words*
- first alternate for the ACLS Frederick Burkhardt Fellowship for work on *Measured Words*

### 2003 – 2004

- Sydney B. Karofsky Prize (Bowdoin): the college's only award for outstanding teaching; granted to one assistant professor a year, based on at least two years of teaching evaluations
- Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study Fellowship (Harvard): full year for work on *Measured Words*
- Kenan Research Fellowship (Bowdoin): funding for a full-year sabbatical and 3 summers of research

### 2000

- Faculty Research Award (Bowdoin) for the index to *Images of Quattrocento Florence*
- Theron Rockwell Field Prize (Yale): dissertation award given to "the year's best scholarly work of poetry, literature, or religion" at Yale

### 1998 – 1999

- Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici Dissertation Award (Naples, Italy)
- Yale College Fellow (fall): selected to teach a seminar of my design to Yale undergraduates
- John Perry Miller Research Grant (Yale) for summer work on my dissertation
- Warburg Institute Seminar Fellowship (London, England) for participation on a summer workshop on Giordano Bruno

### 1997 – 1998

- Lionel Pincus Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities (Yale) for work on my dissertation, full year
- John F. Enders Research Grant (Yale) for summer work on my dissertation

### 1995, 1996, 1997 (summers)

- Centro Internazionale di Studi Bruniani research grants (Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici, Naples, Italy) for research on Giordano Bruno

### 1994 (spring)

- Folger Institute (Washington, D.C.): semester-long course on Giambattista Vico with Prof. Donald Phillip Verene

### 1993 – 1997

- Yale University Fellowship

### 1993 – 1995

- A. Bartlett Giamatti Fellowship for Italian Studies (Yale)

### 1993

- Pirandello Lyceum Award

## INVITED LECTURES

### 2021

- "Quieting the Human in Premodern Italy." Johns Hopkins University.
- "Paul Laffoley's Visions and Revisions of Dante's Journey." James Fuentes Gallery. NY, NY.
- "A Dante Museum Orbiting the Sun: Paul Laffoley's *Dantesphere* Project (1978)." University of Notre Dame.
- **Keynote:** '*Che va di notte che porta il lume indietro*': Three Contemporary Artists Illuminating Dantean Paths Through Difficult Times: Maru Ceballos (Buenos Aires), Kat Mustatea (NYC), Kazumasa Chiba (Tokyo). American Association of Italian Studies.
- "Dante and his Publics." With Deborah Parker. *Tra liti sì lontani. Dante for the Americas*. Dante Society of American and Harvard University.
- "'... I must scream': Dante and American Science Fiction." New York University.
- **Keynote:** "'Adrenaline Pulses in the Cables of Reality': The Technohumanist *imaginatio* of Italian Science Fiction's Connettivist Movement." *Memory and Imagination*. University of Toronto.
- "Dante Today." Center for the Humanities at Temple University.
- "Dante and American Science Fiction." Georgetown University.

### 2020

- **Keynote:** "Circles in the Sky: Round Meteorological Phenomena in the *Paradiso*." *Dante, Somma luce*. Dante Society of America. University of Washington, St. Louis.
- "Dante as Poet and Philosopher" with Jason Aleksander. Webinar in the series *Reason and Beauty in the Renaissance*. Lumen Christi Institute, University of Chicago.
- "'Adrenaline Pulses in the Cables of Reality': The Technohumanist *imaginatio* of Italian Science Fiction's Connettivist Movement." *Italian Media and Popular Culture Symposium*. Indiana University.

### 2019

- "We Never Hear the Wind Itself: Inhumanism in Italian Humanist Thought." *The Languages of Nature: Science, Literature, and the Imagination*. Workshop directed by Paula Findlen. Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.
- "*Visibile Parlare* and the Invisible." *Plurilingualism and the Visibile Parlare: International Seminar on Critical Approaches to Dante and the Dante Society of America*. University of Toronto.
- "Inhumanities." *The Liberal Arts & Engagement in Dark Times*. Panel Discussion. Hampshire College.
- "Renaissance Inhumanism: Defining the Human through What We Are Not." Two-part lecture series. Yale University.

### 2018

- "Inhumanism: Unthinking the Human in the Italian Renaissance." Speroni Lecture. UCLA.
- "Flying Saucers Would Never Land in Lucca: Italian Science Fiction." UCLA.
- "Measured Words." De Bosis Colloquium. Harvard University.
- "Dante and Contemporary American Satire." Medieval Studies Program. Mary Washington University.

## 2017

- “Quadrivial Comedy in Alberti’s *Musca*.” Conference: “Alberti *Ludens*.” June 26-27, 2017, Oxford University.
- “An Esoteric Illus-translation of the *Commedia*: Paul Laffoley’s *Divine Comedy Triptych* (1972-1975).” Dante Society of American Annual Meeting. University of Oregon.
- “The Fiction of Italian Science Fiction.” Department of Modern Languages. Florida State University.
- “Translating Science Fiction.” Department of Modern Languages. Florida State University.

## 2016

- “Dante in Popular Culture.” Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Boston, MA.
- “Hell, yes!” Dante in Contemporary American Satire. *Bowdoin Alumni of New York City*. Yahoo!, NY.
- “Nuove geografie e biodiversità nella fantascienza di oggi.” Libreria AsSaggi. Rome, Italy.
- “So Say We All: The Fiction of World Science Fiction.” Dept. of Comparative Literature. Penn State.

## 2015

- “The Development and Use of Dante Today.com.” NEH Seminar, dir. Deborah Parker. U. of Virginia.
- “The Rainbow Fire-Breathing Topology and Combinatorics of Dante’s Trinity.” *Dante Lecture*. Newberry Library, Chicago, IL.
- “Tartaglia’s Poetic Solution to the Cubic Equation.” Dept. of Mathematics. University of Notre Dame.
- “Dante in Popular Culture.” Department of Italian. University of Virginia.

## 2014

- “Dante for and of Today.” Department of Italian. CUNY-Graduate Center.
- “Tartaglia’s Poetic Solution to the Cubic Equation.” Dept. of Mathematics. Colby College.
- “*Paradiso* 33.” Department of Italian. University of Tennessee.
- “Dante’s *Paradiso*.” Honors Program. University of Maine-Orono.

## 2012

- “*Paradiso* 28.” *Lectura Dantis*, Department of Italian. Boston College.
- “Code Writing: Leon Battista Alberti’s *De cifris* (1466).” Department of Italian. Stanford University.
- “Dante and Popular Culture.” Department of Italian. College of the Holy Cross.
- “Reflections on Love in Dante’s *Divine Comedy*.” University Club of NYC.
- “Dante.” University of Maine-Orono, Honor’s Program.
- “Dante and Popular Culture.” Department of Italian. Bucknell University.
- “Divine but Not Golden: Luca Pacioli and the Renaissance Mathematics of Lettering.” Department of Italian. Brown University.

## 2011

- Niccolò Tartaglia’s Poetic Solution to the Cubic Equation.” Department of Mathematics. University of Maine-Orono.
- **Keynote:** “Italian Futures.” Department of German and Romance Languages. Johns Hopkins University.
- with Elliott King, “Dante and Dalí.” Georgia Museum of Art. Athens, GA.



## 2010

- “Giordano Bruno, Philosopher of the Forbidden.” Department of Comparative Literature. Hampshire College.
- “Renaissance Cryptography.” Department of Italian. Loyola University.
- “Math and the Alphabet in Renaissance Italy.” Department of Comparative Literature. Ohio State University.
- “Futurist Gastropolemics.” Department of Italian. Smith College.
- “Giambattista Della Porta’s Flexilinear Language.” Department of Italian. Indiana University.
- “*Purgatorio* XV.” Department of Italian. McGill University.
- “Dante and Pop Culture.” Department of Italian. McGill University.

## 2009

- **Keynote:** “Interdisciplinarity.” The State of Italian Studies. Wellesley College.
- “Niccolò Tartaglia’s Poetic Solution to the Cubic Equation.” Department of Mathematics. University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- “Leon Battista Alberti e la crittografia: Un duetto in cifra tra il linguaggio e la matematica.” Palazzo Rucellai. Florence, Italy.
- “Literature and Mathematics in Early Modern Italy.” Villa I Tatti, Florence, Italy.
- “Twists, Knots, and the Very Small: Pathways into the Literary and Mathematical Imaginations.” Department of Italian. Harvard University.

## 2008

- “Alberti’s Cryptography.” *Codes in Conflict: New Formations in Early Modern Studies*. The Center for Early Modern Studies. University of Wisconsin-Madison.

## 2007

- “Dante: Stella della cultura *pop*?” Department of Italian. Harvard University.

## 2006

- **Keynote:** “*In a network of lines that enlase: Science and the Italian Literary Imagination.*” Graduate Student Conference: “Scientifica-mente: The Symbiosis of Literature and Science in Italian Culture.” University of Chicago.
- “*A Huge Ever Growing Pulsating Brain That Rules From the Centre of the Ultraworld: The Polyphonic Discourse of Electronic Music.*” University of California, Santa Cruz.

## 2005

- “Lyrical Numbers: The Poetry of Mathematics in Early Modern Europe.” Department of Italian. University of Oregon.
- “Lyrical Numbers: The Poetry of Mathematics in Early Modern Europe.” Department of Italian. Yale University.

## 2004

- “Spazio e letteratura.” *Centro Internazionale di Studi Deradiani*, San Demetrio Corone, Italy.
- “Number, Shape, and Word in Renaissance Italian Literature.” *Humanities Center*, Harvard University.
- “Well-Versed Mathematics in Early Modern Italy.” *Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study*, Harvard University.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PARTICIPATION

### 2021

- "Dante and American Science Fiction." *Come l'uom s'eterna: Dante's Lasting Presence in Popular Culture*. Princeton University. (Nov. 2021)
- "Italy on the Speculation Spectrum: Looking to Digital Media and Digitized Mediums to Locate Italian Futurity." *(Italian) Media Studies Today*. Ohio State University.
- Respondent to Donatella Stocchi-Perucchio, "Between Prophecy and Utopia: Dante as Communitarian Thinker." *Dante Politico at the Crossroads of Arts and Sciences*. University of Rochester.

### 2019

- "Paul Laffoley's Dantesphere Project," *Psychology and the Other*, Boston College.
- "Paradiso 28." *Reading the Commedia with Images: An Experimental Lectura Dantis*. Harvard University.
- Roundtable Participant, Author Meets Critics: Dante and the Problems of Political Philosophy by Paul Stern. *New England Political Science Association*. Portland, ME
- Chair, The RSA Mentoring Program. *Renaissance Society of America*. Toronto, CA.

### 2018

- Chair, A Conversation on Dante's Convivio. *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, IL.

### 2017

- "The Quadrivial Comedy of the House Fly: Leon Battista Alberti's *Musca*." Literary and Scientific Cultures in Early Modern Italy. *Modern Language Association*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Respondent, The Early Modern Book as Visual Enterprise. *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, IL.
- Respondent, Point and Line in Renaissance Thought I. *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, IL.
- Co-organizer with Lisa Yaszek, Roundtables: Science Fiction as Protest I, II, & III. *Society of Literature, Science, and the Arts*. Tempe, Arizona.
- Co-organizer with Robert Rushing, Italian Futures. *American Association of Italian Studies*. Columbus, OH.
- Co-organizer with Deborah Parker, and Chair, Dante's Reception in Word and Images I, II, & III. *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, IL.
- Co-organizer with David Albertson, Point and Line in Renaissance Thought I & II. *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, IL.

### 2016

- "The Dogma of the Triple: Dante's Topological Encounter with the Trinity." Constraints as Stimuli for Literary Creativity. *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*. Atlanta, GA.
- "Altro dove: New Ways of Visualizing Dante's Cosmos." Dante and Science. *Renaissance Society of America*, Boston, MA.
- Chair, Ethics and Religion in Machiavelli's Thought. *Renaissance Society of America*, Boston, MA.
- Chair, Reading Form in European Poetry. *Renaissance Society of America*, Boston, MA.
- Chair, Between Science and Fiction: Cosmology and Society in the Grand Siècle. *Renaissance Society of America*, Boston, MA.

## 2015

- Chair, City of the Mind: Tommaso Campanella's Poetic and Political Architecture of Thought. *Modern Language Association*. Vancouver, Canada.

## 2014

- "The Fluidity of Equivocation: Alberti's Paradoxical Encomium to the House Fly and Mathematics." Fossils, Figs, and Flies: Movement and Metamorphosis in Early Modernity. *Society for Literature Science, and the Arts*. Dallas, TX.
- "Dante for and of Today." Dante. *Intersezioni: Italy in Music, Art, Literature, and Cinema*. Turin, Italy.
- "The Music, Measure, and Cosmic Flight of the House Fly: Quadrivial Comedy in Alberti's *Musca*." Renaissance Worlds from Dante to Vico. *Renaissance Society of America*. New York, NY.

## 2013

- "Guardians of Fallen Angels, Wolves of the Stars: Italian Science Fiction's *Connettivismo* Collective." Science Fictional Spaces. *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*. University of Notre Dame, Indiana.
- "*Piazza Galattica*: Verso la prima antologia della fantascienza italiana negli USA." *Italcon: Convention Nazionale della Fantascienza e del Fantastico*, Bellaria, Italy.
- "Balancing the Books in the *Caccia di Diana*." Modes of Signification. *Boccaccio at 700: Medieval Contexts and Global Intertexts*. Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. SUNY Binghamton, NY.

## 2012

- "Italian Science Fiction." Writing and Publishing Science Fiction in Italy. *Chicon 7: The 70<sup>th</sup> Annual World Science Fiction Convention*. Chicago, IL.
- "Tra l'uomo e Dio Pittagora ponea": The Lives in Baldi's *Vite de' matematici*. Rethinking the Boundaries of Humanism. *Renaissance Society of America*. Washington, D.C.

## 2011

- "Italian Science Fiction." World Science Fiction. *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*. Ontario, Canada.
- Roundtable, African-American Reception of Dante. *American Association of Italian Studies*. Pittsburgh, PA.
- Roundtable, Dante and the Popular Imagination. The Winter Meeting of the Dante Society of America. *Modern Language Association*. Los Angeles, CA.

## 2010

- Math and the Alphabet in the Italian Renaissance." Italian Literature. *Renaissance Society of America*. Venice, Italy.
- Respondent, Space in the Renaissance I & II. *Renaissance Society of America*. Venice, Italy.

## 2009

- "The Architecture of the Afterlife: Paul Laffoley's *The Divine Comedy* Triptych." Occultism and Science in Twentieth-Century Art. *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*. Atlanta, GA.
- "Math and the Alphabet in the Italian Renaissance." Math in Theory I. *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*. Atlanta, GA.

## 2008

- “Two Contemporary Illustrators of Dante’s *Commedia*.” *Tra Amici: A Symposium in Honor of Giuseppe Mazzotta*. University of Mary Washington. Fredericksburg, VA.
- “The Language of Code: Leon Battista Alberti’s *De componendis cifris* (1466).” Words Contained, Words Transposed: Writing and Rewriting in the Italian Renaissance. *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, IL.
- Organizer and Chair, Italian Literature: From Counter-Reformation Grace to Baroque Dissimulation. *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, IL.

## 2007

- Roundtable, Annotated Bibliography: New Work in Literature and Science. *Modern Language Association*. Chicago, IL.
- Organizer and Chair, Micro: Studies in the Very Small. Division of Literature and Science. *Modern Language Association*. Chicago, IL.
- Chair: Italian Literature. *Renaissance Society of America*. Miami, FL.

## 2006

- “Leon Battista Alberti’s Code Words: *De componendis cifris* (1466).” Italian Literature and Science. Division of Italian Medieval and Renaissance Literature. *Modern Language Association*. Philadelphia, PA.
- “Microsuoni.” Minimalisms. *American Association of Italian Studies*, Genova, Italy.
- Organizer and Chair, Cyphernetics: Signs, Codes, Texts. Division of Literature and Science. *Modern Language Association*. Philadelphia, PA.
- Chair: Mathematics and the Body. *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*, NY, NY.
- Organizer and Chair: Italian within an Interdisciplinary Context. *The Italian Legacy at Yale: Alumni Conference*. New Haven, CT.
- Organizer and Chair, Dark Matters. *American Association of Italian Studies*, Genova, Italy.

## 2005

- “The Space of the Fantastic in Italian Literature.” Space and Literature. *Northeastern Modern Language Association*, Cambridge, MA.
- Organizer and Chair, “Rhythm Science” and Reading Electronic Music. Division of Literature and Science. *Modern Language Association*, Washington, D.C.

## 2004

- “Handmaiden to Philology and Mistress of the Arts: Geometry as Metaphor in Early Modern Thought.” Roundtable: Between Semiotics and Geometry: Metaphor, Science, and the Trading Zone. Division of Literature and Science. *Modern Language Association*, Philadelphia, PA.
- “Niccolò Tartaglia’s Poetic Solution to the Cubic Equation.” Mathematics, Philosophy, and Interpretation. *Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies*. SUNY Binghamton, Binghamton, NY.
- “The Garden of Archimedes: The Poetry of Mathematics in Early Modern Europe.” Mathematics and the Imagination I: Early Modern. *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*, Durham, NC.
- “Mathematics and Literature.” Roundtable: Science and Literature. *American Association of Italian Studies*, Ottawa, Canada.
- “Flexilinear Language: Giambattista Della Porta’s Impure Mathematics.” Noble and Ignoble Mathematics in Renaissance Italy. *Renaissance Society of America*, New York, NY.

### 2003

- Chair, Dante: Seeing Pain, Feeling Pain, Canonizing Texts. Division of Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature. *Modern Language Association*, San Diego, CA.

### 2002

- “Antirectilinear Satire in Giordano Bruno’s *Candelaio*.” Number, Shape, Word. *Society for Literature and Science*, Pasadena, CA.
- “Mathematics’ Slow Rise to Power in Renaissance Florence.” Intellectual Currents in Rome, Florence, and Venice. *Renaissance Society of America*, Tempe, AZ.
- Organizer and chair, Hard Choices: How Should Literary Theorists Approach Science? Division of Literature and Science. *Modern Language Association*, New York, NY.

### 2001

- “What is the Math in Bruno’s *mathesis*?” Giordano Bruno. *American Association of Italian Studies*, Philadelphia, PA.

### 2000

- “Why Women Want To Know about Optics.” Learning Science. *Society for Literature and Science*, Atlanta, GA.
- “Algarotti, Optics, and Women.” Optical Allusions in Italian Literature. *American Association of Italian Studies*, New York, NY.
- Organizer and chair, Leveling the Field: Science Studies vs. Science and Literature. Division of Literature and Science. *Modern Language Association*, Washington, DC.

### 1999

- “Symmetry Operations as Terminological Tools for Literary Analysis.” *Society for Literature and Science*, Norman, OK.
- “The ‘Ornamental’ Frames in Giordano Bruno’s *Articuli adversus mathematicos*.” *Conference on Giordano Bruno*, De Paul University, Chicago, IL.

## INTERVIEWS

- By Matthew Treherne, with Elizabeth Coggeshall on *Dante Today* for Conversations on Dante. 2020.
- By Danielle Callegari, with Elizabeth Coggeshall on *Dante Today* for Finding the Medieval in Contemporary Pop Culture. 2020.
- By Lex Berman for Diamond Bay Radio on 1) *Measured Words*; 2) Italian science fiction. 2019.
- By Grace Cavalieri for The Poem and the Poet on *Measured Words*. 2019.
- By Thomas Hill for The Library Café on *Measured Words*. 2018.
- By Sarah Axelrod for La Voce di New York / Harvardiana on *Measured Words*. 2018.
- By Massimo Mongai for Il Tredicesimo Cavaliere on Italian science fiction. 2013.
- By Cristian Tamas for Europa SF on Italian science fiction. 2012.
- By Jon Gordon of NPR’s Future Tense (now Marketplace Tech) on the videogame *Dante’s Inferno*. 2010.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- **Editorial Board**, *Bibliotheca Dantesca: Journal of Dante Studies* 2021 –
- **Series Co-Editor**, *Proximities: Experiments in Nearness* [book series for the University of Minnesota Press] 2020 –
- **Editorial Board**, *Rivista di Letteratura Storiografica Italiana* 2020 –
- **Editorial Board**, *Italian Culture* 2020 –
- **Editorial Board**, *Simultanea: Journal of Italian Pop Culture* 2019 –
- **Editorial Board**, *Dante Studies* 2017 – 2020
- **Chair** of the Mentoring Program, Renaissance Society of America 2017 – 2019
- **Vice President**, Dante Society of America 2014 – 2015
- **Executive Council**, Dante Society of America. 2012 – 2015
- **Award Committee**, Modern Language Association, Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies. 2011 – 2013
- **Consultant**, CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange). 2008 – 2009
- **Co-organizer** with Aden Evens (Dartmouth) and Susan McHugh (University of New England) of the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA). Topic: CODE. November 1-4, 2007. Portland, Maine. <http://www.slsa07.com/>. This was a large conference of approximately 400 scholars from around the world; 8-10 simultaneous panels for 3 days. 2006 – 2007
- **Executive Council**, Dante Society of America 2006 – 2009
- **Member**, Publications Committee for the journal *Configurations*. 2005 – 2007
- **Member-at-Large**, Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA) 2004 – 2005
- **Co-organizer** with sculptor Laurie Palmer of the Art Institute of Chicago a series of ten interdisciplinary workshops at Harvard University on the subject of SPACE. 2003 – 2004
- **Executive Committee**, Div. of Literature and Science, Modern Language Assoc. 2003 – 2007
- **Collaborated** with John Ahern (Vassar, Italian) to develop a project entitled "Illuminating Dante" for the Dante Society of America 2002 – 2003
- **Executive Board**, CET Study Abroad Programs in Siena and Catania, Italy. 2002 – 2010
- **Representative**, Division of Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature, Modern Language Association. 2000 – 2003
  
- **External Reviewer for Academic Presses**: Cambridge University Press, Cornell University Press, Edizioni Università di Trieste, Harvard University Press, Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, University of Chicago Press, Wiley-Blackwell
  
- **External Reviewer for Journals**: *California Italian Studies*, *Configurations*, *Dante Studies*, *IF: Insolito e Fantastico*, *Italian Studies*, *Italian Culture*, *The Italianist*, *Journal of American Studies*, *The Medieval Review*, *Medium Aevum*, *Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome*, *Modern Language Review*, *PMLA*, *Quaderni d'Italianistica*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Science Fiction Studies*, *Speculum*
  
- **External Reviewer for Tenure & Promotion Cases**: 2021 (2), 2020 (2), 2019 (2), 2018 (1), 2017 (1), 2015 (1), 2014 (1), 2009 (2), 2008 (1), 2007 (1)
  
- **External Department Reviews**: Department of Italian, Wellesley College (2017); Department of Italian, Smith College (2016); Department of Classics & Italian, Mount Holyoke College (2014)

## ACTIVITIES AT BOWDOIN

### Lectures

- “We Never Hear the Wind Itself: The Nonhuman Within the Humanities.” *Bowdoin Alumni Virtual Event*. July 2020.
- “The Diamond-Winged House Fly: A Tribute to the Liberal Arts by a Renaissance Polymath.” *Bowdoin Alumni: Beneath the Pines*. Oct. 2016.
- “So Say We All: The Fiction of World Science Fiction.” *Faculty Colloquium*. April 2016.
- “Welcome to the Parents of the Class of 2019.” Aug. 2015.
- Gallery conversation with Sarah Montross, curator of the exhibition “Past Futures: Postwar Art of the Americas” (Bowdoin Art Museum, March 5 – June 7, 2015). April 2015.
- “Dante’s Fire-Breathing Rainbow.” *Mellon Medieval and Early Modern Studies Colloquium*. Oct. 2014.
- “The Cryptographer’s Flying Eyeball: A Study in Interdisciplinarity.” *Karofsky Encore Lecture*. Jan. 2010.
- “Mona Lisa and the Mafia.” *Bowdoin Alumni*. June 2005.
- “Rewarding.” *Bowdoin Honors Day*. Bowdoin College. May 2005.
- “Lyrical Numbers: The Poetry of Math in Early Modern Italy.” *Bowdoin Faculty Series*. March 2005.
- The Futurist Cookbook.” *Friends of Bowdoin*. March 2002.

### Other Activities

- Organized lecture by Maggie Fritz-Morkin, “The Bloody Muses of Elegy.” March 2018.
- Organized lecture by Lisa Yaszek, “Afrofuturism as Global Science Fiction.” April 2015.
- Organized lecture by Sherryl Vint, “To Seek Out New Worlds: Science Fiction in a Global Perspective.” Feb. 2015.
- Organized lecture by Sherry Roush, “Haunting Authors: Writing What the Dead Speak.” Oct. 2014.
- Organized lecture by Francesco Verso, “Writing and Publishing Science Fiction.” May 2014.
- Organized Lecture by Dennis Looney, “Freedom Readers: The African American Reception of Dante Alighieri and the Divine Comedy.” April 2011.
- Directed Niccolò Machiavelli, *La Mandragola* (1518), performed in Italian by the students of the “Italian Theater” course. May 2010.
- Organized author and food critic Nancy Harmon-Jenkin’s collaboration with Dining Services to create a Renaissance Banquet in Moulton Union in conjunction with my course “How to Do It: Manuals to Good Living in the Renaissance”). March 2008.
- Organized artist Sandow Birk’s visit to Bowdoin for an all-campus screening of his film *Dante’s Inferno* (2007), followed by a Q&A with Birk. Sept. 2007.
- Directed Dario Fo, *Non tutti i ladri vengono per nuocere* (1957), performed in Italian by the students Of the “Italian Theater” course. May 2006.
- Organized Common Hour talk by author Matthew Pearl, “*The Dante Club: A Tour*.” Nov. 2004.
- Organized all-campus lecture by film critic Giorgio Bertellini, “Women of Horror: Dario Argento’s Murder Mysteries.” April 2001.
- Co-curated “Dante’s *Divine Comedy*: Cut, Oiled, and Shot.” Bowdoin College Museum of Art. Oct. 2000.

### SERVICE AT BOWDOIN

- Committee on Promotion & Tenure (elected) 2020 – 2022
- Committee on Continuity of Online Teaching 2020 April – June
- *Chair*, Romance Languages & Literatures 2019 – 2020
- Governance and Faculty Affairs (elected) 2014 – 2017
- Faculty Meeting Moderator 2016 – 2017
- Representative to the Board of Trustees 2014 – 2017
- Judicial Board 2013 – 2014
- *Chair*, Romance Languages & Literatures 2009 – 2012
- Study Abroad Committee 2007 – 2008
- Grants and Fellowships Committee 2006 – 2007
- Study Abroad Committee 2004 – 2005
- Judicial Board 2002 Fall
- Student Affairs Committee 2001 – 2002

### TEACHING AT BOWDOIN

#### Advanced Seminars in Italian

- *Dante's Divine Comedy*
- *Dante's Purgatorio*
- Medieval and Renaissance Literature (various themes)
- Renaissance Theater
- Italian Theater
- Hallucinatory Landscapes: The Fantastic in Italian Film and Literature

#### Lecture Courses in English

- *Dante's Divine Comedy*
- How to Do It: Manuals to Living Well in the Renaissance
- Hallucinatory Landscapes: The Fantastic in Italian Film and Literature
- World Science Fiction
- Mona Lisa and the Mafia: Italian Culture through the Centuries

#### Italian Language and Culture

- Elementary I & II
- Accelerated Elementary
- Intermediate I & II
- Advanced I (introduction to literature)
- Advanced II (cultural studies)



### Independent Studies in Italian

- Dante (multiple times)
- Boccaccio
- Petrarca
- Medieval and Renaissance Italian Mysticism
- Dante in Spain
- Santa Caterina di Bologna
- Italian Renaissance Theater (multiple times)
- Alberti, Leonardo, & Michelangelo
- Michelangelo's Poetry
- Science & Literature
- Italian Science Fiction (multiple times)
- Dino Buzzati
- Literature & Mathematics (multiple times)
- Translation Theory
- Creating a Virtual Reality Program for Learning Italian
- Italian Electronic Music
- Italian Opera

### Independent Studies in English

- Dante's *Paradiso*
- Dante and Longfellow
- *Pietà in Inf.* 29 of Dante's *Commedia*
- Dante's Cosmos App
- Medieval Italian Mysticism
- Cyberculture
- Is Mathematics Narrative? (year-long)
- Italian Futurism
- Science Fiction Writing (multiple times)

### Student Designed Majors:

- Italian Literature and Theater Studies (2 times)

## TEACHING AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

### University of California – Los Angeles, Speroni Chair of Medieval & Renaissance Studies (Fall 2018)

- Inhumanism: Defining the Human Through What We Are Not (graduate, in English)
- How to Do Just About Everything: Renaissance Guides to Living Well (undergraduate, in English)

### University of California – Santa Cruz, Distinguished Visiting Professor (January Term 2006)

- Where Am I? Space in the Renaissance (undergraduate, in English)

### Yale University, Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian (Fall 2005)

- The Space of the Literary Fantastic (graduate, in English)
- Science and Literature (undergraduate, in Italian)

### Ph.D. Committees

- Giulio Genovese (Italian, UPENN, 2021- )
- Catherine Whittinghill Illingworth (Comparative Literature, UCLA, 2019- )
- Matthew Collins (Italian, Harvard University, 2016-2018)
- Natalie Berkman (French & Italian, Princeton University, 2015-2018)
- Barbara Garbin (Italian, Yale University, 2008-2009)

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Association of Italian Studies (AAIS)
- Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE)
- Dante Society of America (DSA)
- International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts (IAFA)
- Modern Language Association (MLA)
- Renaissance Society of America (RSA)
- Science Fiction Research Association (SFRA)
- Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA)
- World Science Fiction Association (WSFA)

### LANGUAGES

- English, native
- Italian, fluent
- French and Spanish, high level of reading
- Latin, good level of reading