

Wesleyan University  
274 Court St.#204  
Middletown, CT 06457

# Maurizio Vito

## Research Interests

Political Literature and Philosophy  
Contemporary Italian Literature  
Mediterranean Studies  
Italian Epic  
Aesthetics and Literary Theory

## Education

2003-2009 University of California Berkeley, CA  
**Ph.D.** Italian Studies; Title of the Dissertation: "Sea and Land, Collectivity and Individual: Metaphors at Odds in the Political Field"  
2001-2003 University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA  
**M.A.** Italian Literature  
1989-1995 University of Verona Verona, Italy  
**Laurea (summa cum laude)**, Pedagogy, emphasis in Philosophy;  
Thesis titled "Marguerite Yourcenar: Memoria e Politicità del Narrare"

## Publications

"Conversazione con Wu Ming 1 sul New Italian Epic e la critica letteraria italiana," (forthcoming)  
(with Valentina Fulginiti) "New Italian Epic: Un'Ipotesi di Critica Letteraria, e d'Altro" (forthcoming)  
"A Narrative Discourse of the XXI Century: The New Italian Epic," *The Italianist* 30, (Oct. 2010), pp. 395-412  
"Spettri di Wu Ming: Donne, Memoria e Sovversione della Tradizione in *Manituana*" (forthcoming)  
"Epica Moderna e New Italian Epic" (available at <http://www.carmillaonline.com/archives/2009/05/003036.html#003036>), published May 6, 2009  
"La morte come pena: Law, Death Penalty, and State of Exception," in E. Bellina and P. Bonifazio (ed.) *State of Exception: Cultural Responses to the Rhetoric of Fear*. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2006, 26-32  
"Does Beauty have a Future?," in Meyer-Dinkgrafe, D. (ed.) *The Future of Beauty in Arts and Literature*, Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2005, 32-44  
"Il destino di Zora: filosofia della non-cittadinanza," in C. Tatasciore (ed.), *I filosofi e la città*, Città del Sole, 2003, 189-201  
"Primo Levi e la 'zona grigia': alcune considerazioni," in "Working Papers in Romance Languages and Literatures," at [http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/romance/gra/WPs2002/maurizio\\_1](http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/romance/gra/WPs2002/maurizio_1)

## Work in Progress

A) Book project: *Eroine e non della Ventura: Indagine su Donne e Sovversione della Tradizione* (provisional). A five-chapter book that includes essays on Molly Brant (Wu Ming, *Manituana*), Pisana (I. Nievo, *Confessioni d'un Italiano*), Modesta (G. Sapienza, *L'Arte della Gioia*), Artemisia (A. Banti, *Artemisia*), and Pina (G. Pilati, *Minchia di Re*). The first essay has been presented at a recent conference held in Toronto (May 6-8, 2010). The essay concerning Nievo's work is also finished.

B) Book project: *Circular Theory: Multiplicity in Mediterranean Thinking* (provisional). The book project expands the Dissertation. My main thesis is that Mediterranean thinking did not develop through the suppression of the weak part of conflicting couplets such as good/evil, body/mind, truth/false, chaos/order, sea/land. Rather, this "Darwinism of the Ideas" has only covered up the essential coexistence of such allegedly incompatible conceptual systems, as shown by "circular" ideologies as well as theoreticians, from pantheism to phenomenology, from Machiavelli to Sarpi

## Awards received

Departmental Fellowship, Department of Italian Studies, University of California, Berkeley:, Fall 2007, Spring 2004, Fall 2003

Carmelo and Carmela Giampiccolo Prize for excellence in Italian Graduate Studies, Department of Italian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 2007

Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley: Spring 2006, Spring 2007

Graduate Division Summer Grants, University of California, Berkeley: Summer 2006

Istituto Italiano degli Studi Filosofici, Fellowship to attend a Week-long seminar entitled: "La cattedrale sommersa: esistenza, sogno e follia nell'analisi esistenziale di L. Binswanger," Naples: May 1996

## Courses Taught

### **Wesleyan University:**

Spring 2011: Elementary Italian 102

Fall 2010: Italian Renaissance Drama (upper division); Elementary Italian 101

Spring 2010: Early Modern Italian Political Literature (upper division); Elementary Italian 102

Fall 2009: Elementary Italian 101

### **University of California, Berkeley:**

Spring 2009: Elementary Italian 2

Fall 2008: Contemporary Italian Literature and Film

Spring 2008: Elementary Italian 2

Summer Session 2007: Italian 40 (Introduction to Italian Culture). Co-taught Elementary Italian 2

Fall 2006: Teaching Assistant Italian 40 (Introduction to Italian Culture)

Spring 2005: Elementary Italian 1

Fall 2005: Elementary Italian 1

Fall 2004: Elementary Italian 1

### **University of Pittsburgh:**

Spring 2003: Elementary Italian 2

Fall 2002: Elementary Italian 1

Summer 2002: Elementary Italian 1

Spring 2002: Elementary Italian 2

Fall 2001: Elementary Italian 1

### **Guest Lectures**

“Acque della Civiltà: Metafore Nautiche e Paradigmi Politici,” New York University, New York: February 6 2008

“From *Many* to *One*: Chaos and Order on the Seas of Ariosto and Tasso,” The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada: January 11, 2008

“Modern Italian Literature,” Italian Studies 40 (Introduction to Italian Culture), UC Berkeley: November 26, 2007

“The Anti-Rhetoric of the Resistenza,” Italian Studies 40 (Introduction to Italian Culture), UC Berkeley: November 15, 2006

“Irati flutti,” Ambasciata Democrazia Locale Zavidovici, Brescia, Italy: May 30, 2006

“Il Pensiero Meridiano,” Ambasciata Democrazia Locale Zavidovici, Brescia, Italy: May 29, 2006

### **Organizing**

Chair of the Ringrose Committee, which organizes the Annual Ringrose Lecture. Lecture held February 23, 2007, at the University of California, Berkeley: Fall 2006-Spring 2007

Co-organized the annual California Interdisciplinary Colloquium of Italian Studies, hosted by the Department of Italian Studies, University of California, Berkeley: May 7-8, 2004

Co-organized “ConcateNations” Conference, hosted by the French & Italian Department, University of Pittsburgh November 15-16, 2002

### **Languages**

Italian: native

English: spoken, read, written

Spanish: spoken, read

French: read

### **Other Experiences**

Consultant, Horizon Clamor System Project “Modelli, strumenti e percorsi innovativi per la gestione del collocamento mirato dei disabili,” sponsored by EU and Provincia di Brescia: June 1998-June 2000

Full-time Teacher in a Vocational School for disabled students (C.F.P. – Regione Lombardia) in Chiari (Italy): 1998-2001

Full-time Educator in a non-residential institute for disabled people (C.S.E. “Il Vomere”) in Travagliato (Italy): 1993-1998

Worker in a textile factory: 1981-1993