
Barbara Deimling



Last Friday Barbara Deimling was invited to participate in a round table discussion called “Leadership al Femminile” sponsored and organized by the Women’s Network of General Electric Italy. Female leaders in Florence were asked to respond to several questions concerning what it is like to be a woman manager today in Italy. Participants represented several different fields, and in particular, fields which have long been led by men. The following local leaders and professions were: Nora Dempsey (Consul General of the United States in Florence), Eva Cavalli (Artistic Director of Roberto Cavalli, S.p.A), Alessandra Pavolini (Marketing Leader, Global Service GE), Maria Grazia Filippini (General Director of Sun Microsystems Italia), several Italian professors of engineering and law, and other female managers at GE.

Charles Ewell

Charles Ewell completed his third summer season excavating a late-Republican, early-Imperial period Roman farm complex at Palazzaccio, located outside of Lucca. The field school, which he directs with his UNC colleague Laurel Taylor, included three former SUF students: Katri Linnamaa, Leslie Petsoff, and Alison Kramer. The site is important because of the new information it is revealing about rural Roman architecture and agricultural practices as well as providing unexpected evidence of a large Etruscan presence in the area. It is likely that the project will continue for many years to come.

Antonella Francini

On October 21, Antonella Francini gave one of the two introductory talks at a ceremony in Pistoia for the awarding of the *Leoncino D’Oro* Prize to the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Charles Wright, an author whose work she knows extremely well, having translated it extensively into Italian, and written about it. On October 5, she gave a paper on “Multilingualism and Syntactical Drama in Jorie Graham’s Poetry” at the XIX Biennial Conference of the Italian Association for North American Studies at the University of Macerata. On September 21, she was at the University of Lisbon at the third conference of the International American Studies Association, to present a paper on Dante in contemporary American poetry and visual arts, including a discussion on Robert Rauschenberg’s illustrations of the *Inferno*.

This past summer Antonella participated in a round table on literary journal editing at a literature festival in Cremona, and published two articles—one on the Harlem Renaissance poet Claude McKay and his usage of the sonnet form; the other on the Pulitzer-poet Jorie Graham, whom she is currently translating for the publication of an anthology of her work in 2008. Another article on Italian art works and contemporary American poetry has just been published in a miscellanea/essay book by Carocci Editore. She has also co-edited the proceedings of a conference on Dante she co-organized last fall, in which Syracuse University in Florence participated. This volume (for which she wrote the introductory essay) has just arrived in the bookstores and is entitled *Rewriting Dante/Le riscritture di Dante: Russia, Usa, Italia*.

Faculty Watch

Richard Ingersoll

Richard Ingersoll recently published the essay “Italian Beauty; superluoghi come pretesto per *asuperluoghi* ed. M.Agnoletti, Bologna: Damiani editore, 2007.

Sara Matthews-Grieco

An article by Sara Matthews-Grieco entitled “Written With the Body: Emblem books, the gendered body and the codification of the visual idiom (16th- early 17th centuries)”, has been published in the 2004-06 Annals of the Historical Seminar of the Scientific Research Center of Ljubljana ([Historični Seminar 5](#)), where the material for this essay had first been aired as a lecture. The article aims to demonstrate the importance of the emblem *genre* for the reconstruction of a widespread, urban visual culture, shared by a large segment of the population. Between the 16th and the early 17th centuries, emblem books not only provide iconographic evidence with respect to shifts in collective mentalities, but also attest to significant developments in the cultural construction of the body and gender.

Eric Nicholson



A few weeks after directing the SUF spring 2007 Giullari di Syracuse production of “Found in Translation” and hosting the post-show *tavola rotonda* on translation and theatrical performance in April, Eric Nicholson delivered a paper entitled “Angelica, Cleopatra, and the Commedia Diva” at the conference on “Devils Incarnate or Saints angelifide? Italiani in Inghilterra tra Cinquecento e Seicento,” hosted by the *Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento* at the Palazzo Strozzi, Florence. Also in May, he participated in the international conference “TransEuropa: Early Modern Drama between East and West,” at Charles University, Prague, where he presented a talk on “The Third Woman Shall Be First: the Theatrical Serva as Padrona.”

During the summer he continued co-editing, with Robert Henke, the volume *Transnational and Transcultural Exchange in Early Modern Drama: Theater Crossing Borders*, to be published by Ashgate Press in 2008; the collection includes his essay “Ophelia Sings Like a Prima Donna Innamorata.”

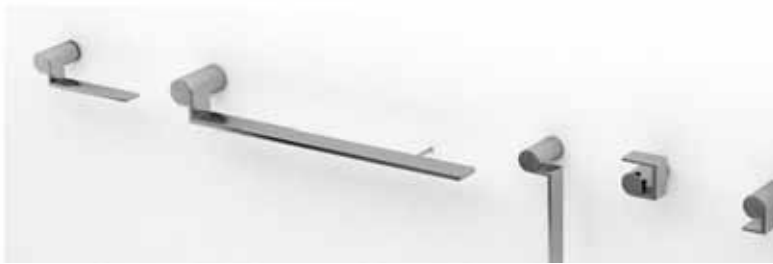
Stefania Talini



Stefania Talini was asked to contribute one of her photographs as the symbolic image for the exhibition *Queer Remix*, held this past summer as part of the *Estate Cultural Fiorentina FI-ESTA* sponsored by the *Regione Toscana and the Comune di Firenze*. The photograph, entitled *Neroluna*, had also been chosen back in 1992 for the cover of a music album. Although the music band is now defunct, the photograph lives on as representative of this exhibit and its theme: honoring diversity and taking a stance against homosexual and identity discrimination. The exhibit is dedicated to Keith Haring, as a tribute to great energy in art and in life.

Faculty Watch

Francisco Sanin



Last May Francisco Sanin's designs of door and window handles were displayed in an international exhibit at the Lock museum in Seoul, Korea. Some of these designs will go into production in the near future.

Francisco returned to his native Colombia this summer to participate in a series of events, including an international workshop in the city of Cartagena with participation of students and faculty from all over Latin America. Francisco was also the academic coordinator of an event organized by the mayor of Medellin, with the participation of students from thirteen faculties of architecture from all over Colombia. The event was entitled "Social Urbanism." Further, Francisco was a member of the jury for the international design competition, "New Centralities in Medellin." Other members of the jury included architects Manuel de Sola Morales from Barcelona and Carlos Jimenez from the USA.

Currently, Francisco is involved in an architecture and urban design project in Beijing, China. He, with a group of other architects, are re-designing the old historic *butongs* (historic housing near the Forbidden City) in association with the architect Seung h Sang of Korea.

Debora Spini



This past summer Debora Spini discussed her recently-published book, *La società civile postnazionale* (Meltemi editore) at a seminar with University of Florence sociology students and faculty of the *facoltà di scienze politiche*, "Cesare Alfieri."

Debora then traveled to Brazil, thanks to an SUF faculty grant, to meet other scholars and to present lectures at three Brazilian universities. On June 5, Debora presented a lecture on "Civil Society and Globalization" at UFSC

(Federal University of Santa Catarina), Florianopolis, *Estado de Santa Catarina*. On June 12, she led a discussion of her book *La società civile postnazionale* at the University of Campinas, *Estado de Sao Paulo*. She concluded her Brazilian lectures on June 14, with a presentation on "A theory of civil society" at USPI (University of Sao Paolo) for the political science department's doctoral students and faculty.

This fall Debora is still keeping busy; last month she participated in the *Convegno della Società Italiana di Filosofia Politica*, presenting a paper on "Trasformazioni dello spazio pubblico ed elisione del politico." On October 5, she gave a presentation entitled, "Lobbying for values: Public Interest Groups in the European Union" at the first national meeting of Italian lobbyists, *Liberarsi dalle Lobby: conviene?* On October 22, Debora's book (see title, above) was officially presented at the Palazzo Pasticciatichi in Florence. The presentation was sponsored by *Il Presidente del Consiglio regionale della Toscana*, On. Riccardo Nencini.

Debora has also recently written a book chapter, entitled, "Of Leviathan and Other Animals: Notes on European Identity" in the recently published volume, *Opening the European Box*, edited by L. Leonardi.