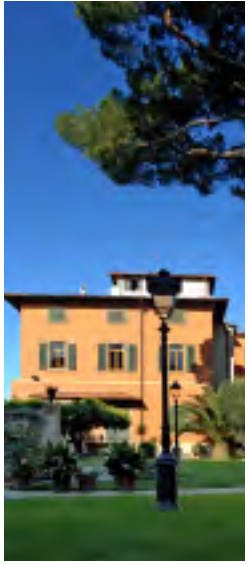


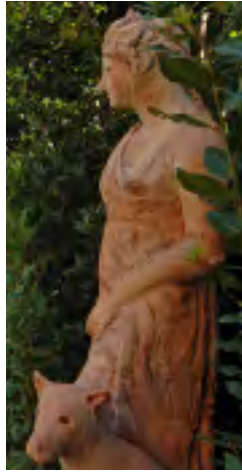
Did you know?



THE SUF CAMPUS TODAY

Five spacious buildings on and around Piazza Savonarola

Alumni generosity



WITH MANY THANKS

In your own words



WHAT SUF MEANT TO ME

Read these comments by alumni, and be sure to submit your own

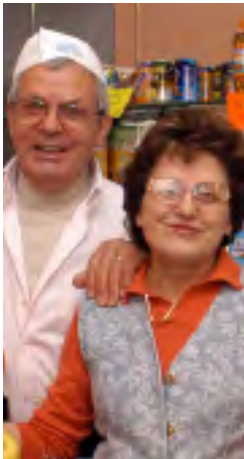
Seen on campus



THEY'RE STILL HERE!

The turtles in the Villa Rossa garden are a protected species and are alive and well.

Do you remember...



SERGIO & ELIA



Feature article

50TH FESTA NEWS FLASH



Alumni achievements



SUF ALUM RECEIVES 2009 CHARTER AWARD

SUF Publications



THE VILLA ROSSA VOICE

The SUF community newsletter is available for free download

Free photo downloads



DON'T MISS OUR LATEST COMPUTER WALLPAPER

50TH CELEBRATION NEWS FLASH

Buon giorno!

We have contacted 7500 alumni of Syracuse University in Florence about our 50th Anniversary Festa. People have expressed a lot of interest and are making reservations as we speak. Some of us have been working on this since December, and we are thrilled that the Festa is now a reality. We can't wait to see our alumni again and reintroduce them to the sights, sounds, and flavors of Florence.

Here are just two of the many exciting events that await you at the 50th Anniversary Festa.

Art History class and site visit with Professor Hatfield:

For many of you, one of the most memorable parts of your experience in Florence was taking classes with Professor Rab Hatfield. In 2007, Professor Hatfield celebrated 40 years of teaching in Florence and, chances are,

many of you took a class with him during your semester at SUF. Join Professor Hatfield again in the classroom for a lecture focusing on Michelangelo and the Medici. Following the lecture, continue with Hatfield on a site visit to the monuments patronized by the Medici family. Begin with San Lorenzo, the parish church of the Medici, from Cosimo to the Medici Grand Dukes. Continue on to the Medici palace and discover this jewel of early Renaissance architecture as well as the Medici's private chapel that looks as if it was painted yesterday. The last stop on the itinerary will be the Accademia that houses Michelangelo's renowned *David* as well as his unfinished *Slaves* for the Julius II tomb project. Professor Hatfield will reintroduce you to Michelangelo and the Medici

and their importance to Florentine history.



The Reunion Party: on the first evening of the Festa—Sunday October 25—our alumni guests will reunite with old friends and reacquaint themselves with the Villa Rossa in a relaxed convivial atmosphere with plenty of delicious Italian *antipasti* and fine Chianti wines. The Villa has not changed—it has been carefully restored and maintained over the years and is still the elegant traditional Florentine villa you remember so well. Our beautiful new garden will be a surprise to some, the perfect setting in which to chat with old friends: Sergio and Elia Landi, who are still running the bar at the Villa Rossa, will be there, as will host families, professors, and staff.



If you can't come to the Festa but want to be there in spirit, here are four suggestions.

UNO: Join SUF's alumni Facebook groups Villa Rossa and Syracuse University in Florence Alumni. We are also creating Facebook groups for individual semesters and academic years, so that you can get back in touch with one another. If you have any trouble finding the group for your semester or year, look for Dorothea Barrett on Facebook, and she'll send you an invitation. We will post photographs of the Festa on all the SUF Facebook pages.

DUE: Send us photographs of your semester in Florence. We are compiling albums of alumni photographs and plan to project them on the walls of the Villa Rossa during the October Reunion Party. Please send two or three of your best photos as attachments to e-mails to suf.alums@syr.fi.it or post them on one of our Facebook group pages.

TRE: We are also collecting statements about what your time in Florence meant to you. Send your statement to dlbarret@syr.fi.it and we'll put it on the website. Please include your full name, your profession, where you live now, and the semester or year you were at SUF.

QUATTRO: Donate! See 'Supporting SU Florence' on the SUF website, www.syr.fi.it

We look forward to hearing from and/or seeing you!

Best wishes and *cordiali saluti* from
The 50th Anniversary Festa Team
Barbara Deimling
Elaine Ruffolo
Brenda Cooke
Beth de Felici
Dorothea Barrett

For Festa reservations
and information,
contact us at
suf.alums@syr.fi.it

Did you know...? THE SUF CAMPUS TODAY



Over the years the SUF campus has expanded. The Villa Rossa is still the main point of reference for all students. Most administrative offices, classrooms, computer labs, and the snack bar are located here. Built as a private residence in 1892, the Villa Rossa was purchased by Syracuse University in 1963. It has been home to the Florence program since its founding in 1959.



The Annex, located next to the Villa Rossa, houses four classrooms and a small student lounge. Access to the Annex is through the SUF garden.



The Villino is a charming nineteenth-century palazzino built as a private residence in 1884. In fall 2006 it became a welcome addition to the growing SUF campus and houses the library, faculty offices, media lab, classroom, reading rooms, and audio-visual center.

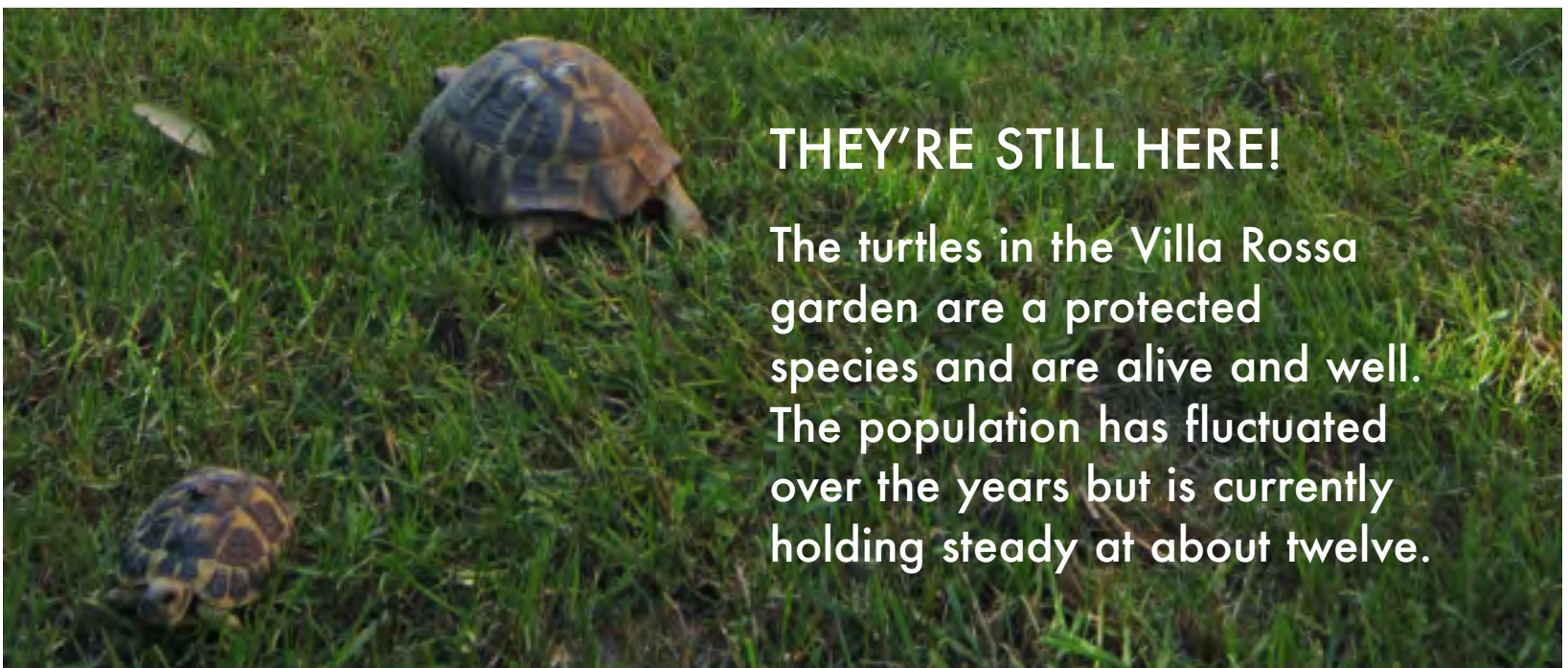


Donatello 25 - The architecture studios are located at Piazzale Donatello 25, a few doors down from the Studio Arts building. Four spacious studios, two computer labs, and offices are conveniently located in the same building. Students have access to a lovely terrace and a small, private garden.



Donatello 21 - Studio Arts can be found on Piazzale Donatello which for over a century has been the artists' district of Florence. SU Florence is fortunate to have such an ideal location for its own painting, drawing, sculpture, and photography studios. Studio Arts also houses SUF's Art Gallery, where exhibits of diverse artistic media are periodically on display and open to the public. Behind the building is a quiet, private garden for student use.

Seen on campus



THEY'RE STILL HERE!

The turtles in the Villa Rossa garden are a protected species and are alive and well. The population has fluctuated over the years but is currently holding steady at about twelve.

Alumni generosity

SUF alums have given generously over the years, both through SUAbroad and directly to the Florence program. Nora Lavori donated the terracotta sculpture *The Huntress* in memory



of her mother and grandmother. Marsha Davis Marcus, Karen Hunt Lowenstein, and Marilyn Shulmean, all 1967 alums, teamed up as "Kindred Spirits" to donate the circular wrought iron bench and support to the lovely secular wisteria plant in the garden. Ex-Robocop and alum Peter Weller donated

The Fountain of Narciso, a beautiful marble and bronze fountain, created by sculptor (and former SUF professor) Romano Luccacchini, in memory of his mother Dorothea Weller.

Do you remember...

SERGIO & ELIA

Who can forget Elia's cappuccini and Sergio's panini? Not to mention that welcoming atmosphere that gave you the courage to start trying out your Italian language skills.



You'll be happy to know that Sergio and Elia are still here, running the bar and serving salads, panini, caffè, and cappuccini, with their own special brand of *simpatia*. Sergio and Elia are excited to take part in the opening festivities for the 50th Anniversary Festa and are looking forward to seeing you!

Alumni achievements

SUF ARCHITECTURE ALUM CHRISTIAN SOTTILE, (1998) RECEIVES 2009 CHARTER AWARD FROM THE CONGRESS FOR THE NEW URBANISM

Christian is a partner in the architectural firm Sottile & Sottile, which he owns with his wife Amy. The couple recently won the award for their Civic Master Plan for the East Riverfront in Savannah. The plan essentially extends the historic fabric of the National Landmark Historic District, adding new wards after 150 years. The project was chosen as one of twelve projects internationally to receive this distinction.

Sottile was a graduate student in architecture with Syracuse University in Florence in 1998 and credits his experience with SUF as being fundamental to the success of his practice. Says Sottile, "Of course, we are very proud of this work, and we continue to trace these lines back to our experiences with Syracuse University in Florence."



A Range of Street Types are Extended from the City Center

What are you up to?
We'd love to hear
from you!
Send us your news, at
[dlbarret@syr.fi.it](mailto:dibarret@syr.fi.it)

WHAT SUF MEANT TO ME

Read these comments by alumni, and be sure to submit your own to dlbarret@syr.fi.it

Penny Shapiro-Bryan, Associate Professor, Chapman University, California (spring 1964):

"I wish you a wonderful 50th celebration. Anyone who has experienced the Syracuse program is in for a special Florentine treat if they return to Villa Rossa. I know it has been meaningful for me. The villa has been restored beautifully, the gardens are lovely and the guardians of the learning now are truly exceptional educators. There must be so many of us who connect important memories with this site; for me it was a liminal time in my life when I expanded my knowledge and perspective exponentially, developing attitudes that are still with me today. And all that is in addition to having so much fun!"

Christian Sottile, architect, Savanna GA (graduate student 1998-99):

"My study in Florence led to a much deeper understanding of the evolutions and permanencies in urbanism. These experiences have profoundly influenced my current work."

Mary Benton, artist, Virginia (spring 1979):

"Syracuse University in Florence certainly changed my life, since that's where I met my husband of twenty-seven years now.... After finishing up at Vassar and Wellesley respectively, Doug and I married, he joined the foreign service, and we spent the next two decades living in communist Poland; Palermo, Sicily; Rangoon, Burma; Havana, Cuba; Lima, Peru; and San Jose, Costa Rica.... I became a painter/sculptor/jewelry designer during all those years abroad."

Katrina Boldt, freelance writer, Silicon Valley (fall 2000):

"I loved Florence but haven't made it back since my SUF semester in 2000. Until I do, I can live vicariously through my Italy album on Facebook and smile when I remember this amazing place I once called home."

Fred Dobb (fall 1968):

"I was there with the unstoppable Phyllis Rudick Wiesenfelder. I learned Italian on the boat over—the Leonardo da Vinci—and never stopped speaking it. Years later I did Mr. Rogers imitations in Italian and was the principal of LDV school in Sacramento, California. One of my host families was Brunella ed Aldo Rugi."

Erika Schneider Van Syoc, graduate student, Brooklyn NY (spring 1998):

"It is hard to forget a nanosecond of my trip—it was fantastic and life-changing.... It was my first real experience with foreign language—I had no idea how much I could learn. I was basically in a state of awe and wonder the whole time! Plus, I had a wonderful host family."

Pamela Cantor, clinical psychologist, Cambridge MA (spring 1964):

"My experience in Florence changed my life. It transformed me.... It was so wonderful, I never wanted to leave. My parents and brother physically came to get me and bring me home. I've spent the rest of my life wanting to come back—and now I have after nearly fifty years."

Elaine Ruffolo (1987):

"My year abroad was so important to me that I decided to stay and try to make a life in Florence. That was 20 years ago and I could not be happier."

Free downloads available at www.syr.fi.it



Wallpaper for your computer

Choose from photos taken by SUF students, faculty, and staff. They're guaranteed to bring back great memories.



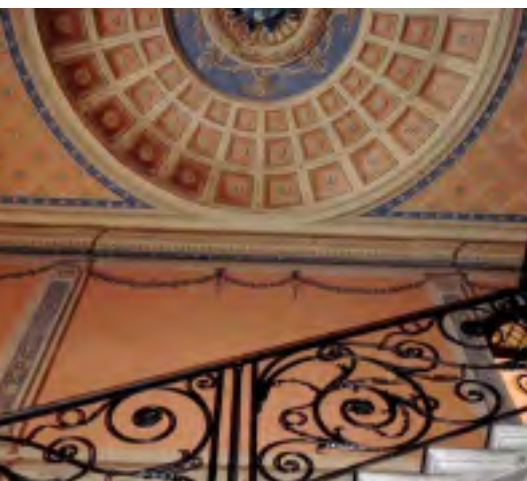
SUF PUBLICATIONS: THE VILLA ROSSA VOICE

Popular campus newsletter for students, faculty, staff, and friends of SUF.

Two new editions in the fall and spring semesters.



Ready for class?



ALUMNI UNIVERSITY

Opportunities for alumni to participate in classes at the SUF campus during the Festa activities

Festa happenings



US CONSULATE TO HOST ALUMNI FAREWELL DINNER

Consul General for Florence Mary Ellen Countryman is "honored to host the SUF alums at our consulate"

Do you remember...



YOUR HOST FAMILY?



Feature article



Alumni spotlight



GARY RADKE

What SUF meant to me

SUF Publications



HOT OFF THE PRESS: THE FIFTH BOOK IN THE VILLA ROSSA SERIES

Sandro Botticelli and Herbert Horne: New Research

Edited by Rab Hatfield

Computer wallpaper



Free downloads available at www.syr.fi.it

SUF 50TH ANNIVERSARY FESTA NEWSFLASH

Buon giorno!

The deadline for reservations and payment for the SUF 50th Anniversary Festa is fast approaching. If you want to be there but have problems meeting the deadline, just let us know: we'll do all we can to help. We've tried to contact everyone but are still getting shows of interest from people who never received the original invitation, so, if you are still in contact with other alumni from your time in Florence, please spread the word about the Festa.

Highlights of the Festa

The Mayor of Florence Matteo Renzi and Vice-Mayor of Florence Dario Nardella are enthusiastic about collaborating with us on this event. The closing ceremony will be at the Palagio di Parte Guelfa, a splendid medieval building in the heart of the city.

The ceremony will be followed by a farewell dinner at the U.S. Consulate in Florence. Consul General Mary Ellen Countryman says, "SUF is the embodiment of what a study abroad program should be and it's been an important part of Florentine-American relations for fifty years. I am honored to host the SUF alums at our consulate."

We have received lots of fascinating photographs and statements about what your time in Florence meant to you. We are particularly interested in hearing how SUF influenced your lives and careers. Gary Radke, who was at SUF in the spring semester of 1972, went on to become a distinguished art historian and professor at Syracuse in New York. This is how he describes the effects of his semester abroad: "It's meant everything to me. It made me who I am today. If I hadn't gone to Florence and if I hadn't been in the Syracuse program, I wouldn't have been able to do the kind of art history I do," he said, "and that's because in the Syracuse program you were required, as the vast majority of our undergraduates still are, to live with an Italian family. It's that difficult, very challenging experience of living with people with whom you don't share enough words, with whom you don't share enough common expectations, that helps you to grow and appreciate the world." More on page 4.

Among the many exciting events planned for the Festa is Alumni University—a smorgasbord of opportunities for alumni to participate in classes at the SUF campus and in the city center. You can choose from a photography class, a private visit to the Vasari Corridor, a refresher class in Italian...see page 3 for more information.

All of us here at the Villa Rossa are very excited about the Festa and looking forward to seeing our alumni again.

Best wishes and *cordiali saluti* from
The 50th Anniversary Festa Team

Barbara Deimling
Elaine Ruffolo
Brenda Cooke
Beth de Felici
Dorothea Barrett



Do you remember your host family?
Host families will be invited to some of the Festa events

**For Festa
reservations
and
information,
contact us at
suf.alums@syr.fi.it**



ALUMNI UNIVERSITY

Among the many exciting events planned for the Festa is Alumni University – a smorgasbord of opportunities for alumni to participate in classes at the SUF campus and in the city center. These are just a few of the many classes that you can choose from.



Stefania Talini



Alick M. McLean



Lawrence Davis



Jonathan K. Nelson

Professor **Stefania Talini** will lead an early morning photography session in the center of Florence.

Professor **Alick McLean** will offer an on-site class on the history of the Piazza del Duomo. Architecture Coordinator Professor **Larry Davis** will take you around the city to see and sketch famous medieval and Renaissance buildings. You can refresh your Italian language skills with Professor **Loredana Tarini** at the Villa Rossa.



Loredana Tarini

There will be a life drawing class with Professor **Marco Fallani** at our Studio Arts building in Piazzale Donatello.

Professor **Rab Hatfield** will take you on a tour of the historic center in the footsteps of Michelangelo.

Professor **Natalia Piombino** will give a lecture on the history and current state of the Mafia.

Professor **Jonathan Nelson** will lead you on a private viewing of the Vasari Corridor.



Natalia Piombino



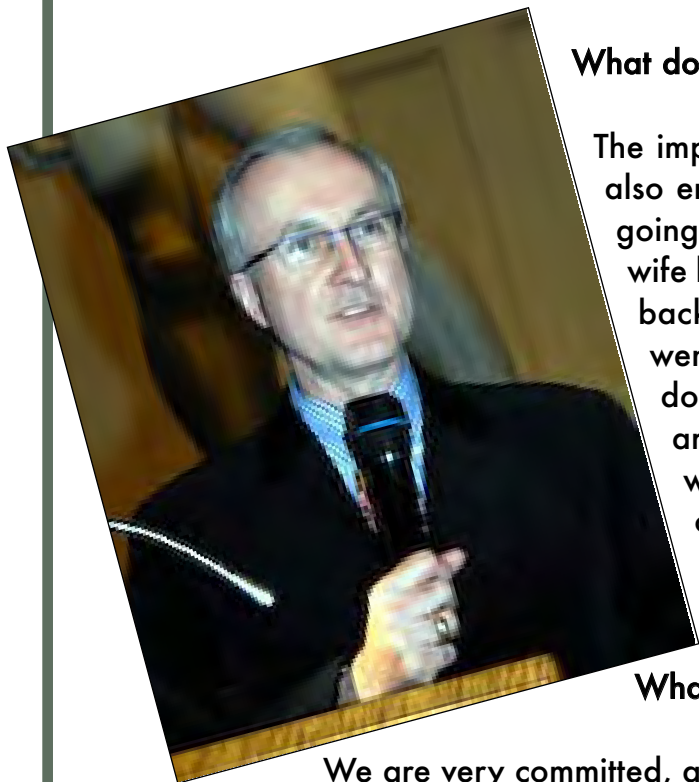
Marco K. Fallani



Rab Hatfield

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: GARY RADKE

Gary Radke, professor of Fine Arts at Syracuse University and SUF alum (1972), recently spoke with Jay Cox, editor of *Syracuse University Magazine*. Here are a few of his comments.



What do you try to convey to students at SUF now?

The importance of the family, of taking advantage of the cultural opportunities. I also encourage them to be at least tolerant of being uncomfortable. They're not going to be comfortable being uncomfortable, but tolerant of discomfort. My wife has a wonderful expression, from the first couple years when we were going back. Everyone was saying, "Why do they do it this way?" The two of us just went, "Why not?" I try to teach my students to say, "Why not? This is how they do it" and to remind them, "This is not your country. This is not your place: you are guests; you are here because of their generosity. Be thankful to these folks who allowed you to come and be part of their country for a while." The other thing, especially more to long-term students, is to try to help them appreciate that Italy is a much sadder and more complicated country than they can imagine.

What stands out about the Florence program to you?

We are very committed, and have always been committed from day one, to trying to get the students inserted into local life. Even though we've gotten a lot bigger—there were 60 students when I was there and now there are over 300 at least a semester from all over—there are many formal and informal opportunities for students to intern, to volunteer, to meet people, to avoid "ghetto-ization." I think that really is different, because so many places have these little villas on the hillside or have students rent apartments together. It's easier that way for a while and then it becomes harder, because you haven't developed your language skills, you haven't begun to appreciate cultural differences, you haven't had the unique spontaneous experiences that will happen when you're really there. I also think we're pretty special in terms of the range of courses we offer. So many study-abroad programs, especially in Florence, tend to be small: they teach a couple art history classes and some language classes, and it's all culture. What's great about our program is there's women's studies, political science, business... It's a broader curriculum to meet the needs of students who are learning about more things than just art or language.

SUF PUBLICATIONS: THE VILLA ROSSA SERIES

Sandro Botticelli and Herbert Horne: New Research, edited by Rab Hatfield, contains the texts of six papers delivered by internationally renowned scholars during a three-day conference held in Florence, Italy in October 2008 in celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the publication of Horne's celebrated monograph on Botticelli.

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