

IDEA BOSTON

AN ITALIAN-INSPIRED FESTIVAL OF BOOKS,
AUTHORS AND CULTURE.



NOV. 1st & NOV. 2nd

-2019-



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AUTHORS AND CULTURE.

IDEA Boston is an Italian-inspired festival, celebrating literature, history, art, and many other aspects of Italian and Italian-American culture and identity. Launched in 2018, the festival returns for its second annual event on Nov. 1-2, 2019.

The festival is directed by Nicola Orichuia and organized by I AM Books, in partnership with the Friends of the Italian Cultural Center-Boston.

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A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The IDEA Boston festival is back! And with its return, we offer proof positive that last year's event wasn't a one-hit wonder or some short-lived fantasy born of the collective brainstorming of a team of booksellers. IDEA Boston is a viable cultural reality, and its return signals the need to continue and expand upon the conversations started in 2018.

For our second iteration, we'll be maintaining the format that was so successful last year: two days of panel discussions on Italian- and Italian American themes, peppered with additional cultural offerings that ultimately deliver a well-rounded festival of ideas and culture, celebrating authors and academics. This year, we have increased the number of panel presentations to 25, we've expanded our pop-up bookstore, and we've added a photo exhibit. We're bringing another theatrical performance in Italian, and we'll be enhancing that with subtitles in English, something we didn't have last year. And once again, we will be wrapping it all up with a big celebration, with great food and live music.

But the question remains: Why do it? And why now, in this pervasively digital age? I don't have a straightforward answer to these questions, but I do know that there is a need — perhaps even a growing need — to talk, to exchange ideas outside of the contexts of classrooms, TV studios, and the mesmerizing screens that dominate our lives.

What makes initiatives like IDEA Boston not only possible but necessary is the desire to dive deep into our heritage and engage, for a day or two, in conversations about our dizzyingly diverse ethnic identities — in short, to look closely at how we were, what we are, and who we strive to become.

Can we truly understand the world around us without first understanding ourselves? I think not. Ironically, by focusing so closely on one shade of the cultural prism for two days we can open our eyes to what the world ultimately is: a large, incredibly diverse and amazing place in which to live, where there is no time or place for hate. As long as we take this journey together, we will all get there.

Nicola Orichuia



Main Organizer

I AM BOOKS

I AM Books is an independent bookstore, located at 189 North St. in Boston's North End neighborhood. It was opened in Oct. 2015 by Nicola Orichuia and Jim Pinzino. Specializing in Italian and Italian-American literature and culture, the bookstore also offers numerous events year-round, including readings, presentations, concerts, and language classes.

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In Partnership with

FRIENDS OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER OF BOSTON

Founded in 2012, the non-profit Friends of the Italian Cultural Center of Boston, Inc. is fueled by "love of all things Italian" -- Italian art, culture, language, tradition, entrepreneurship, scientific achievement, innovation, creativity and lifestyle. We strive to strengthen the connection between New England and Italy for the current and future generations, regardless of age, while also preserving the deeply-rooted Italian heritage in our region and the history of Italian immigration, recent and less recent. FICC-B is committed to planning and executing subject-oriented programming for the Italian and Italian-American communities in Boston and New England. In pursuing our mission, we encourage collaboration among like-minded organizations.

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Under the Auspices of
CONSULATE GENERAL
OF ITALY BOSTON

The Consulate General of Italy in Boston strongly supports the promotion and teaching of the Italian language. We believe that language is a fundamental tool in understanding the culture of our country and support local cultural initiatives that strengthen and deepen the ties between Italy and the Italian American communities in the US.

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Matteo Gullà is the owner of Gullà Studio, a full-service branding, design and advertising studio. His work is inspired by having grown up in Calabria, Italy, combining Italian design with American aesthetics.

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THANK YOU

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

There are always people behind the scenes who make a festival like IDEA Boston possible. I'd like to thank them here.

First and foremost, to those who are the team behind it all: Susan Cunningham, Livia Meneghin, Serena Nanni, Sabrina Cornelio, Adele Profeta, Alison Poulin, Pascal Gangi, Sarah Netsky, Antonella Tanga, Giulia Wilkins, and Jim Pinzino.

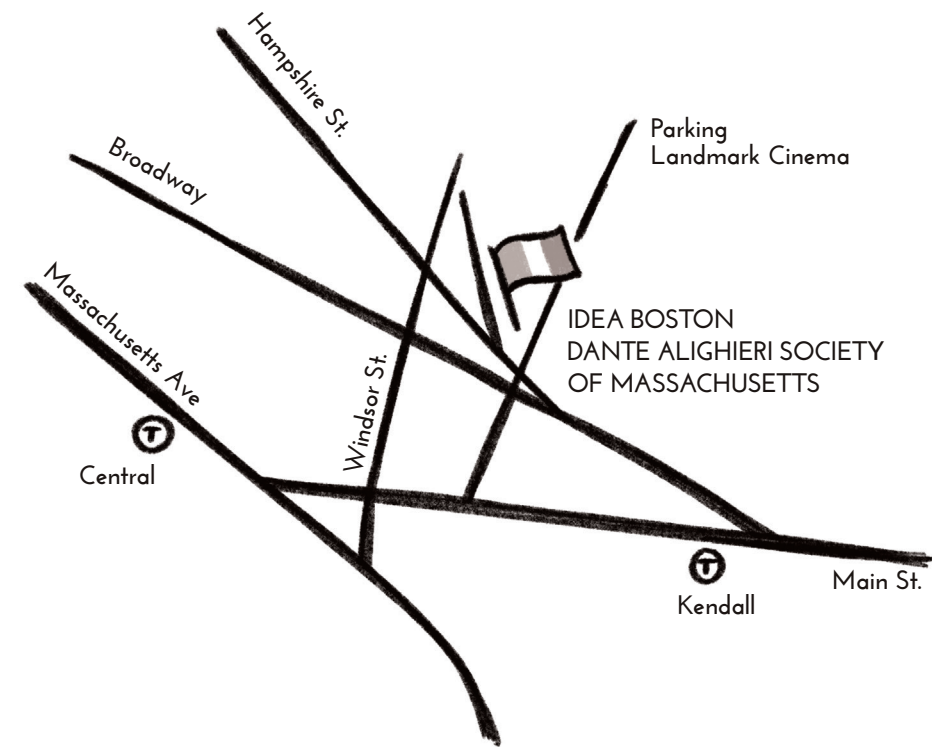
Friends, far and near, who have always lent a helping hand (or ear): Chiara Durazzini, Stefano Marchese, Matteo Gullà, Lisa Cappuccio, Susan Angelastro, Paul Basile, Anthony Pangaro, Ettore Santucci, Marco Mancassola, Elisabetta Cavani, Antony Shugaar, Mario Zanca, Jennifer Martelli, Julia Lisella, Maria Lisella, Michele Pilla, Jim Pasto, Jane Papa, Anthony Riccio, Stefano Salimbeni, Pierre Martial Essomba, Franco Sacchi, and Diego Puppini.

Grazie a tutti!

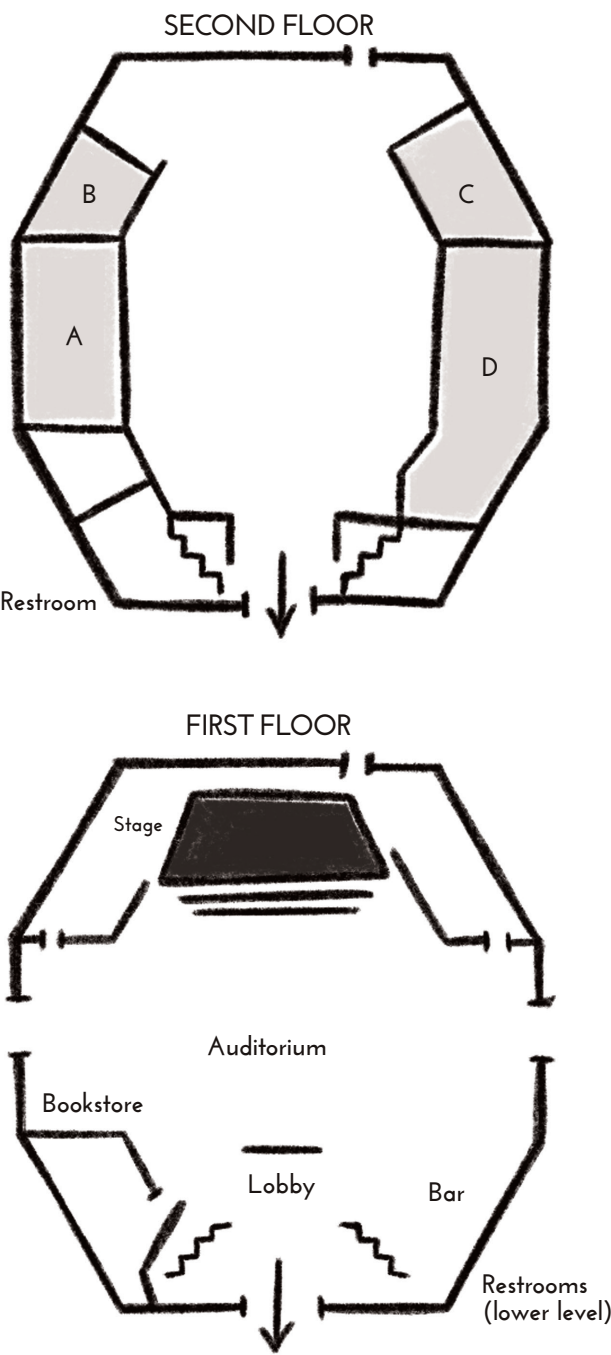
Nicola Orichuia

DANTE ALIGHIERI CULTURAL CENTER

41 HAMPSHIRE ST., CAMBRIDGE, MASS.



FESTIVAL MAP



FROM ITALY TO THE NORTH END: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ANTHONY RICCIO

This year, IDEA Boston will host a temporary exhibit of photographs by Anthony V. Riccio. A total of 23 pictures taken in the 1970s and '80s form a bridge between ancestral towns and villages in rural Italy and the North End, the iconic Boston neighborhood that welcomed Italian immigrants to the area for over a century. The pictures are part of Riccio's 2017 book "From Italy to the North End," published by SUNY Press.

Anthony Riccio

Anthony Riccio grew up in a working class neighborhood of New Haven, Connecticut. From 1978 to 1984, he ran the North End Senior Citizen Center in Boston's historic North End where he recorded the life stories of elderly Italian immigrants. This research became his first book in 1998, "Portrait of an Italian American Neighborhood: The North End of Boston"—it was made into a second edition by Globe Pequot Press in 2006. In 2006, he wrote "The Italian American Experience in New Haven: Images and Oral Histories," based on the stories of New Haven's elderly Italian Americans, published by State University of New York Press.

In 2009, Anthony traveled to Sant Agata de' Goti in the Campania region of southern Italy to research and write a cookbook "Cooking with Chef Silvio: Stories and Authentic Recipes of Campania." The cook book illustrates the social history and culture of Campania through its unique cuisine. In 2014 he wrote "Farms, Factories and Families: Italian American Women of Connecticut," a book that tells the unknown story of Italian American women of Connecticut who tell their life stories in their own words for the first time.

THE HUMANITY OF THE MOMENT

By James Pasto

We ask you consider the photos of Anthony Riccio on display as visual documents that capture what Robert Frank called "the humanity of the moment" in both Italy and the North End in the 1970s and 1980s.

Frank's phrase, which in Italian is *L'umanita del momento*, comes out of a school of photography — "Street Photography" — pioneered by Henri Cartier Bresson, whose photos sought to capture the "decisive moment" of those he photographed. Riccio's photos are superb examples of such decisive moments of humanity. They display for us the rhythms of an old-world lifestyle in Italy and the North End. They show us a startling continuity between the everyday moments of life in the old and new land, evident when our eyes move seamlessly between the building, streets, and faces in Italy and North End. They document a humanity rooted in a culture of hard work, sacrifice, and kindness to others, lived at a level that seems almost archaic in a world increasingly given over to justificatory antagonisms.

They show us faces of an intermingled joy and sadness that comes from the realization that their world was passing and with it went the passage of their children upward and, inevitably, beyond the 'old village' into the new-world of their new lands beyond.

They also document the last vestiges of Italian village life and show us the Italian American neighborhood as it really was. As such, these photos are visual documents of the 'Founders' of an Italian American life that we today celebrate, in part perhaps, at this second year of IDEA Boston.

Consider, then, that the photos remind us who we are, and they beseech us never to forget those we came from.

12:40-1:40 P.M. | ROOM B

SUDAN, SICILY, AND ERITREA: COLONIALISM AND ITS AFTERMATH

Author and poet Louisa Calio explores Italy's colonial past, tying many themes to her work.

Speaker: Louisa Calio

Louisa Calio is an internationally-published and award-winning writer and arts advocate. She was awarded First Prize in the fourth Concorso di Poesia Internazionale - Messina, Città D'Arte, for her poem "Bhari".

12:40-1:40 P.M. | ROOM D

BEYOND DIMAGGIO: THE INFLUENCE OF ITALIAN AMERICAN PLAYERS IN BASEBALL

Two Italian American filmmakers focus on the rich and sometimes obscure history of Italian American players in America's favorite pastime. In an era when Italian immigrants were still seen with suspicion, Italian American players helped break barriers, forcing many to look beyond the stereotypes.

Speakers: Roberto Angotti, Karen De Luca Stephens

Roberto Angotti is a cultural historian, writer, film director, curator, and radio DJ. His film "Italian American Baseball Family" won the Russo Brothers Italian American Film Forum Award.

An East Boston native, Karen De Luca Stephens was a Fellow in Fiction at the Writers' Institute, CUNY Graduate Center (2014-17). While a fellow, she wrote a collection of short fiction and the screenplay for a feature film, "Hitting Home".

2-3 P.M. | ROOM A

CARAVAGGIO SUPERSTAR

Italian Baroque artist Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571-1610) ranks securely as one of the most popular Old Master painters among museum-goers today. In fact, he is even more popular today than he ever was during his own lifetime: Why is that? From his earlier known work to the last of his tragically short life, Caravaggio's paintings hold the key to that answer.

Speaker: Franco Mormando

Franco Mormando is Professor of Italian and chairperson of the Dept. of Romance Languages and Literatures at Boston College, where he has taught since 1994. He is a specialist in Baroque Rome, and in particular the artist, Gian Lorenzo Bernini. His "Bernini: His Life and His Rome" represents the first full-length, English-language account of the artist's private life and public career.

2-3 P.M. | ROOM C

ITALIAN AMERICAN WOMEN, FOOD AND IDENTITY: STORIES AT THE TABLE

This mother-daughter research team from Syracuse, NY, has been talking about food and about writing for several decades. As this study centers on the intergenerational transmission of culture, their relationship mirrors these questions, as mother and daughter contend with their similar and different experiences and relationships to Italian American identity and food.

Speakers: Andrea Dottolo and Carol Dottolo

Andrea L. Dottolo is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Rhode Island College, in Providence, Rhode Island. She teaches courses in human diversity, personality, and gender studies.

Carol A. Dottolo is a retired teacher and reading specialist from Liverpool Central School District in Liverpool, NY. She is the co-author, alongside Andrea Dottolo, of "Italian American Women, Food, and Identity: Stories at the Table."

3:20-4:20 P.M. | ROOM B

THROUGH THE MEDIA LENS: COVERING ITALIANS ABROAD

Ever since Italians started migrating around the world, news outlets in Italy and abroad have been covering their lives and hardships. Nowadays, alongside the more traditional news formats offered by television, radio and print, other channels of communication have opened, opening the field to more players telling many sides of the story.

Speakers: Umberto Mucci, Michele Pilla, Stefano Salimbeni

Umberto Mucci is the Founder and CEO of We the Italians. He represents in Italy the Italian American Museum of New York. He has been the co-director of "èItalia for USA", a bimonthly magazine regarding Italy in the United States, and is Founder and former Secretary General of Fondazione Roma Europea.

Michele Pilla is the editor-in-chief of online news site Montagu-to.com. In 2018, he founded Patrimonio Italiano TV, a webtv for Italians living abroad. His first novel, Goodbye Irpinia, was published in 2019.

Stefano Salimbeni has been producing and signing Italian or Italian-American themed services of varying length for RAI Italia, the international channel of the network aimed at Italians residents of non-European countries, since 2000.

3:20-4:20 P.M. | ROOM D

CARTONS TO CONCERTS: REDISCOVERING THE LOST MUSIC OF SALVATORE ARNÒ

Like so many composers throughout history, Sicilian-American composer Salvatore Arnò (1884-1963) was very popular during his lifetime in both Italy and America, but fell into obscurity after his death. After discovering the former popularity and importance of his music, Arnò's grand-niece teamed up with a local music historian and resurrected several of his compositions.

Speakers: Lavinia Macauda Coco, Stephen Loikith
Performers: Victoria Bartolomeo, Elena Zamolodchikova

Lavinia Macauda Coco was first introduced to the piano when her uncle Salvatore Arnò came to live with her family on Beech Street in Belmont. Some forty years later, she rekindled her musical interests after discovering over 300 of her uncle's compositions.

Musicologist Stephen Loikith received his Bachelor Degrees from Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA, and his Master Degree from Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. As a historian, he focuses on the music of Colonial New England, as well as the music of Salvatore Arnò.

Soprano Victoria Bartolomeo holds a Master of Music (M.M.) in Vocal Performance from Longy School of Music of Bard College in Cambridge, Mass., and a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Music from Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pa.

Elena Zamolodchikova specialized in historical keyboard performance at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory and at Julliard. She is currently an artist-in-residence and an action technician at Zuckermann Harpsichords and organist/pianist at First Congregational Church, Westbrook, CT.

4:40-5:40 P.M. | ROOM A

SIENA, 1531: THE BIRTH OF A EUROPEAN HEROINE

The Deceived, or Gli Ingannati, first performed in Siena during Carnival 1532, inspired plays and prose throughout Europe, in fact, more than any other sixteenth-century Italian comedy. The protagonist, Lelia, is ultimately the model for Shakespeare's Viola, the transgressive heroine who dons pants to serve the man she loves in *Twelfth Night*. The talk focuses on the political tumult in Italy and especially the Sack of Rome in 1527, which have a role in the genesis of Lelia and Viola, the comedy itself, and the rebirth of European comedy in Italy in the first decades of the sixteenth century.

Speaker: Laurie Shepard

Laurie Shepard is an Associate Professor of Italian in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at Boston College. Her research focuses on Medieval and Renaissance literature, and she has published on Medieval Latin epistolography (*Courting Power: Persuasion and Politics in the Early Thirteenth Century*, Garland, 1999), and lyric poetry. She is currently working on a website that will reconstruct the communities that produced, performed and published comedies as part of the cultural politics in the early decades of the 16th century in Italy.

4:40-5:40 P.M. | ROOM C

SYLVESTER POLI: CREATING AN AMERICAN STAGE

Sylvester Poli, an immigrant to the United States from Lucca, Italy, helped shape the American landscape as the founder of the theater chain that bore his name. Having opened theaters throughout the East Coast, he brought enjoyment to working-class families by making theater accessible to all.

Speaker: Stephanie Longo

Stephanie Longo has written "Italians of Lackawanna County," "Italians of Northeastern Pennsylvania," and "Dunmore," all published by Arcadia Publishing. She is currently the director of marketing and communications at the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce.

6-7 P.M. | ROOM B

A COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER: THE MUSICAL JOURNEY OF MARIE MONTAIN

Jerry Carbone discusses the life of Marie Montain, who rose from the place of her birth - a coal camp called Carneyville in northwestern Wyoming - to her musical studies in Naples, Italy, to becoming a lead soprano with the Philadelphia Opera Company.

Speaker: Jerry Carbone

After 37 years at Brooks Memorial Library, 22 as the Director, Jerry Carbone retired and went on to earn a Certificate in Genealogical Research at Boston University in 2016. His article on Brattleboro wheelwright, Edward Edwards, "Spiritualism in Brattleboro, 1886-1889: One Man's Contact with the Afterlife through Letters," was published in the Spring 2018 issue of Vermont History, a journal of the Vermont Historical Society.

6-7:15 P.M. | ROOM D

LA SCUOLA CATTOLICA: A CONVERSATION WITH PREMIO STREGA WINNER EDOARDO ALBINATI

Edoardo Albinati's *The Catholic School* (Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2019), the winner of Italy's most prestigious award, The Strega Prize, is a powerful investigation of the heart and soul of contemporary Italy, tracing many of its problems to an era of moral debauchery and complacent masculinity.

Speakers: Edoardo Albinati, Antony Shugaar

Edoardo Albinati is a novelist and screenwriter who lives in Rome. His novel *Svenimenti* won the 2004 Viareggio Literary Award, and *The Catholic School* won the Strega Prize in 2016. For the last twenty-five years, he has worked as a teacher in Rebibbia, the largest prison in Rome.

Antony Shugaar has been a professional translator since 1976. He has translated four Strega award winning novels: "Story of My People," by Edoardo Nesi (2011), "Resistance Is Futile," by Walter Siti (2013), "Ferocity," by Nicola Lagioia (2015), and "The Catholic School," by Edoardo Albinati (2016). He recently received his second NEA fellowship to translate "The Desire to Be Like Everyone," by Francesco Piccolo (2014), his fifth Strega.

8 P.M. - LA GIARA (THE OIL JAR)

By Luigi Pirandello

A One Act Play with Southern Italian Music

Performed in Italian by ImproNati

The play. Pirandello derived his single-act play, *La giara* (1916) from a short story with the same title he wrote in 1906. The play was originally written in Sicilian. A few years later, Pirandello wrote a translation into standard Italian, which was performed in Rome in 1925: this is the version being performed today. *La giara* is the most indebted of Pirandello's plays to the great tradition of Sicilian theater and literature. For one, it is not set in a city and among the middle class, but in a *mas-saria*, a land property in the country; the characters you meet are farmers, common people, whose lives have been defined by physical labor, their small community, and nature. It is indebted to another masterpiece of Italian literature: the short story *La roba*, by Giovanni Verga. Both texts have a main character who is obsessed with property and are ultimately ridiculed because of it.

The plot. The play is set in an olive grove in Sicily, Italy, around 1890. It is harvest-ing season and land owner Don Lolò is anxious to put his freshly squeezed olive oil in a new, shiny ceramic oil jar. Don Lolò is surrounded by his employees, women (Gnà Tana, Trisuzza, Carminella) and men (Mpari Pè, Tararà, Fillicò) who mock his attitude and fear his temper in equal measure, and his lawyer, Scimé, who made the mistake of accepting Don Lolò's invitation to spend the summer in his estate and is now regretting it, as Don Lolò keeps pestering him with legal questions. There's a new, unprecedented case waiting for them around the corner. The oil jar has been broken. The farmers convince Don Lolò to call a *conciabrocche* ("jar-fixer"), Zi' Dima, to fix the broken jar. Zi' Dima is famous for having created a mysterious glue that holds everything together. Don Lolò, however, does not trust that glue to work and orders Zi' Dima to use both the glue and the traditional rivets. Zi' Dima does as instructed, but he accidentally remains stuck inside the jar. What will Don Lolò do? Will he break his precious possession to set Zi' Dima free? Or will the oil jar become a prison for Zi' Dima?

The author. Luigi Pirandello is one of the most famous Italian novelists, playwrights, and short story writers from the twentieth century. Native of Agrigento, Sicily, he called himself a "son of chaos" and believed that we are all prisoners of roles ("masks") imposed by society. In his writing, Pirandello explored themes such as the blurred lines between reality and illusion, the trappings of social conventions, and the relative nature of our own perspective on life. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1934.

The language. Pirandello himself translated the play from Sicilian to standard Italian, using some farmers' vocabulary and many Tuscan terms. ImproNati is faithful to his Italian, but each actor keeps his/her own regional accents.

Glossary of some terms:

palmento = building where olives are pressed

abbacchiare = to harvest olives, beating the trees with sticks

capezza = horse's bridle

scartare = to select the olives, separating the good ones from the bad

fornaciajo = the person who makes the jars

incignare = to christen

The company. ImproNati is a theatre company affiliated with the Boston-based Commedia dell'Arte troupe Pazzi Lazzi. Founded in Boston in 2016 by Alessandro Di Gioia, ImproNati performs in Italian and specializes in staging shows by Italian playwrights. The actors come from various Italian regions and find theatrical acting to be an exciting way to express their creativity and love for Italian culture, tell stories, and nurture critical thinking. During its first year of activity, ImproNati experimented with improvisational theater, while in 2018 the company performed "Questi Fantasmi" by Eduardo De Filippo at Northeastern University and at I AM Book's IDEA Boston Festival.

Chiara Durazzini - Zi' Dima

Chiara is a native of Florence, Italy, and she is the co-founder and artistic director of the Commedia dell'Arte troupe Pazzi Lazzi for which she performs, teaches and directs. She obtained her Master's degree in Art, Music and Theatre at the University of Bologna.

Mauro Tedeschi - Don Lolò

A native of Perugia in Umbria, Italy, Mauro moved to Boston in 1999, when he started working at the Research & Development department of Nuance Communications Inc. He had his first theatrical experience with Impronati playing Gastone in "Questi Fantasmi."

Riccardo Sangermano - Mpari Pe'

Riccardo is a native of the region of Campania, Italy. He studied Medical Biotechnology in Naples. In 2018, he moved to Boston, where he works as a Research Fellow at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear. He joined Pazzi Lazzi/ImproNati and participated to De Filippo's comedy "Questi Fantasmi" in 2018.

Pietro Artoni - Fillicò

Pietro moved to Boston in 2015 and joined ImproNati in 2016. A physicist by training, he is a postdoctoral fellow in neuroscience at Boston Children's Hospital, where he conducts research on neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism and Rett Syndrome.

Andrea D'Amico - Tararà

Andrea is from Staffoli, near Pisa. He moved to Boston in 2016, after obtaining his PhD from "Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna" in Pisa. Currently, he is a Post-doctoral researcher in the Ocular Genomic Institute at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (MEEI). In 2018, he played one of the porters in the ImproNati production of "Questi Fantasmi."

Laura Ingallinella - Gnà Tana

Born in Sicily, Laura specialized in medieval literature at the "Scuola Normale Superiore" in Pisa and then moved to Boston, where she worked at the Medieval Academy of America. She now teaches medieval Italian literature at Wellesley College. Laura joined ImproNati and Pazzi Lazzi in 2016.

Rossella Mancullo - Trisuzza

Rossella moved from Naples to Boston in 2016, after finishing her high school diploma. She is currently attending Bunker Hill Community College and is taking theatrical Improvisation classes at ImprovBoston.

Carmen Marsico - Carminella

Carmen hails from Basilicata. She is lead singer and front person of the Mediterranean/Italian World Music group Newpoli. She was a winner of the 2015 Independent Music Award for Traditional World Music, finalist in the USA Songwriting Competition in the World category (2015, 2018) and in the "Premio Nazionale Città di Loano per la Musica Tradizionale Italiana" (2015, 2019).

Luca Troncone - Mulattiere

Hailing from Naples, Luca is a researcher in Cardiology at Brigham and Women's Hospital with training experiences also in Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston and Mount Sinai Medical School in New York.

Michael Weiner - Nociarello

Michael is attending 8th grade and is a high-level gymnast. In 2018, he played Armida's youngest son in the ImproNati production of "Questi Fantasmi."

Dan Meyers - Recorders

A versatile multi-instrumentalist, Dan Meyers's credits range from premieres of new chamber music, to the Newport Folk Festival, to playing Renaissance instruments on Broadway for Shakespeare's Globe. Since 2016, he has been a musician with Pazzi Lazzi, providing musical accompaniment for performances and workshops as well as for the one-woman show "Isabella Unmasked" with Chiara Durazzini.

Björn Wennås - Guitar

Swedish-born Björn Wennås is an award winning Boston based guitarist and composer. He is currently the Music Director for Italian world/folk ensemble Newpoli. He is one of only a handful of people outside of Italy that plays the 10-stringed Chitarra Battente.

Fabio Pirozzolo - Percussion

Fabio is a highly in-demand drummer, percussionist, and singer. His extensive performing experience includes drumming for a long list of internationally recognized performers including Newpoli. His theater credits include "The Revels" (2017) and "Yerma" (2019).

Nicola Spiniello - L'avvocato Scimè

Nicola is from Genoa, Italy. In Boston since 2009, he works in technology (Industrial Automation and Product lifecycle Management field) in the Boston area. His first theatrical experience was with Impronati where he played Improv sketches and then the role of Alfredo in "Questi Fantasmi."

Special Thanks:

The ImproNati troupe is deeply grateful to the wonderful people who collaborated and helped with this project: Karen Fanale, Pascal Gangi, Sarah Netsky, Nicola Orichuia, Jacopo Vanoli, Marco Remo Zanelli, Gabriel Weiner, Evelyn Corsini Alcorn, Concord Players, and The Dante Alighieri Society staff.

10-11 A.M. | ROOM B

LEARNING AND TEACHING ITALIAN THROUGH FILM

Watching movies is a captivating and effective way to learn a new language. It is also key for language learners to improve their cultural and intercultural competences. The newly published textbook of Italian, *Interpretazioni, Italian Language and Culture through Film*, aims to facilitate the teacher's job in providing entertaining and effective instruction through films.

Speakers: Carmen Merolla, Cristina Pausini

Carmen Merolla is a Full-Time Lecturer at Tufts University, where she enjoys to experiment with the application of smart technology in the class and the use of Italian cinema for every level of the language. She is the author of the testing program of *Caleidoscopio*, an intermediate-level textbook of Italian.

Cristina Pausini is Sr. Lecturer and Coordinator of Italian at Tufts University and has co-authored four textbooks for the teaching of Italian: *"Italian Through Film"* (YUP, 2003), *"Italian Through Film: The Classics"* (YUP, 2006), *"Trame: A Contemporary Italian Reader"* (YUP, 2009), and *"Interpretazioni: Italian Language and Culture Through Film"* (GUP, 2019).

11:20 A.M.-12:20 P.M. | ROOM A

U.S.-ITALY RELATIONS IN TIMES OF POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY

At a time of great political uncertainty around the world, the Italy-United States relationship has seemed untouched. But with rapidly changing governments in Italy and a sometimes non-linear foreign policy in Washington D.C., analysts have been looking at the growing tensions - both political and economic - between the European Union and the United States in the hopes of seeing signs of the direction in which their relationship is headed.

Speakers: Dario Fabbri, Ken Shulman

Dario Fabbri is a journalist, scientific advisor and coordinator for the Americas for the Italian geopolitical magazine *Limes*. He is an expert on the Americas and the Middle East.

Ken Shulman is a veteran print and broadcast journalist whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *The New Yorker*, National Public Radio, the BBC, and PBS. He spent 15 years in Italy covering European soccer, culture, and politics, and is a two-time RTDNA Edward R Murrow winner for excellence in broadcasting.

11:20 A.M.-12:20 P.M. | ROOM C

ITALIANNESS THROUGH THE MEDIUM

Italian-American literature, movies and illustrated children's books have contributed in shaping the ever-changing perceptions of and about *italianità* (Italian-ness) from the early 20th century to today – from cinematic works such as *"The Golden Door"*, to children's books such as Tomie dePaola's classic *"Strega Nona"*.

Speakers: Marika Preziuso, Violetta Ravagnoli

Marika Preziuso is Associate Professor of World Literature at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, where she teaches 20th century and contemporary postcolonial literature, particularly by migrant and diasporic writers, and speculative fiction of the uncanny, magic realism and Afrofuturism.

Violetta Ravagnoli is Assistant Professor of History at Emmanuel College, where she teaches Asian History and Migration and Diaspora History. She is the coordinator of the Colleges of the Fenway's shared Minor in Migration Studies. Her latest research project focuses on a comparative historical analysis of Italian and Chinese migrations to Boston from the late 19th century to today.

11:20 A.M.-12:20 P.M. | ROOM D

SUMMER OF THE SAINTS: RELIGIOUS FESTIVE PRACTICES IN BOSTON'S NORTH END

Every summer, tens of thousands descend upon the North End to take part in a season full of processions and festivals dedicated to patron saints. The panel will dive into the complex interplay of ethnicity and religion in the festivals, as well as their similarities and differences with festivals in Italy, as well the place of music at the Fisherman's Feast to examine how sounds reflect and express identity and place, from Italy to the North End.

Speakers: Augusto Ferraiuolo,
Michele Segretario, James Pasto

Augusto Ferraiuolo's work focuses on ritual and performances in a transnational and diasporic perspective: from vernacular healing to religious festive practices in North America, from Southern Italian folk music and dance to traditional Irish music sessions in New England, Ireland and Italy. He is the author of "Religious Festive Practices in Boston's North End: Ephemeral Identities in an Italian American Community" (SUNY Press, 2009).

Michele Segretario (University of California, Berkeley) is interested in migration, cultural mobility, and urban space. His current research project examines the Italian diaspora in the United States through the study of sounds and musical practices related to religion, politics, and everyday life. He is the founder of La Stiva, an organization that promotes social engagement and the emergence of artistic production among young audiences in depressed areas in Sicily.

James Pasto is a Master Lecturer at Boston University. He teaches courses on the history of the North End, Italian American studies, and Italian immigration. He was born in the North End and is a co-founder of the North End Historical Society.

12:30 P.M. | AUDITORIUM

FROM ITALY TO THE NORTH END: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ANTHONY RICCIO

Photographer Anthony Riccio retells the stories behind the pictures taken during the 1970s and '80s, when he lived in the North End.

Speaker: Anthony Riccio

1:20-2:20 P.M. | ROOM B

A TEATRO! CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ITALIAN THEATER ABROAD

A three-way discussion exploring the opportunities and challenges Italian theater meets when coming to the United States and around the world.

Speakers: Laura Caparrotti, Silvio Alessandro Di Gioia, Chiara Durazzini

Laura Caparrotti is the Founding Artistic Director of Kairos Italy Theater, the main Italian theater company in New York, and of In Scena! Italian Theater Festival NY, the first Italian theater festival to take place in all five New York boroughs.

Silvio Alessandro Di Gioia is a researcher. Outside of the lab, Alessandro is Co-President of the Boston Children's Hospital Postdoctoral Association, performs with the professional comedy company Pazzi Lazzi, and directs an Italian improvisational theater company, ImproNati.

Chiara Durazzini is a native of Florence, Italy, and she is the co-founder and artistic director of the Commedia dell'Arte troupe Pazzi Lazzi for which she performs, teaches and directs. She obtained her Master's degree in Art, Music and Theatre at the University of Bologna.

1:20-2:20 P.M. | ROOM D

CONSIDERING ITALIAN DIASPORA STUDIES: A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

For the past five years, the John D. Calandra Institute of New York City has offered a summer seminar on Italian Diaspora Studies. During this intensive 3-week program, students from all over the globe consider the many aspects of this burgeoning field including psychology, film, literature, history, consumerism and consumption culture. For this round table, members of the 2019 cohort will discuss their experiences, future projects, and the validity of this emerging academic discipline.

Speakers: Susan Antonelli, Alfred Crudale, Michele M. Fabbro, Marina Melita

Susan Antonelli spent over twenty years working as a higher education administrator in the Boston area and has served as the Senior Student Affairs Officer at Wheelock College, Cambridge College, and currently at Simmons University.

Alfred Crudale is a lecturer of Italian at Bridgewater State University. He graduated from the University of Connecticut with a Ph.D. in Medieval Italian Literature.

Michele M. Fabbro currently serves as the District Library/Literacy Coordinator at Indian Creek Local School District (Grades PreSchool through 12th grade).

Marina Melita is a Lecturer of Italian and the Italian Studies Coordinator at Marist College. She serves as one of two New York State representatives of the American Association of Teachers of Italian, as well as the co-chair of the AATI Advocacy Committee. Her primary research is in Italian Women's Theatre and Film Studies.

2:40-3:40 P.M. | ROOM A

DESTINATION ITALY: MASS TOURISM AND ITS EFFECTS ON ITALIAN CITIES

Every year, Italy swells with millions of tourists who infuse the economy with billions of dollars and almost outnumber Italians themselves. In fact, Italy has been a model tourist destination for longer than it has been a modern state. "The Beautiful Country" explores the enduring popularity of "destination Italy," and its role in the development of the global mass tourism industry.

Speakers: Matteo Casini, Roberto Dominguez, Stephanie Malia Hom

Matteo Casini is lecturer of Renaissance and Mediterranean History at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. He has published essays in many Italian and international journals and proceedings, and conducted research in Venice, London, Florence, Washington DC, Los Angeles and Princeton, NJ.

Roberto Dominguez is Professor of International Relations at Suffolk University in Boston, Mass. He was Jean Monnet fellow at the European University Institute in Florence and Researcher at the European Union Center of Excellence of University of Miami. His current research interest is on comparative regional security governance, security governance in Latin America and European Union-Latin American Relations.

Stephanie Malia Hom is an academic and nonprofit executive. She is the author of two books: "Empire's Mobius Strip: Historical Echoes in Italy's Crisis of Migration and Detention" (Cornell, 2019) and "The Beautiful Country: Tourism and the Impossible State of Destination Italy" (Toronto, 2015). She also co-edited the volume, "Italian Mobilities," with Ruth Ben-Ghiat (Routledge, 2015).

2:40-3:40 P.M. | ROOM C

WRITING OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF THE ITALIAN AMERICAN POETRY COMMUNITY

As women poets first, how do we use our poetic sensibilities in this tumultuous world? How do we, as Italian-Americans, interact with the state of our nation? What is our heritage and how does it play a part - either as a gift or a hindrance - in the poetic and political world?

Speakers: Marisa Frasca, Maria Lisella, Jennifer Martelli

Marisa Frasca, poet and translator, is the author of "Via Incanto" and "Wild Fennel" (both published by Bordighera Press). She serves on the advisory board of Arba Sicula, a non-profit that preserves, promotes and disseminates the Sicilian language, literature and folklore.

Maria Lisella is the sixth Queens Poet Laureate (2015-18). Twice nominated for a Pushcart Poetry Prize, her collections include "Thieves in the Family" (NYQ Books), and two chapbooks, "Amore on Hope," and "Two Naked Feet." She curates the Italian American Writers Association readings, contributes to USA TODAY, the bilingual La Voce di New York and The Jerusalem Post.

Jennifer Martelli, co-poetry editor of Mom Egg Review, is the author of "My Tarantella" (Bordighera Press) and the chapbook "After Bird" (winner, Grey Book Press open reading). Her work has appeared in Verse Daily, The Bitter Oleander, and Iron Horse Review (winner, Photo Finish Poetry Contest). She is a recipient of the Massachusetts Cultural Council Grant in Poetry and co-curates the Italian American Writers Association readings at I AM Books.

4-5 P.M. | ROOM B

IN THE COMPANY OF LOUISE DESALVO

Writers reflect on their encounters with Louise DeSalvo, exploring the multifaceted nature of her work, from the poetics of incest in "Vertigo" to her message of hope in "Writing as a Way of Healing," to her radical pedagogical praxis in the classroom, to an epistolary exchange documenting literary friendship.

Speakers: Mary Cappello, Peter Covino, Edvige Giunta, Julia Lisella, Sangamithra Iyer

Mary Cappello is the author of five books of literary nonfiction, including "Awkward: A Detour Swallow," and "Life Breaks In: A Mood Almanack." "Buffalo Trace: A Threefold Vibration," co-authored with James Morrison and Jean Walton, was published in 2018. She is a Professor of English and creative writing at the University of Rhode Island.

Peter Covino is associate professor of English at the University of Rhode Island, and author of the poetry collections "The Right Place to Jump" (2012); and "Cut Off the Ears of Winter" (2005) both from W. Michigan University Press. His prizes include a 2019 NEA Translation Fellowship and the PEN American / Osterweil Award. He is one of the founding editors of Barrow Street Press Inc., and Poetry Editor of VIA.

Edvige Giunta is a professor of English at New Jersey City University and the author of "Writing with an Accent: Contemporary Italian American Women Authors." She is also co-editor of several anthologies, including "The Milk of Almonds: Italian American Women Writers on Food and Culture," "Embroidered Stories: Interpreting Women's Domestic Needlework from the Italian Diaspora," and "Personal Effects: Essays on Memoir, Teaching, and Culture in the Work of Louise DeSalvo."

Julia Lisella's poetry books include "Always" (2014), "Terrain" (2007), and "Love Song Hiroshima" (2004). She is also a scholar of women's writing and recently co-edited a collection of essays, *Modernist Women Writers and American Social Engagement*. She is a professor of English at Regis College and co-curates the Italian American Writers Association Literary Reading Series in Boston at I Am Books in Boston's North End.

Sangamithra Iyer is an engineer and writer who received an MFA in Creative Writing from Hunter College, where she studied memoir with Louise DeSalvo. Her writing has been published by *The Kenyon Review*, *Satya Magazine*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *n+1*, *Hippocampus Magazine*, and *Newtown Literary* where it was nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

4-5 P.M. | ROOM D

ENRICO FERMI: THE LAST MAN WHO KNEW EVERYTHING

Enrico Fermi's life and work, and its relevance to today's scientific agenda; the challenges of science writing for the general public; and for those who are interested in becoming physicists today, what is the scope of opportunity vs. what that scope was in Fermi's generation.

Speakers: David N. Schwartz, Thomas Levenson

David N. Schwartz has worked at the U.S. Department of State, the Brookings Institution, and Goldman Sachs in both London and New York. He has published widely on U.S. strategic nuclear weapons policy, NATO, and foreign policy. He is the author of the biography of Enrico Fermi, *The Last Man Who Knew Everything: The Life and Times of Enrico Fermi, Father of the Nuclear Age*, (Basic Books).

Thomas Levenson is Professor of Science Writing at MIT, and has been Head, Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies and Director, Graduate Program in Science Writing. He has published *The Hunt for Vulcan* (2015); *Newton and the Counterfeiter* (2009); *Einstein in Berlin* (2003); *Measure for Measure: A Musical History of Science* (1995); and *Ice Time: Climate, Science, and Life on Earth* (1989).

5:20-6:20 P.M. | ROOM A

MAMMA MIA: MOTHERS AND MOTHERING IN CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN AMERICAN WRITING

Beaten down or powerfully in charge, the Italian mother tends to be portrayed in startling extremes, but how are contemporary Italian American writers dispelling or disrupting those extreme mythologies of the long suffering madonna or the powerful matriarch in our own writing — either by writing about our own experiences as mothers or writing about mothers? These panelists will read from and discuss their own work on the topic.

Speakers: Olivia Kate Cerrone, Kathy Curto, Maria Giura

Olivia Kate Cerrone is the author of *The Hunger Saint* (Bordighera Press), a historical novella about the child miners of Sicily, which won a 2018 American Fiction Award. Her Pushcart Prize-nominated work has received the Jack Dyer Prize from the Crab Orchard Review, the Mason's Road Literary Award, and first place in Italian Americana's annual literary contest.

Kathy Curto is the author of *Not for Nothing-Glimpses into a Jersey Girlhood* (Bordighera Press). Her work has been featured several times on NPR, in the essay collection, *Listen to Your Mother: What She Said Then, What We're Saying Now*. She teaches at The Writing Institute and Montclair

State University and has been the recipient of the Kathryn Gurfein Writing Fellowship and the Montclair State University Engaged Teaching Fellowship.

Maria Giura has taught Literature and Writing at St. John's University, Montclair State University, and Binghamton University where she received her PhD in English. She has published "What My Father Taught Me" (Bordighera Press, 2018), a finalist for the Paterson Book Prize, and "Celibate: A Memoir," (Apprentice House Press, 2019).

Julia Lisella's poetry books include "Always" (2014), "Terrain" (2007), and "Love Song Hiroshima" (2004). She is also a scholar of women's writing and recently co-edited a collection of essays, *Modernist Women Writers and American Social Engagement*. She is a professor of English at Regis College and co-curates the Italian American Writers Association Literary Reading Series in Boston at I Am Books in Boston's North End.

5:20-6:20 P.M. | ROOM C

TRANSLATING WORDS AND WORLDS

What does translation of a literary text involve? Not just knowledge of grammar and vocabulary, but a deep sense of two cultures. Translation is a creative act that transforms a fictional world into its foreign counterpart.

Speakers: Anna Lawton, Antony Shugaar

Anna Lawton has served on the Advisory Film Committee of the National Gallery of Art, has been a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center, and a member of the jury for the Premio Strega. She is the author of several books, including two novels. She is also the founder and head of New Academia Publishing.

Antony Shugaar has been a professional translator since 1976.

He has translated four Strega award winning novels: "Story of My People," by Edoardo Nesi (2011), "Resistance Is Futile," by Walter Siti (2013), "Ferocity," by Nicola Lagioia (2015), and "The Catholic School," by Edoardo Albinati (2016). He recently received his second NEA fellowship to translate "The Desire to Be Like Everyone," by Francesco Piccolo (2014), his fifth Strega.

6:40-7:40 P.M. | ROOM B

THE SPACE BETWEEN: ANALYZING MODERN AND PAST ITALIAN IMMIGRATION/EMIGRATION

Italy's current crisis of Mediterranean migration and detention has its roots in early twentieth century imperial ambitions. Stephanie Malia Hom's "Empire's Mobius Strip" investigates how mobile populations were perceived to be major threats to Italian colonization, and how the state's historical mechanisms of control have resurfaced, with greater force, in today's refugee crisis. Teresa Fiore's "Pre-Occupied Spaces" links Italy's long history of emigration to all continents in the world, contemporary transnational migrations directed toward it, as well as the country's colonial legacies.

Speakers: Teresa Fiore, Stephanie Malia Hom, Ken Shulman

Teresa Fiore is the Inserra Chair in Italian and Italian American Studies at Montclair State University. Her book "Pre-Occupied Spaces: Remapping Italy's Transnational Migrations and Colonial Legacies" (Fordham UP 2017) received the 2017 American Association of Italian Studies Book Prize, an Honorable Mention at the 2018 MLA Marraro Prize; and the 2019 Gadda Prize as Runner Up.

Stephanie Malia Hom is an academic and nonprofit executive. She is the author of two books: "Empire's Mobius Strip:

Historical Echoes in Italy's Crisis of Migration and Detention" (Cornell, 2019) and "The Beautiful Country: Tourism and the Impossible State of Destination Italy" (Toronto, 2015). She also co-edited the volume, "Italian Mobilities," with Ruth Ben-Ghiat (Routledge, 2015).

Ken Shulman is a veteran print and broadcast journalist whose work has appeared in The New York Times, Newsweek, The New Yorker, National Public Radio, the BBC, and PBS. He spent 15 years in Italy covering European soccer, culture, and politics, and is a two-time RTDNA Edward R Murrow winner for excellence in broadcasting.

6:40-7:40 P.M. | ROOM D

EXPERIMENTAL DA VINCI: DISCOVERING LEONARDO'S CODEX THROUGH INNOVATION

This panel is co-organized with Professionisti Italiani a Boston.

A panel about the role of design in the Digital Humanities, illustrating a new interactive installation that makes the great Renaissance master's Codex Atlanticus available and navigable at a scale/resolution that has never been available before. The installation has been developed by the Visual Agency in Milan, and will provide a unique experience of art and science in Boston.

Speakers: Paolo Ciuccarelli, Matteo Casini

Paolo Ciuccarelli is Professor of Design at Northeastern University, after having spent twenty years at Politecnico di Milano in Italy. His research focuses on the design transformations that help make sense of data and information to improve decision making processes.

8 P.M. | AUDITORIUM

GRAND FINALE PARTY

It's time to celebrate all of the wonderful events, people and discussions that made up IDEA Boston's second annual festival! Featuring live music by The Newtaliens and excellent Italian food provided by Brelundi.

The Newtaliens are a Boston-based band that revisits beloved Italian classics (Mina, Gino Paoli, Matia Bazar) in a modern way. Bossa nova meets jazz, ska meets funk. Bass player Diego Puppini (played with Grace Kelly and Jamie Stewardson) leads the ensemble, which features the voice of Barbara Balistreri (played with Giacomo Sferlazzo and opened for Claudio Baglioni), Guido Bartoloni at keys (from Salimblues), Carmelo Presicce at drums (from Carrelli Elevatori), and Scott Weiner at soprano sax (from The Drivers).

SPEAKERS

Edoardo Albinati	Carol Dottolo	Marina Melita
Roberto Angotti	Chiara Durazzini	Carmen Merolla
Susan Antonelli	Dario Fabbri	Franco Mormando
Victoria Bartolomeo	Michele Fabbro	Umberto Mucci
Louisa Calio	Augusto Ferraiuolo	James Pasto
Laura Caparrotti	Teresa Fiore	Cristina Pausini
Mary Cappello	Marisa Frasca	Michele Pilla
Jerry Carbone	Edvige Giunta	Marika Prezioso
Matteo Casini	Maria Giura	Violetta Ravagnoli
Olivia Kate Cerrone	Stephanie Malia Hom	Anthony Riccio
Paolo Ciuccarelli	Sangamithra Iyer	Stefano Salimbeni
Peter Covino	Anna Lawton	David N. Schwartz
Alfred Crudale	Thomas Levenson	Michele Segretario
Kathy Curto	Julia Lisella	Laurie Shepard
Karen	Maria Lisella	Antony Shugaar
De Luca Stephens	Stephen Loikith	Ken Shulman
Silvio Alessandro Di Gioia	Stephanie Longo	Elena Zamolodchikova
Roberto Dominguez	Lavinia Macauda Coco	
Andrea L. Dottolo	Jennifer Martelli	

Where do the dreams go?
 Born of faith and illusion
 Where there is no road or footprints
 Only desires that whisper to your heart

Eagles fly on columns of the wind
 Fish swim the currents of the sea
 People cross oceans and deserts,
 and rivers
 Carrying nothing more than the dream
 of what life could be

- Lyrics from *The Dreamer*,
 by Jackson Browne

The logo for IDEA BOSTON features the word "IDEA" in a stylized, teal-colored font with thick, blocky letters. Below it, the word "BOSTON" is written in a smaller, orange-red font with a similar blocky style. The letters are spaced out, and the overall design is clean and modern.

IDEA BOSTON

AN ITALIAN-INSPIRED FESTIVAL OF BOOKS,
AUTHORS AND CULTURE.

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