

# Julianne VanWagenen

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## EDUCATION

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### Harvard University - Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

PhD, Italian Studies

Cambridge, MA

2011 - May 2017

Dissertation: "The Mythologist in Microgroove: Fabrizio De André's Italy (1961-1981)"

Committee: Francesco Erspamer, Giuliana Minghelli, Jeffrey Schnapp

### DePaul University

BA, with High Honors, Italian Studies and English Literature

Chicago, IL

2002 - March 2006

Thesis in Italian: "Alberto Moravia alla ricerca del carattere sacro dell'uomo moderno"

Advisor: Gary Cestaro

Completion paper in English: "Arnold's Scholar Gypsy on the Road with Kerouac"

Advisor: Hugh Ingrasci

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- 20th/21st-century Italian literature (especially Svevo, Pirandello, Bontempelli, Moravia, Morante, Ferrante);
- comparative frontier studies (especially between Italy, the U.S., and Argentina);
- comparative songwriter studies (between song, theatre, poetry and Italy, France, England, the US, Argentina);
- countercultural thought and cultural productions;
- the intersection of math and literature, science and literature;
- migration studies and Italian migration cinema;
- post-colonial studies;
- 20th-century Italian theatre (especially Fo and Pirandello);
- popular culture and comic books;
- translation and translation studies;
- digital platform development for humanities teaching;

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Articles

"Italian Cowboy Songs: *i cantautori* and Bob Dylan's Myth of the Frontier West" *Submitted*.

"Corto Maltese, Counterculture Hero: A Unifying Figure for Francesco Guccini and Fabrizio De André's Revolutionary Visions." *Submitted*.

"[Fiddler Jones, Between Nostalgia and Revolution](#)." *Forthcoming*. Spring 2020, *Gradiva: International Journal of Poetry*. Stony Brook University.

"[Masters vs. Lee Masters: The Legacy of the Spoon River Author between Illinois and Italy](#)." *Forum Italicum* Vol. 53(3) (Fall 2019): pp. 679-698. Stony Brook University.

"[Chess Set Theory: The Fractal Realism of Bontempelli and Borges](#)." *South Central Review* 36.1 (Spring 2019): 104-128. Johns Hopkins University Press.

"[Canto X of Gerusalemme liberata](#)." Harvard Tasso Lab. *Romance Sphere*: 2-11. Web. May 2013.

### Book Chapters

"Le piazze d'Italia: de Chirico's Prophetic Vision of Public Space in Destination Italy" in *The City and Civilization: Representations of Urban Spaces in Italian Culture*. *Forthcoming* 2020/2021.

"Singer-songwriters as Cowboys: the Counterculture, the Global, the Outlawed" in *Critical Lyrical Perspectives*. *Forthcoming* 2020/2021.

## Contributor

Schnapp, Jeffrey T. *FuturPiaggio. 6 lezioni italiane sulla mobilità e sulla vita moderna / Six Italian Lessons on Mobility and Modern Life*. Rizzoli / Rizzoli New York, 2017.

## DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS

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Digital Humanities consultant. [Archives Charlie à Harvard](#). Web. 2016 - 2018.

Project Lead. [www.curarium.com](#) and its [satellite site](#) with metaLAB (at) Harvard. Web. 2013 - Present.

Project Lead as Monad Media. "In Africa It's Another Story," Giuliana Minghelli, and the Harvard Fine Arts Library. <http://hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/finearts/exhibitions/africa/index.cfm>. Web. Aug. 2014.

Digital Humanities 2.0 Final Project. "Houghton.Translate: Translations (across Media) of 'L'Après-midi d'un faune'" <https://jvanwagenen.github.io/translating-from-the-textual/>. Web. Apr. 2012.

## INTERVIEWS

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Mattei, Ugo. Interview with Julianne VanWagenen (in English). "[Overcoming Privatization](#)." *La Voce di New York*. Web. 7 Apr. 2016.

Prete, Antonio. Interview with Julianne VanWagenen (in Italian). "[La leggerezza dell'elefante](#)." *Romance Sphere*. Web. 23 Apr. 2012.

## REVIEWS

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[Mistero Buffo](#). By Dario Fo, performed by The Poets' Theatre. *La Voce di New York*, 2016. Web. 7 Apr. 2016.

[Digital Humanities](#). By Anne Burdick, Johanna Drucker, Peter Lunenfeld, Todd Presner, Jeffrey Schnapp. *Romance Sphere*. Web. 5 May 2013.

[Italia reloaded. Ripartire con la cultura](#). Christian Caliandro and Pier Luigi Sacco. *Romance Sphere*. Web. 7 May 2012.

[The Electric Information Age Book: McLuhan/Agel/Fiore and the Experimental Paperback](#). By Jeffrey Schnapp and Adam Michaels. *Romance Sphere*. Web. 15 Apr. 2012.

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

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|  |  |
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| Elson Family Arts Initiative Fund to Support the Integration of Arts into the Curriculum | Spring 2017                                  |
| Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship                    | Summer 2016 - Spring 2017                    |
| Harvard University Department of Romance Languages and Literatures Teaching Prize        | 2016   |
| American Association of Teachers of Italian Travel Grant                                 | 2015   |
| Harvard Graduate Student Council Conference Grant  | 2015   |
| Harvard Graduate Student Council Summer Research Grant                                   | 2015   |
| Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning Certificate of Excellence                     | Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015 |

## CONFERENCES & PAPERS

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### Conferences/Panels Organized

It's All Relative: Modernism and Science. *Panel Chair*. MLA Conference, Seattle, 2020.

Pirandellian Transactions: Text, Context, Cultural Negotiation. *Panel Respondent*. MLA Conference, Chicago, 2019.

Conversation with Andrea Segre and Presentation of *Io sono Li*. Harvard University, 11 March 2013.

*Chiasmi, Cultural Materials / Material Culture*. Graduate Student Conference. Cambridge, MA. 8-10 March 2013.

**Invited Talks**

[World Academic Salon Presentation](#). Tsinghua University. Beijing, China. 4 April 2019.

*Rethinking Poetry in the 21st Century: Songwriters in Culture and the Classroom*. China-UK Humanities Annual Forum. Chinese University of Hong Kong. 6 December 2018.

*Man of the Woods: Bob Dylan and the American West in the Italian 1970s Counterculture*. University of Southern California. Los Angeles, California. 25 April 2018.

*Fabrizio De André and Counter Pop*. McGill University. Montreal, Québec. 8 March 2017.

**Papers Presented**

*Counterculture, Cowboys, and Cantautori: De André's Ironic Take on an American Myth*. NeMLA Conference, Washington DC, March, 2019.

*Le isole non trovate of Hugo Pratt and Francesco Guccini*. CSIS Conference, Ottawa, May, 2018.

*Digital Projects in the Humanist Classroom*. Paper and digital project. SCMLA Conference, Dallas, November, 2016.

*Civilizing the Scaffold: The Hanged Man from the Medieval to the Modern in Fabrizio De André*. Conference, Hartford, March, 2016.

*The Kaleidoscopic Rimini of De André as a Telescopic Extension of Fellini's Rimini*. Intersections/Intersezioni Conference, Florence, June, 2015.

*Fabrizio De André: "Oltre il confine stabilito."* AATI Annual Conference, Siena, June, 2015.

*Minimal description in 20th-century Short Fiction: Dante's Divine Comedy in Borges' "The aleph."* European Network for Short Fiction Research Conference, Trinity College, Dublin, April, 2015.

*Antonioni's L'avventura: Un giallo alla rovescia, Inside-Out not Backwards*. AATI Conference, Strasbourg, June, 2013.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE****Tsinghua-Michigan Society of Fellows**

Postdoctoral Fellow

Beijing, China / Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA  
September 2018 - Present

**Tsinghua University**

Assistant Professor

Beijing, China / Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA  
September 2019 - Present

**University of Southern California**

Lecturer in Italian

Los Angeles, CA  
January 2018 - May 2018

**Harvard University**

Teaching Assistant, Course Developer

Cambridge, MA  
September 2017 - January 2018

**Milan and Siena: Harvard Study Abroad Program**

Coordinator and Instructor

Harvard Summer School (HSS)  
Summer 2016

**Monad Media**

Owner, Web App Development

Cambridge, MA  
2014 - Present

**metaLAB (at) Harvard**

Principal

Cambridge, MA  
2013 - 2017

**Harvard University**

Head Librarian, Dudley Library

Cambridge, MA  
2012 - 2017

**The American in Italia Magazine**

Essayist for "Wonderland" Column ([43 essays](#))

Rome, Italy  
2009 - 2014

**Physical Chemistry Department, Michigan State University**

Theoretician, Web developer

East Lansing, MI  
2009 - 2011

**Associazione culturale italo-irlandese (AICI)**

English department director and language instructor

Rome, Italy  
2007 - 2009

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Postcolonial Writing: Between the Nation and Relation</b><br><i>Assistant Professor</i>  | Tsinghua University<br>Fall 2018, Fall 2019                           |
| <b>The Power and Limits of Sight: Reading the <i>Divine Comedy</i> with Borges</b><br><i>Assistant Professor</i>                    | Tsinghua University<br>Spring 2019                                    |
| <b>Italian 235: Italian Culture and Conversation</b><br><i>Instructor, Syllabus Developer</i>                                       | USC Dornsife<br>Spring 2018   |
| <b>Italian 220: Third-Semester Italian</b><br><i>Instructor</i>   | USC Dornsife<br>Spring 2018   |
| <b>Italian 150: Second-Semester Italian</b><br><i>Instructor</i>  | USC Dornsife<br>Spring 2018   |
| <b>Italian 30: A History of Postwar Italy through Music, 1947-1985</b><br><i>Instructor, Syllabus Developer</i>                     | FAS, Harvard<br>Fall 2017   |
| <b>Italian 96R: Italian and the Community</b><br><i>Instructor, Syllabus Developer</i>  | FAS, Harvard<br>Fall 2017   |
| <b>Aesthetics &amp; Ethics: Beauty, Leadership, and Innovation</b><br><i>Teaching Fellow</i>  | Harvard Summer School<br>Summer 2016, Summer 2017                     |
| <b>Intensive Beginning Italian: Gateway to Italy</b><br><i>Instructor, Syllabus Developer</i>                                       | Harvard Summer School<br>Summer 2016, Summer 2017                     |
| <b>Intermediate Italian: Romance, Mystery, Noir, Western</b><br><i>Instructor, Assistant Syllabus Developer</i>                     | Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS), Harvard<br>Fall 2015, Spring 2016 |
| <b>Humanities Studio 2.0: Homeless Paintings of the Italian Renaissance</b><br><i>Teaching Fellow, Assistant Syllabus Developer</i> | FAS and Graduate School of Design (GSD), Harvard<br>Spring 2014       |
| <b>The Cosmos of The Comedy: Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding 51</b><br><i>Teaching Fellow</i>                              | FAS, Harvard<br>Fall 2013   |
| <b>Beginning Italian II: The Art and Craft of Italy</b><br><i>Instructor</i>  | FAS, Harvard<br>Fall 2014   |
| <b>Beginning Italian I: Pathways to Italy</b><br><i>Instructor</i>  | FAS, Harvard<br>Fall 2013, Spring 2015                                |

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Senior Thesis Advisor</b><br><i>Thesis advising and defense committee member</i>                   | Tsinghua University<br>Fall 2018 - Present                      |
| <a href="http://italiansongwriters.com">italiansongwriters.com</a><br><i>Contributor</i>              | Italian cantautori in Translation Project<br>Aug 2018 - Present |
| <b>The PSA Journal</b><br><i>Managing Editor</i>  | The Pirandello Society of America<br>Dec 2017 - Present         |
| <b>Senior Thesis Advisor</b><br><i>Italian Section Senior Thesis Advisor</i>                          | Harvard University<br>Fall 2017                                 |
| <b>"Digital Humanities Centers in Libraries" Talk</b><br><i>Invited Roundtable Speaker</i>            | Harvard Libraries<br>5 Dec 2016                                 |
| <b>Department of Romance Language and Literature</b><br><i>Assistant to the Chair</i>                 | FAS, Harvard<br>2014  |
| <b>The Lauro De Bosis Italian Colloquium Speaker Series</b><br><i>Video Series Coordinator</i>        | FAS, Harvard<br>2013 - 2014                                     |
| <b>Drucker, Johanna. <i>Graphesis: Visual Forms of Knowledge Production</i></b><br><i>Copy editor</i> | FAS, Harvard<br>2014  |

## MEDIA COVERAGE

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Research Featured in Volpe, Andrea. "[Being Human Now: How Innovative Methods and Contemporary Concerns are Helping Humanities Scholars Re-Envision the Past and Imagine the Future.](#)" *Colloquy*. Spring 2016. 12-17. Print.

## LANGUAGES

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English (mother-tongue), Italian (near-native), Spanish (intermediate), French (reading knowledge)

## REFERENCES

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### **Giuliana Minghelli**

*Professor of Language, Literature and Culture*  
 McGill University  
 688 Sherbrooke Street West  
 Montréal, QC H3A 0B2, Canada  
 514-398-3650 / [giuliana.minghelli@mcgill.ca](mailto:giuliana.minghelli@mcgill.ca)

### **Margaret Rosenthal**

*Professor of Italian, Comparative Literature and English*  
 University of Southern California  
 Taper Hall, 155D  
 Los Angeles, CA 90007  
 213-740-3702 / [mrosenth@usc.edu](mailto:mrosenth@usc.edu)

### **Francesco Erspamer**

*Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures*  
 Harvard University  
 Boylston Hall, 4th Floor  
 Cambridge, MA 02138  
 617-495-4940 / [erspamer@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:erspamer@fas.harvard.edu)

### **Jeffrey Schnapp**

*Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures; Comparative Literatures; Graduate School of Design*  
 Founder/faculty director of metaLAB (at) Harvard  
 Faculty co-director of the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society  
 Harvard University  
 Boylston Hall, 4th Floor  
 Cambridge, MA 02138  
 617-495-2528 / [jeffrey@metalab.harvard.edu](mailto:jeffrey@metalab.harvard.edu)