

# 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, Majors in Italian Studies and English Literature

Chicago, IL

2002 - March 2006

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- 20th/21st-century Italian literature
- 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
- 20th-century Italian theatre (especially Fo and Pirandello)
- popular culture and comic books
- translation and translation studies
- digital platform development for humanities teaching

## PUBLICATIONS ([jvanwagenen.github.io/writing](http://jvanwagenen.github.io/writing))

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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*.

"[The Double Life of Fiddler Jones: Between Edgar Lee Masters and Fabrizio De André](#)" *Gradiva: International Journal of Poetry*. Vol. 58 (Fall 2020). Stony Brook University.

"It's All Relative: Modernism and Science." *Pirandello Society Annual*. Vol. 32 (Spring 2020): pp. 13-21.

"[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 *Interpreting Urban Spaces in Italian Culture. Cities are like Dreams*. Forthcoming 2022.

### 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](http://www.curarium.com) and its [satellite site](#) with metaLAB (at) Harvard. Web. 2013 - 2018.

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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<i>Tsinghua-Michigan Society of Fellows Postdoctoral Fellowship</i>	Fall 2018 - Winter 2021
<i>University of Michigan Society of Fellows Research Semester</i>	Spring 2021
<i>Elson Family Arts Initiative Fund to Support the Integration of Arts into the Curriculum</i>	Spring 2017
<i>Graduate School of Arts &amp; Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship</i>	Summer 2016 - Spring 2017
<i>Harvard University Department of Romance Languages and Literatures Teaching Prize</i>	2016
<i>American Association of Teachers of Italian Travel Grant</i>	2015
<i>Harvard Graduate Student Council Conference Grant</i>	2015
<i>Harvard Graduate Student Council Summer Research Grant</i>	2015
<i>Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning Certificate of Excellence</i>	Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015

## CONFERENCES & PAPERS

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### Conferences/Panels Organized

Breaking the Fourth Wall: Experimental Theatre from *Six Characters to Today*. *Panel Chair*. MLA Conference, Toronto, 2021.

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

*Corto Maltese e gli eroi di Francesco Guccini e Fabrizio De André*. Italian Speaker Lecture Series. McGill University. 15 March 2021.

*Le canzoni cowboy e l'Italia*. Harvard University - Italian 20. 15 April 2021.

[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

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### Tsinghua-Michigan Society of Fellows

Postdoctoral Fellow

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

### Tsinghua University

Assistant Professor

Beijing, China  
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

Research Assistant, Web developer

East Lansing, MI  
2010 - 2011

### Associazione culturale italo-irlandese (AICI)

English department director and language instructor

Rome, Italy  
2006 - 2010

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Journey to Italy: Travel Writing, Romanticism, and the Evolution of the Novel Across the Long 1800s**

*Instructor, Syllabus Developer*

Tsinghua University  
Fall 2020  
Fall 2021

**The Power and Limits of Sight: Reading the *Divine Comedy* with Borges**

*Instructor, Syllabus Developer*

Tsinghua University  
Spring 2019  
Spring 2020

**Postcolonial Writing: Between the Nation and Relation**

*Instructor, Syllabus Developer*

Tsinghua University  
Fall 2018  
Fall 2019

**Italian 235: Italian Culture and Conversation**

*Instructor, Syllabus Developer*

USC Dornsife  
Spring 2018

**Italian 220: Third-Semester Italian**

*Instructor*

USC Dornsife  
Spring 2018

**Italian 150: Second-Semester Italian**

*Instructor*

USC Dornsife  
Spring 2018

**Italian 30: A History of Postwar Italy through Music, 1947-1985**

*Instructor, Syllabus Developer*

FAS, Harvard  
Fall 2017

**Italian 96R: Italian and the Community**

*Instructor, Syllabus Developer*

FAS, Harvard  
Fall 2017

**Aesthetics & Ethics: Beauty, Leadership, and Innovation**

*Teaching Fellow*

Harvard Summer School  
Summer 2016  
Summer 2017

**Intensive Beginning Italian: Gateway to Italy**

*Instructor, Syllabus Developer*

Harvard Summer School  
Summer 2016  
Summer 2017

**Intermediate Italian: Romance, Mystery, Noir, Western**

*Instructor, Assistant Syllabus Developer*

Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS), Harvard  
Fall 2015  
Spring 2016

**Humanities Studio 2.0: Homeless Paintings of the Italian Renaissance**

*Teaching Fellow, Assistant Syllabus Developer*

FAS and Graduate School of Design (GSD), Harvard  
Spring 2014

**The Cosmos of The Comedy: Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding 51**

*Teaching Fellow*

FAS, Harvard  
Fall 2013

**Beginning Italian II: The Art and Craft of Italy**

*Instructor*

FAS, Harvard  
Fall 2014

**Beginning Italian I: Pathways to Italy**

*Instructor*

FAS, Harvard  
Fall 2013  
Spring 2015

## THESIS ADVISING

Tsinghua University

Li Yutong: *Configurations of Urban Peripherality: The Shanghai Shantytown in 20<sup>th</sup> Literature and Cinema* (Zhang, Antonioni, Wang), 2021

Shu Jiaqi: *Gaming with Literature: Story-Tarotting in Calvino's The Castle of Crossed Destinies*, 2021

Wu Qinyan: *The Non-Salvific Aleph – an interpretation of Jorge Luis Borges's "The Aleph" from the perspective of esotericism*, 2021

Xiao Minxuan: *The Otherized Orient in Hollywood Narrative: The Example of "Genie" in Aladdin*, 2020

Wu Peizhen: *Colonial Binaries under the Cover of Fantasy: A Postcolonial Analysis of Tolkien*, 2019

Harvard University

Kumeri Bandara: *Heritage Husbandry: An Italian Farmer's Reclamation of Agency through 'Situated Heritage'*, 2018

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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### **Pirandello in Translation - Stories for a Year**

Website creator, Webmaster ([pirandellointranslation.org](http://pirandellointranslation.org))

Spring 2021 - Present

### **The Pirandello Society of America**

Website creator, Webmaster (<https://www.pirandellosociety.org/>)

Summer 2020 - Present

### **The Pirandello Society of America**

Board of Directors

Fall 2019 - Present

### **Italian cantautori in Translation Project**

Contributor

[italiansongwriters.com](http://italiansongwriters.com)

Aug 2018 - Present

### **The PSA Journal**

Managing Editor

The Pirandello Society of America

Dec 2017 - Present

### **"Digital Humanities Centers in Libraries" Talk**

Invited Roundtable Speaker

Harvard Libraries

5 Dec 2016

### **Department of Romance Language and Literature**

Assistant to the Chair

FAS, Harvard

2014

### **The Lauro De Bosis Italian Colloquium Speaker Series**

Video Series Coordinator

FAS, Harvard

2013 - 2014

### **Drucker, Johanna. *Graphesis: Visual Forms of Knowledge Production***

Copy editor

FAS, Harvard

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)

## 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)

### **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)

### **Donald S. Lopez Jr.**

*Ex-Chair of the University of Michigan Society of Fellows*

*Arthur E. Link Distinguished University Professor of Buddhist and Tibetan Studies*

University of Michigan, 202 South Thayer Street, Suite 5012, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1608

734-615-1331 / [dlopez@umich.edu](mailto:dlopez@umich.edu)

### **James Fortney**

*Assistant Professor of Italian Language, Director of the Italian Language Program*

University of Southern California, Taper Hall, 155, Los Angeles, CA 90007

213-740-3700 / [fortney@usc.edu](mailto:fortney@usc.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

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