

Julianne VanWagenen

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EDUCATION

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 Erpamer, Giuliana Minghelli, Jeffrey Schnapp

DePaul University

BA, with High Honors, Majors in Italian Studies and English Literature

Chicago, IL

2002 - March 2006

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- 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
- travel literature: memoir, travel journals, guidebooks, etc.
- migration studies and Italian migration cinema
- translation and translation studies
- popular culture and comic books
- the intersection of math and literature, science and literature
- 20th-century Italian theatre (especially Fo and Pirandello)
- digital platform development for humanities teaching

PUBLICATIONS (jvanwagenen.github.io/writing)

Books

[*Mythologist in Microgroove: A Study of Italian Myths and Cultural Shifts with Fabrizio De André on Lead Vocals*](#). Fairleigh Dickinson University Press (2023).

Book Chapters

["Le piazze d'Italia: de Chirico's Prophetic Vision of Public Space in Destination Italy"](#) in *Interpreting Urban Spaces in Italian Cultures*, edited by Andrea Scapolo and Angela Porcarelli, 139-156. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2023.

Articles

["Corto Maltese, Counterculture Hero: A Unifying Figure for Francesco Guccini and Fabrizio De André's Revolutionary Visions."](#) *Italica*. 99.2 (Summer 2022): pp. 199-221.

["The Double Life of Fiddler Jones: Between Edgar Lee Masters and Fabrizio De André"](#) *Gradiva: International Journal of Poetry* 58 (Fall 2020): pp. 146-162. Stony Brook University.

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

["Masters vs. Lee Masters: The Legacy of the Spoon River Author between Illinois and Italy."](#) *Forum Italicum* 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.

Translations

Pirandello, Luigi. "A Call to Duty" ("Richiamo all'obbligo"), tr. Julianne VanWagenen. In *Stories for a Year*, eds. Lisa Sarti and Michael Subialka, Digital Edition, www.pirandellointranslation.org, 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

Digital Humanities consultant. Archives Charlie à Harvard. Web. 2016 - 2018.

Project Lead. www.curarium.com 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

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

[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

Lauro De Bosis Postdoctoral Fellowship - Harvard University	Spring 2022 - Present
Tsinghua-Michigan Society of Fellows Postdoctoral Fellowship	Fall 2018 - Winter 2021
University of Michigan Society of Fellows Research Semester	Spring 2021
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

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

Mythologist in Microgroove. 16th De Bosis Colloquium in Italian Studies. Book Talk. Harvard. February 2024.

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

Masters vs. Lee Masters. American Literature Association Conference, Chicago, May, 2024.

Counterculture, Cowboys, and Cantautori: De André's Ironical 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, Nov, 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. AATI Conference, Strasbourg, June, 2013.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Digital Data Design Institute at Harvard (D³)
Program Content Manager, Insights and Experiences

Cambridge, MA, USA
September 2024 - Present

Harvard Business Analytics Program
Learning Manager

Cambridge, MA, USA
June 2022 - August 2024

Harvard University Lauro De Bosis Fellowship
Postdoctoral Fellow

Cambridge, MA, USA
January 2022 - June 2022

Tsinghua-Michigan Society of Fellows
Postdoctoral Fellow

Beijing, China / Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA
September 2018 - December 2021

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

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 20th Literature and Cinema* (Zhang, Antonioni, Wang), 2021

Shu Jiaqi: *Gaming with Literature: Story-Taroting 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

Pirandello in Translation - Stories for a Year

Website creator, Webmaster (pirandellointranslation.org)

Spring 2021 - Present

The Pirandello Society of America

Website creator, Webmaster (pirandellosociety.org)

Summer 2020 - January 2023

The Pirandello Society of America

Board of Directors

Fall 2019 - Present

Italian cantautori in Translation Project

Contributor

theitaliansong.com

Aug 2018 - Present

The PSA Journal

Managing Editor

The Pirandello Society of America

Dec 2017 - January 2023

"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

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

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

REFERENCES

Giuliana Minghelli

Professor of Language, Literature and Culture

McGill University, 688 Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal, QC H3A 0B2, Canada

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Francesco Erspamer

Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures

Harvard University, Boylston Hall, 4th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02138

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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

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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

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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