

Newsletter di giugno

giugno 2017

Dear Dante friends,

This month will start with major celebrations for Italians – the Festa della Repubblica – and, for Kiwis, with Queen's Birthday. A long weekend to rest and enjoy family and friends. Winter has finally arrived and we at Dante will take a short hibernation break this month after an event-filled May. If you have missed some of those events, check out the photos on page 7-8.

But don't worry, we have already some big things lined up for the coming months. For starters there's this year's Festival Italiano on 1 October, which will again feature a big raffle with a fantastic first price. We can't reveal too much yet, but be prepared to buy as many tickets as possible. Ticket sales start in July.

Another thing we are working on is **Dante's annual play**, for which Matteo and his actors are assiduously training at present. The play will be staged soon, on **Saturday 1 July**, so save the date now! If you would like to help, we still need a few props – see the list on page 2.

Now, if you have time for a nice hot cup of tea, you may want to read this month's profiles. The first one is of one of our most appreciated and beloved Italian teachers, Luca Manghi, and the other is the account of one of our students, Michelle Vollemaere, of her discovery of and love affair with the Italian language, including all the joys and hurdles she has encountered on her learning journey.

Vi auguro buona lettura!

Stefania



Freccie Tricolore over Piazza Venezia in Rome, for the Festa della Repubblica on 2 June.

Il calendario di giugno

- 9 giugno** *L'Oriana* - Embassy Film Serie (p.2)
- 24 giugno** Colazione alla Dante and documentary (p.6)
- 24 giugno** Start of NZ Opera's *Carmen* (p.3)
- 25 giugno** Incontro per bambini di lingua italiana (p.2)
- 1 luglio** **Dante's Play *Ultimo Posto Disponibile* (p.2)**
- Every Tuesday & Thursday until 13 June** **Pilates con Fiorella (it will resume after the 14 September)**

Seguici!



President: Sir John Kirwan
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Newsletter: Stefania Perrotta

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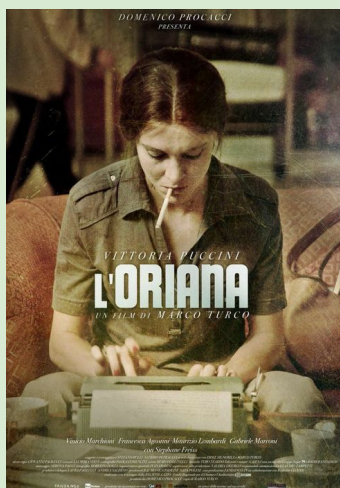
Attività ed eventi



Italian Embassy Film Series - 9 June

L'Oriana, 2015, comedy-drama by Marco Turco
Friday 9 June, 6pm at the University of Auckland,
 Arts 1 Building, Room 220

Italian Golden Globe-winning director Marco Turco brings the life of the famous and determined Italian journalist and author **Oriana Fallaci** into focus in this fascinating biopic which follows the uncompromising reporter on assignments around the world.



Incontri per bambini, 5 - 10 anni, con conoscenza della lingua italiana

Incontri mensili di domenica pomeriggio dalle 14.00 alle 16.00 per bambini di famiglie italiane per mantenere la lingua e la cultura italiane qui in Nuova Zelanda.

Costo: \$10.00 a bambino, fratelli \$5.00.

Confermare la presenza

Domenica 25 giugno dalle 14.00 alle 16.00.

Seeking Treasurer for Dante

We are looking for an accountant who is willing to be our pro bono treasurer. If you can help, please contact Kelly at info@dante.org.nz

Dante's play: Save the date!

Sta crescendo l'attesa e la curiosità per la prossima recita della Dante. Dopo il successo delle due precedenti rappresentazioni, Matteo e gli studenti tornano in scena con una commedia molto divertente dal titolo:

Ultimo posto disponibile.



Save the date:

Sabato 1 luglio, 5pm all'Auditorium al piano terra della Dante.

After the play there will be drinks and refreshments.

Feel free to bring a plate.



Matteo's props list:

Here is a list of props that we need for our play this year. The play with the title *Ultimo posto disponibile* will be staged on **1st of July, at 5pm** at the Dante's Auditorium. If you have any of these items and want to contribute to the success of the play, please contact Matteo by email: matteotelara@gmail.com
 It will be much appreciated!

- 1 tappeto grande (1 large rug)
- 4 sedie da salotto o 4 poltrone o/e 1 divano (4 lounge chairs or 4 easy chairs or/and 1 sofa)
- 2 tavolinetti (2 tea tables)
- 1 mobiletto (1 small cupboard)
- 1 attaccapanni a stelo (1 hatstand)
- 1 specchio (1 standing mirror)



Musica



New Zealand Opera - Carmen

An enduringly popular opera, *Carmen* is a parade of hit tunes set in an exotic locale with a fearless heroine. Vital and dangerous, Carmen is a woman who will be free at any cost, setting the path to the opera's gripping conclusion.



This production by Lindy Hume – well known here for her brilliantly theatrical productions of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Rigoletto* and *La Cenerentola* – is sexy and sensual with everything that you would expect from Bizet's ravishing opera.

The performance is accompanied by the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra and conducted by Italian conductor **Francesco Pasqualetti**.

[Info & Tickets here](#)

When:

Thu 22 Jun 2017, 7:30pm–10:30pm

Sat 24 Jun 2017, 7:30pm–10:30pm

Tue 27 Jun 2017, 6:30pm–9:30pm

Thu 29 Jun 2017, 7:30pm–10:30pm

Sat 1 Jul 2017, 5:00pm–8:00pm

Dante Alighieri Chamber Concert Series

This year's Chamber Concert Series will start on 16 July and go through to December.

Location: St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Road.

Tickets: \$25/\$20 for Dante members and \$10 students



Sunday 16 July - 5pm

Luca Manghi, flute Andrew Nogal, oboe
Ben Hoadley, bassoon David Kelly, piano
Music by Bellini, Vivaldi, Briccialdi

Sunday 27 August - 5pm

Ensemble della Piattellina (Italy)
Zilvinas Brazauskas, clarinet
Benjamin Hoffman, violin
Dorotea Visamara, viola
Natania Hoffman, cello Irene Kim, piano
Music by Boccherini, Berio, Renosto, Sciarrino

Sunday 17 September - 5pm

Yi Jin's Harp Studio and Te Anahera NZ
Featuring Luca Manghi and Wen Chuan Lin
Music by Rossini, Puccini, Debussy

Sunday 29 October 5pm

Il Raccolto New Zealand – German Baroque
Wolfgang Kraemer, recorder
Milena Parobczyk, violin Luca Manghi, flute
Edith Salzmänn, cello
Rachel Griffiths-Hughes, harpsichord
Music by Telemann, Bach

Sunday 3 December, 5pm

Fully staged performance of Pergolesi's opera:
LA SERVA PADRONA
Featuring
Anna Mahon – Serpina
Ben Kubiak – Uberto
Luca Manghi – Vespone
With David Kelly, piano



Profili del mese



Un'insegnante: Luca Manghi

Where are you from in Italy?

Sono nato e ho studiato a Parma.

What brought you to NZ and how long have you been here?

Sono in Nuova Zelanda da undici anni.

What do you enjoy about teaching Italian to Kiwis?

Mi piace molto insegnare italiano ai neozelandesi non solo per insegnare la lingua ma anche per mostrare le varie abitudini e lo stile di vita italiano. I neozelandesi amano molto l'Italia e aiutarli a scoprire lati meno evidenti del mio paese mi entusiasma molto.

What are some tips for students looking to improve their Italian?

Consiglio a tutti gli studenti neozelandesi di imparare bene la dizione, aiuta tantissimo a comunicare quando si è in Italia. Parlate tanto e spesso (anche da soli) per abituarvi al bel suono della lingua italiana!



Luca on the roof of the Duomo di Milano.



What do you find different or unusual about the Kiwi culture (compared to Italy)?

Quello che mi piace molto della Nuova Zelanda è che i neozelandesi sono molto aperti a nuove idee e non hanno paura di provare esperienze nuove o insolite. In Italia bisogna rispettare la tradizione e, soprattutto, non si ha sempre molto spazio per dar vita alle proprie idee. A volte, invece, trovo buffe e strane le abitudini alimentari qui... :)

What are your favourite places in NZ?

Ovviamente il paesaggio mi piace moltissimo! Per il mio lavoro viaggio molto e ci sono davvero tanti angoli della Nuova Zelanda che mi piacciono tanto, dal lontano nord sino al sud!

Un'alunna: Michelle Vollemaere

The passion for learning Italian is a real family affair for us nowadays but the credit must go to my mother for creating the first spark. She started learning Italian more than 20 years ago as a prelude to a European trip. No longer content with “*due birre, per favore*” or “*dov'è il bagno*”, she kept up her lessons on her return and still speaks fluently. For a long time, though, Italian was just “Mum's thing” and we would roll our eyes whenever she tried to translate a just-spoken English sentence or tell us the Italian for mundane things like tomato or teaspoon. *Che noia!*

But, as they say, travel broadens the mind and, after a whirlwind tour of Italy and Greece in 2012 as parent help for my son's school Classics trip (and, incidentally, also my first OE) and with only Berlitz for Travellers under my belt, I too came back with the same desire to be able to speak, and understand, proper Italian – and Latin, and Greek. I had the longest wait until Absolute Beginners classes started in 2013 at the university's Continuing Education programme, but enrolled myself in both Italian and Latin classes. I am not sure if it was a blessing in disguise, but I couldn't find a Greek class!



Under Tuscan skies on my brother's *terrazza* at Campopalazzi.

My first Italian teacher at CCE was Simone Schenirer; she had loads of patience for beginners and mistakes but zero tolerance for incorrect pronunciation. Every time I say “*per*” I still hear Simone saying “*pear, pear, pear*”. She also had a vast store of useful tips and information sheets to simplify various points of grammar. I have kept them all and refer to them still. When the CCE classes petered out after two semesters as enrolment numbers dwindled, Simone took the five of us who remained and taught us privately. For the next year or so we had our classes at her home, and there was always antipasti and wine to complement our conjugations.



Profili del mese



When Simone left Auckland late in 2014 for a new business venture in Otago, our little group found a new teacher, *la bravissima e bellissima* Martina Depentor, who stayed with us until early this year when she, too, left town. The group is still going strong – it is just the teachers who come and go. In fact, it was one of our group members who decided last year that we should join Dante to extend ourselves.

Although I was a bit nervous about joining a new group, I am immensely glad that we did. There is such a positive vibe at Dante; everyone is excited about what they are doing, both teachers and students, and *sempre sempre* happy to share their knowledge with new people. After our first class, also with Martina, we felt like we had been a part of the group forever. And the Summer Intensivo was, without doubt, the best course I have ever been on, even though I had to sing!



My first *pranzo italiano lunghissimo* in a restaurant deep in the Chianti countryside, complete with grapevines, and an enormous platter of antipasti. A treat from our wonderful landlady in Prato.

My best advice for anyone learning Italian at any level is to do everything possible to increase your vocabulary. Watch films, listen to songs, read, and write down the phrases or words that you like. Move away from your safe conversation topics in class; I have written about such diverse things as my home decluttering project, getting a new roof, and making my own Christmas wreath. Think of what you want to be able to say, look up all the words you don't know, and DON'T PANIC if you can't remember them. If just one word sticks with you each time you do it, you

are one word ahead of where you were before. *Come si dice in Italiano, "piano, piano"*.

Always one to make things more difficult for myself, in 2014 I also started studying Italian (and Latin) part time at university, and this year I am doing stage three Italian. In real life, I am a freelance journalist, sub-editor and proofreader so, while I don't need university qualifications to find a job, I have found that the grammar and language acquisition gained from these courses have enhanced my English skills exponentially.

I also proofread the English content for the Dante monthly newsletter, because often things really do just get lost in translation, and I freely admit to being a pedant with a red pen. Sometimes, though, I get an extra thrill when I notice an error in the Italian.

Last year I had the chance to return to Italy to complete two more units towards my eventual BA which, by the way, I hope to finish before I am 80. *Piano piano*. I spent three weeks in Prato for the Italy in Film course, taught by Bernadette Luciano from the University of Auckland, which offered a tantalising insight into Italian history and culture and which culminated in a trip to Chioggia to visit the set of the movie, *Io Sono Li*. Next it was four weeks at a language school, Romanica Accademia in Modena – home of Pavarotti, Ferrari, aceto balsamico and at least two or three *gelaterie* with a claim to world champion status. A New Zealander from *così lontano* was quite a novelty for my teachers and classmates at the school, and indeed I felt a very long, lonely, way from home when I realised that there was no one to speak English with at all. To be truthful, that was a real test of my dedication and I nearly gave it all up.



On my way to eat lots of fish at the *Sagra del Pesce* in Chioggia.

The final fling was two weeks exploring Tuscany with my two brothers and their partners, and my husband, Willie, who was convinced to join me, mostly because one of my brothers had recently bought a place there and he did not want to be left out of the fun!

Now my kids similarly roll their eyes and mock when I "inflict Italian" on them but soon it will be my husband's turn for such unfair treatment. Willie had such a great time in Italy that he promptly enrolled in Matteo's Absolute Beginners class as soon as he returned.

So, with three people in the family now speaking Italian and another owning a property near Siena, it is fair to say that spark has well and truly caught alight.

Michelle kindly proofreads our newsletter each month. She is a journalist, writer, sub-editor and owner of the proofreading agency, Correctamundo. Michelle can be contacted at head.girl@correctamundo.co



Review dello scorso mese

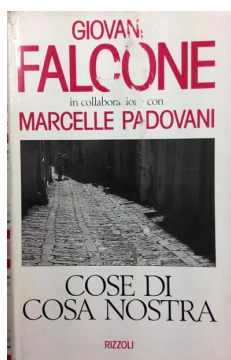
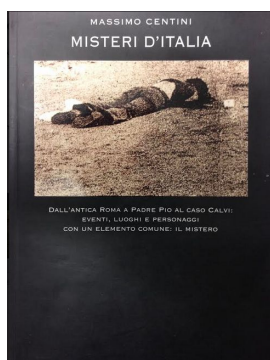


Colazione alla Dante di maggio

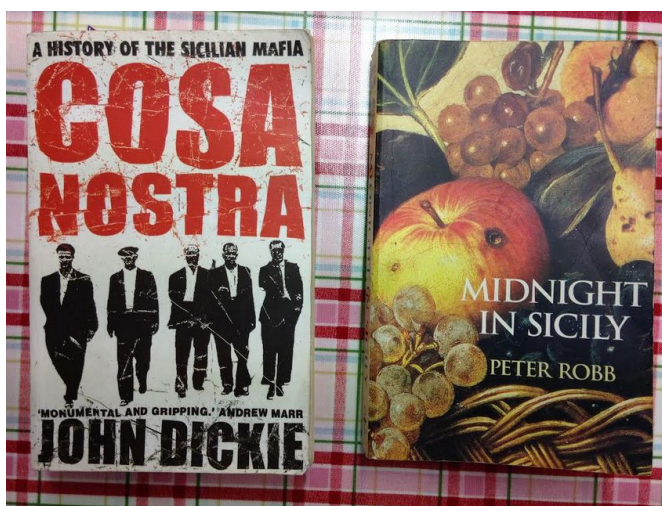
È stato un successo la Colazione alla Dante con Bruno Ferraro. Si è parlato di Mafia, politica, criminalità e, ovviamente, di Leonardo Sciascia, lo scrittore italiano che più di ogni altro ne ha scritto nei suoi romanzi. Un ringraziamento speciale a Bruno, che ha lasciato alla Dante alcune fotocopie a disposizione degli studenti interessati ad approfondire l'argomento. I documenti sono in possesso di Matteo, che al più presto ne farà copie da lasciare in biblioteca.



Nel frattempo, oltre a un'approfondita bibliografica che pubblichiamo qui di seguito, vi ricordiamo che nella biblioteca della Dante abbiamo libri che parlano della Mafia, sia in italiano che in inglese.



Tra i vari ricordiamo: **Misteri d'Italia** di Massimo Centini, **Cose di Cosa Nostra** di Giovanni Falcone, **A History of the Sicilian Mafia, Cosa Nostra** di John Dickie e **Midnight in Sicily** di Peter Robb. (See attached photos).



Colazione di giugno: Documentario

Durante la prossima colazione, per concludere la nostra "chiacchierata" con Bruno, pensavamo di visionare insieme il documentario di cui Bruno ha parlato sullo sbarco degli Alleati in Sicilia (durante la Seconda Guerra Mondiale) e sulla maniera in cui fu riportata la Mafia in Sicilia. Il documentario è in inglese e dura un'ora. Alla fine della proiezione potremmo discutere, in italiano, sugli spunti offerti dalla visione.

Se siete interessati, ci vediamo **sabato 24 giugno** alla colazione!



Review dello scorso mese

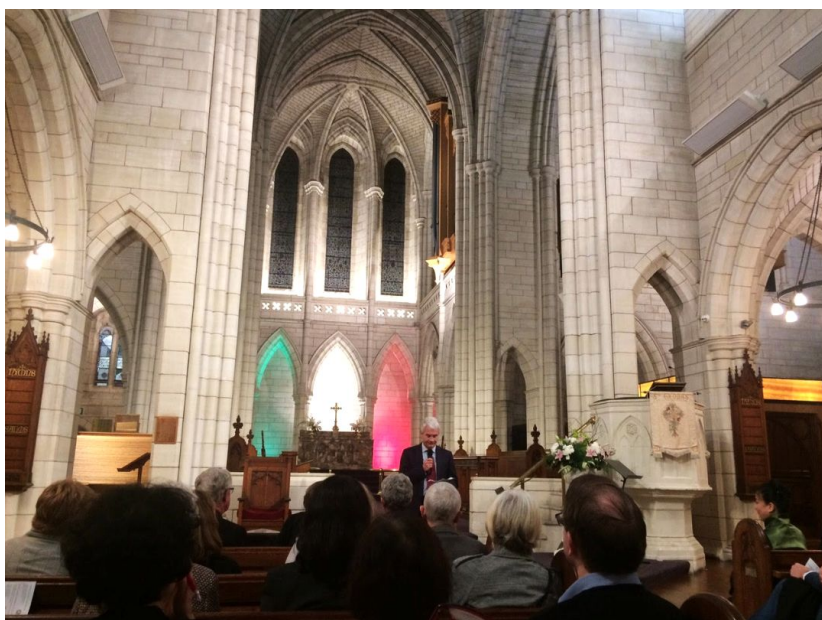


Concerto della Festa della Repubblica

On Monday, 20 May, the Italian Embassy and Dante celebrated the Festa della Repubblica with a concert featuring star guest violinist Domenico Nordio in the beautiful church of St Matthew-in-the-City. After the concert all our guests enjoyed Italian refreshments



Ambassador Fabrizio Marcelli enjoying a beautiful Alfa Romeo car before the concert.



Ambassador Fabrizio Marcelli addressing the guests in Saint Matthew-in-the-City which, specially for the occasion, was lit up with the Tricolore.



Violinist Domenico Nordio pulling all strings with Bach.



Women in Red - Our amazing team of organisers Fiorella, Flavia and Alessandra. Many thanks to all our helpers including Martina, Sandra, Chiarina, and John who delighted us with the most delicious panini con porchetta (John's homemade specialty), prosecco and beer.

A special thank you also goes to **Peroni** for sponsoring the event.



Review dello scorso mese



Conversation with writer Viola di Grado at the Auckland Writers Festival on 18 May



Zucchero's Black Cat Tour concert at Auckland Town Hall on 19 June





Gli amici della Dante



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Radio Cartolina

5 June: Paolo Rotondo introduces the Cinema Italiano Festival that opens at the Academy Gold at the Colombo on 14 June, and runs until 25 June. This film festival is always well attended, and the line-up of this year's films won't disappoint any lover of Italian cinema. But this year there's something more going on at the Colombo: the first ever Italian festival. "Ciao Italia" showcases Italian fun, food and fanfare. It's a compact, not-to-be-missed event, on 14 June, from 6pm to 9.30pm. There will be music, songs and tarantella, and fantastic items both imported from Italy and made by Italians here. Also, for all the month of June, the Colombo runs and Italian theme... Che volete di più?!

14 June: Irene Boles is an architect from Milan, teaching at the ARA in Christchurch. Irene talks of her career, and explains how, in designing and realizing, with her partner (also an architect), their house on the sea in New Brighton, they used the New Zealand concept of bach filtered through a Mediterranean sensibility, to achieve a rewarding result. We play *Rosalina* by Fabio Concato, and *Più bella cosa* by Eros Ramazzotti.

Visit the new pages of Radio Cartolina on the website of the Christchurch Dante Society: <http://www.dantechch.com> with info, photos and the contents of each episode. <http://plainsfm.org.nz> is where you can find all recent programmes in podcast.

Buon Ascolto from the producer Wilma Laryn.

Poesia del mese

Di Giosuè Carducci

Giugno

È il mese dei prati erbosi e delle rose;
il mese dei giorni lunghi e delle notti chiare.

Le rose fioriscono nei giardini, si
arrampicano
sui muri delle case. Nei campi, tra il grano,
fioriscono gli azzurri fiordalisi e i papaveri
fiammanti e la sera mille e mille lucciole
scintillano fra le spighe.

Il campo di grano ondeggia al passare
del vento: sembra un mare d'oro.
Il contadino guarda le messi e sorride. Ancora
pochi giorni e raccoglierà il frutto delle sue
fatiche.

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