

Piccola Italia



Italian Cultural Center of San Diego Newsletter

Vol. 10, N. 3 | July – August – September 2009 | quarterly publication

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 6: Festa della Repubblica

July 6: New classes start

July 10: Kettner Nights

October 11: Little Italy Festa

October 30 – November 7:
Italian Film Festival

Ongoing: Leonardo Da Vinci
Experience Exhibit

Ongoing: House of Italy
Open House

DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The Italian Festa della Repubblica commemorates the 1946 referendum that changed the form of government in Italy from a monarchy to a republic.

FESTA DELLA REPUBBLICA

Il Coro Montenero degli Alpini a San Diego



Although many Italian military units share in a tradition of choral singing, arguable none are more famous than the rugged mountain Alpine soldiers, or the Corpo degli Alpini. Their songs, collectively described as “le Canzoni degli Alpini”, have become known throughout the world. Their repertoire is rich and varied, ranging from songs of the mountains, to traditional folk songs about the abandonment they felt as a result of emigration.

On Saturday June 6th, the House of Italy, the Italian Cultural Center, and the Italian American Civic Association of San Diego under the auspices of the Consulate General of Italy, present: La Festa della Repubblica with Il Coro degli Alpini di Montenero, directly from Italy.

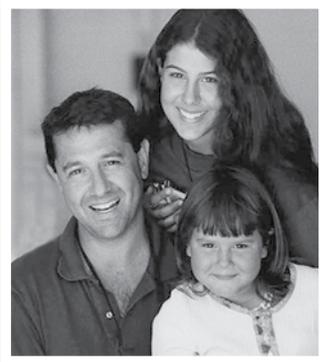
The concert will be preceded by a reception and refreshments with the Alpini from 11:30am-2:30pm. (suggested donation \$10).

Spreckels Organ Pavilion, Balboa Park

Saturday, June 6, 2009

Reception: 11:30am-2:30pm

Concert: 3:30pm



CARI SOCI,

Oltre a perseguire il proprio compito istituzionale dell'insegnamento della lingua italiana, l'ICC desidera soddisfare l'inarrestabile sete di cultura dei propri membri. I mesi di aprile e maggio sono stati denso di eventi eccitanti:

- Il 25-26 aprile molti membri dell'ICC hanno partecipato all'evento "Art Walk" con le loro opere d'arte.
- L' 8 maggio l'ICC ha promosso la lecture del Prof. Maurizio Seracini, fratello del nostro beneamato e immaturamente deceduto Massimo, "From Florence to San Diego, in search of the long-lost Leonardo" alla UCSD.
- Il 14 maggio il Proff. Nicola Reveles della Opera House ci ha intrattenuto con una lecture su Madama Butterfly
- Il 17 maggio l'ICC ha partecipato alla Festa Siciliana in Little Italy aiutando nella promozione della cultura italiana.

L'evento principale della primavera a San Diego avverrà il 6 giugno, quando, alle 12:00pm presso l'anfiteatro di Balboa Park, si esibiranno 35 maestri Alpini per la prima volta in California in celebrazione della Festa della Repubblica Italiana. Sono orgoglioso di annunciare che abbiamo portato a San Diego il nostro corpo militare piu' rappresentativo, che combatte' per la liberta' dalla costituzione italiana e che, oggi, e' impegnato nelle operazioni non belligeranti in tutto il mondo.

Questo evento e' stato organizzato dalla nostra associazione sorella "House of Italy" con la partecipazione dell'ICC e della Italian American Civic Association. Sono altresì orgoglioso che questo evento rappresenti l'inizio di una collaborativa unita' tra le organizzazioni italo-americane di San Diego. Questo sforzo e' stato apprezzato e caldeggiato dal nostro Padre Grancini che il 21 aprile 2009 ha scritto all'ICC le seguenti gradite frasi: "Il progresso dell' ICC in questi ultimi anni e' imponente. Ti auguro successo nell'unire le varie associazioni. E' quello che cerco di fare da tanti anni."

Siamo particolarmente grati a Padre Grancini per le sue parole d'incoraggiamento. Desidero ricordare che l'unita' di sforzi ed intenti richiede un appassionato impegno personale da parte di tutti i membri, al fine di propagare la cultura e il legato degli Italiani nel mondo.

Cari Soci:

In addition to our continuing efforts to teach the Italian language, the ICC is preparing to quench your thirst for more cultural events. The months of April/May were both engaging and successful:

- On April 25-26, several of our members participated in the Little Italy Art Walk by showcasing their works of art.
- On May 8 the ICC promoted the lecture of Professor Maurizio Seracini, the brother of our beloved and recently departed Massimo, "From Florence to San Diego, in search of the long-lost Leonardo" at UCSD.
- On May 14, Professor Nicolas Reveles of the Opera House of San Diego held a spectacular lecture on the tragic opera Madame Butterfly.
- On May 17, the Festa Siciliana in Little Italy saw the active participation of the ICC in the promotion of Italian culture.

The highlight of this San Diegan springtime however will be the concert of thirty-five orchestra professors of the Italian Alpini Chorus, on June 6 at the Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park. This is the first time they will be in California to celebrate the Festa Della Repubblica Italiana.

I am very proud that we succeeded in bringing the Alpini to San Diego. This military corps is the prides of Italy, as they have fought since their constitution for the freedom of the old country. Today they are engaged in peacekeeping operations around the globe.

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ICC Newsletter

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This exclusive event has been organized by the sister organization of House of Italy in accordance with the ICC and Italian American Civic Association.

I am also particularly proud that this event represents the beginning of a longtime desire for unity amongst the Italian American organizations of San Diego. Our Lady of the Rosary's Padre Grancini, who on April 21, 2009 wrote the following very appreciative words, warmly recognized this effort:

"The progress of the ICC in the last years is truly impressive. I wish that the various organizations be united. It is what I have been trying to do for years" .

We all are grateful to Padre Grancini for his sincere words of encouragement. I would like to join him in saying that this unity requires passionate participation from our members so that the legacy and heritage of Italy continues to live on.

Saluti a tutti.

Roberto Ruocco



The films presented by the San Diego Italian Film festival consist of major, recently released Italian films, with English subtitles. The films are shown in the large screen theater of the Museum of Photographic Arts (MOPA) in Balboa Park.

Entrance to the film is free, and on a first come-first served basis. This Festival grows each year in both stature and popularity. Don't miss it. Please go to www.sandeigofilmfestival.com for further information.

The third annual film festival will be presented October 30 through November 7, 2009.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Birth of San Diego Italian Film Festival

by Victor Laruccia



Who can believe that it's been over five years since we showed our first movie, *L'Uomo delle stelle*, to a good crowd at the House of Italy. When, at the end of that first movie, Gemma Castello jumped up and said the film was not good because Sicily was better than portrayed, I was very happy because I knew then that these Italian stories would resonate with our audience. While the movies were marvelous and satisfied a deep need, the chairs were painful and the broken blinds washed out the screen with the light from outside. After two years a small group of us, Giuseppe Annino, Pasquale Verdicchio, Roberto Ruocco, Don Santamaria and I began scouting for a new location.

While we investigated, Pasquale discovered a beautiful collection of films being offered by the Italian government, all made in southern Italy, all focused on southern Italian themes. Rich Tomasello at the House of Italy set us up with the Museum of Photographic Arts, where we met the Director, Dr. Deborah Klochko, a kind person who ultimately had to tell us to shut up so she could agree to partner with us.

The Istituto Italiano di Cultura and the IIC Director, Dr. Francesca Valente, also became partners in this cultural enterprise, a partnership which continues to showcase Italian culture in San Diego. We had not a penny to begin with (we now have two cents), no organization and little idea how to make this all work. We are Italians, however, fast learners, and we know what's important – flavors of Italy, in taste and story. Roberto made a non-profit for us, The Italian American Art & Culture Association of San Diego, and we had an exciting first year, great films and a rich, warm, delicious party.

The San Diego Italian Film Festival, now in its third year of helping bring the Italian community together, has a vision to create, for at least one night, an Italian piazza where everyone comes together to meet, hear each other's stories, and share the evening. Some wonderful supporters of this ongoing endeavor include the Italian American Civic Association and the Italian Cultural Center, both, from the first, joining in with generous grants. Many Italian families and businesses have also joined in to keep a strong Italian presence in San Diego.

This year the festival will be adding new venues, a new series, and will begin working directly with Italian distributors. Also in the works is a program to send some teens to Italy to be judges at Giffoni, the world's biggest children's film festival, and a video diary program to capture our stories. Great films, video histories, and Italian culture are a very powerful mix. And there's more coming. Keep your eyes on the SDIFF—it's going to be a lot of fun

3rd Annual San Diego Film Festival
October 30 - November 7, 2009
Museum of Photographic Arts Balboa Park
FREE ADMISSION



ICC Italian Adult Classes

Day / Dates	Class Title	Time	Weeks	Teacher	Price
MONDAYS					
07/06-09/14	Beginner Conversation (Requires Italiano 2)	5:30 – 6:45pm	10	Michela	\$100
07/06-09/14	Intermediate Conversation (Requires Italiano 3)	5:30 – 6:45pm	10	Roberto	\$100
07/06-09/21	Italiano 2	6:45 – 8:30pm	11	Luca	\$145
07/06-09/21	Italiano 3	6:45 – 8:30pm	11	Michela	\$145
07/06-09/21	Adv Conversation & Grammar (Requires Italiano 5)	6:45 – 8:30pm	11	Roberto	\$145
TUESDAYS					
07/07-09/08	Intermediate Conversation (Requires Italiano 3)	5:30 – 6:45pm	10	Eleonora	\$100
07/07-08/25	NEW! Storia d'Italia II (Int/adv)	6:45 – 8:15pm	8	Gabriella	\$100
07/07-09/15	Italiano 6	6:45 – 8:30pm	11	Eleonora	\$145
WEDNESDAYS					
07/08-09/09	Beginner Conversation (Requires Italiano 2)	5:30 – 6:45pm	10	Chiara	\$100
07/08-09/16	Italiano 3	5:30 – 7:15pm	11	Rossella B.	\$145
07/08-09/16	Italiano 1	6:45 – 8:30pm	11	Elena	\$145
07/08-09/16	Italiano 4	6:45 – 8:30pm	11	Chiara	\$145
07/08-09/16	Italiano 5	7:15 – 9:00pm	11	Rossella B.	\$145
08/05-09/23	Italian for Travelers	6:45 – 8:15pm	8	Laura	\$150
THURSDAYS					
07/09-09/17	Parent & Me – for toddlers and parents	10:30 – 11:30am	11	Gabriella	\$150
07/09-09/17	Italiano 1 at Lunch (intensive)	12:30 – 1:30pm	11	Eleonora	\$120
07/09-09/17	Italiano 2 at Lunch (intensive)	12:30 – 1:30pm	11	Gabriella	\$120
07/09-09/17	Italiano 3 at Lunch (intensive)	12:30 – 1:30pm	11	Roberta	\$120
SATURDAYS					
07/11-09/19	Beginner Conversation (Requires Italiano 2)	9:15 – 10:30am	10	Gabriella	\$100
07/11-09/26	Italiano 5	9:00 – 10:45am	11	Simonetta	\$145
07/11-09/26	Italiano 1	9:00 – 10:45am	11	Eleonora	\$145
07/11-09/26	Italiano 2	10:45am – 12:30pm	11	Gabriella	\$145
07/11-09/26	Italiano 3	10:45am – 12:30pm	11	Eleonora	\$145
07/11-09/26	Italiano 4	10:45am – 12:30pm	11	Consuelo	\$145
07/11-09/26	Advanced Conversation & Grammar (Requires Italiano 5)	10:45am – 12:30pm	11	Simonetta.	\$145

Classes meet once a week at the ICC.

NO CLASS on Saturday September 5th and Monday September 7th – Labor Day Weekend.

REGISTRATION starts May 18 at the ICC or by mail, with completed registration form and payment.

Enrollment is confirmed with full payment of tuition (cash or check only). **Current ICC membership (\$25 individual, \$35 family)** is required to enroll in all courses.

Early registration DISCOUNT: Register by June 15 and get \$20 off per class. *** (except for Storia d'Italia that receives \$10 discount by June 15) ***



Course Registration Form

To enroll, please drop off, mail, or place this form in our mailbox with payment. Pre – registration is strongly encouraged since we attempt to limit class size to 12 students (8 for conversation classes).

- Please add me to your mailing list for information on Italian classes and cultural events
- I'd like to register for classes now as indicated below

Name: First _____ Last _____

E – mail _____ Home phone _____

Work phone _____ Cell phone _____

Address _____ City and Zip _____

Specify: New student Returning student

Register me for the following:

Class _____ Day _____ Time _____ Class _____ Day _____ Time _____

Alternatives—in case the above choices are full:

Class _____ Day _____ Time _____ Class _____ Day _____ Time _____

Please check the boxes to indicate your selections and amount		check	
ICC Annual Membership >You must be a member to enroll in courses	Single	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25
	Family	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35
Italiano 1 through 6 (textbook below is required)		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$145
Italiano 1 through 3 at Lunch (textbook below is required)		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$120
Beginner or Intermediate Conversation		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100
Advanced Conversation and Grammar		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$145
Italian for Travelers (material included)		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150
Parent & Me (for toddlers and caregivers)		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150
Storia d'Italia II (material included)		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100
Early registration discount (\$20 per class above) ONLY if before 6/15 ** \$10 Discount for "Italian through songs" and "Storia d'Italia" before 6/15		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____

TEXTBOOKS

Ciao! 6th Edition Book and CD (required for Italian 1 – 6, Italiano 1 – 6 @ Lunch) available for order at major bookstores (Barnes & Noble, UCSD, etc.) and online (Amazon.com, Textbooks.com, Half.com, etc.)

TOTAL (have you checked the boxes to indicate your choices?)

Paid by: Cash \$_____ Check #_____ \$_____

Refund Policy—please review and sign below

The ICC reserves the right to cancel or rearrange classes for any reason. If ICC cancels a class, students can transfer to a different class or receive a full refund. Approvals for transfers will be based on course and space availability. Up to and including the first class, students who send a cancellation **in writing** will receive a full refund. Up to and including the second class, a credit is available for a subsequent session. After the third class NO refund or credit will be given.

I acknowledge and accept the refund policy: _____
Signature of Student *Date*

ITALIAN ADULT LANGUAGE CLASSES

SUMMER 2009

ITALIANO 1 - *for beginners*

Goal: This course gives students the basic tools needed to successfully understand and communicate in Italian. At the completion of this course, students should be able to greet others, introduce themselves, ask for information and directions, talk about themselves and others, and describe people, things, and places. **Grammar:** Pronunciation, subject pronouns, c'è (there is) and ci sono (there are), indicative present tense of essere (to be), avere (to have) and regular verbs in -are, articles, gender and plural of nouns, numbers 0-49, formal and informal communication, prepositions, interrogative. (*Textbook: Ciao! Book and CD, 6th edition, Carla Larese Riga and Chiara Maria dal Martello, Thomson Heinle, ch 1–3*)

ITALIANO 2 - *for students with basic knowledge of Italian*

Goal: This course builds on Italiano 1 and provides students a stronger and wider skill set necessary to understand, speak, read and write in Italian. At the end of the course, students should be able to order and talk in detail about food, drinks, common activities, leisure time, plan a trip, describe daily life and talk about family and traditions. **Grammar:** Indicative present tense of regular and irregular verbs in -ere and -ire; possessive adjectives and pronouns, partitivo (some, any); sapere and conoscere (to know); days of the week, numbers 50-100. (*Textbook: Ciao! Sixth edition, Carla Larese Riga and Chiara Maria dal Martello, Thomson Heinle, ch 3–6*)

ITALIANO 3 - *for students with a fairly good command of Italian*

Goal: to build on Italiano 2 and give students the structures necessary to make polite requests, express tastes and preferences, describe people and experience from past, make comparisons, express wishes. At the end of this class students should be able to communicate in a shopping environment, talk about their childhood, describe and compare people and things, make social arrangements. **Grammar:** reinforcement and practice of all tenses of the indicative mood, including imperfect and past perfect, direct and indirect object pronouns, conditional, comparative and superlatives, present progressive. (*Textbook: Ciao! Sixth edition, Carla Larese Riga and Chiara Maria dal Martello, Thomson Heinle, ch 6–9*)

ITALIANO 4 - *for students with a good command of Italian*

Goal: This course helps build on Italiano 3 and give students a stronger foundation to develop their skills base in order to achieve a higher level of complexity in their speaking and reading. At the end of the class students should be able to talk in detail about Italian cuisine, ingredients, and kitchen tools, communicate about vacation, real estate, and converse about economy and employment. **Grammar:** Direct, indirect, and disjunctive pronouns, the future tense, the verb piacere, the invariable pronouns ne and ci, double object pronouns, and the conditional mood. (*Textbook: Ciao! Book and CD 6th edition, Carla Larese Riga and Chiara Maria dal Martello, Thomson Heinle, ch 9–12*)

ITALIANO 5 - *for students with a strong command of Italian*

Goal: As a transition from Italiano 4, this course gives students the advanced language skills necessary to communicate at a high level of complexity. At the end of the course students should be able to describe in detail landscapes and cities, converse about sports, communicate on health and environment, express opinions on art and theater. **Grammar:** Comparatives and superlatives, relative and indefinite pronouns, the gerund mood and the progressive form, the subjunctive mood, and the hypothetical construction. (*Textbook: Ciao! Sixth edition, Carla Larese Riga and Chiara Maria dal Martello, Thomson Heinle, ch 13–15*)

ITALIANO 6 - *for students with a strong command of Italian*

Goal: to build on Italiano 5 and give students stronger and wider language skills to be able to interact at a very high level of complexity. At the end of the class students should be able to debate, judge and talk about any subject. **Grammar:** conjunctive, conditional tense, relative pronouns, and gerund (*Textbook: Ciao! Sixth edition, Carla Larese Riga and Chiara Maria dal Martello, Thomson Heinle ch 15–18*)

BEGINNER INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED CONVERSATION

Italian culture —art, cuisine, cinema, lifestyles, music, fashion, etc—is the starting point for a number of conversations and discussions that will help students to both enrich their knowledge of Italy and build a larger vocabulary. Includes practical usage and a review of the grammar previously studied. (*Book: Italian Grammar in Practice*)

NOTE:

Beginner Conversation requires Italiano 2+ (or equivalent)
Intermediate Conversation requires Italiano 3+ (or equivalent);
Advanced Conversation requires Italiano 5+ (or equivalent)

STORIA D'ITALIA II - *for students with a fairly good command of Italian*

Goal: Discover the rich history of Italy and learn Italian at the same time! The course aims to give an overall idea of Italian history from Roman to modern times. The class is designed for an intermediate/advanced Italian language proficiency level since it will be taught mostly in Italian. No book will be necessary; materials will be provided in class by the teacher and will be implemented with videos and clips from original films.

ITALIAN RECIPE

RISOTTO AL LIMONE



Recipe

by Barbara Carra

Finely chop the leeks (white part) and the scallions. Sauté them slowly with 1 oz. of butter, olive oil, a little bit of salt and ½ glass of water. When the soffritto is soft and quite dry, add the rice for the toasting stage: turn up the heat and cook the rice, stirring constantly, for about 4-5 minutes until the grains are opaque. Add the wine and allow it to evaporate slowly.

When the rice has been toasted and the wine has evaporated, start to add the cooking liquid very gradually (the broth should be boiling hot). The rice should be cooked over moderate heat so that it is kept at a slow boil; the cooking liquid must be added gradually, and only after the previous addition has been fully absorbed. After about 15 min., add salt, pepper, the grated zest of the lemon (only the yellow part) and chopped parsley. Keep cooking and adding broth till the rice is cooked (5 more minues).

Turn the fire off, add the remaining butter, Parmesan cheese, stir and then taste the rice to see if the seasoning needs adjusting. If necessary, you can still add some fine table salt at this stage and it will have time to dissolve together with the butter and Parmigiano.

Cover and leave it alone for a couple of minutes....you can open a bottle of wine in the meantime! Best to serve warm, guarnished with sticks of lemon peel and rose petals.

Buon Appetito!

Choose the best Rice

The best varieties for making risotto are the classic “Carnaroli” and “Arborio” types. The same basic procedure applies to all types of risotto: Preparing the “soffritto” (a sautéed onion base), toasting the rice, cooking the risotto by gradually adding cupfuls of the broth, adding the butter and grated Parmesan cheese and allowing the risotto to stand for a short period (the so-called “mantecatura”).

Ingredients

- 1 cup of Arborio or Carnaroli rice
- 2 leeks, cleaned
- 2 scallions
- 2 ½ oz. butter
- 1 lemon (zest only)
- ½ cup Grated Parmesan
- 2 ½ cups Vegetable broth (from cube)
- ¼ cup white wine
- 3 tbs. Olive oil
- 2 sprigs of fresh parsley
- salt & pepper

Makes 4 servings



LETTERATURA

BIANCO, ROSSO E VERDICCHIO



MI ARRENDO by Pasquale Verdicchio

Adesso le nostre mani hanno l'odore
del lavoro e del sole;
ci insinuiamo
nelle vite altrui
la testa piena e le mani vuote.
La vita è accumulo
di perdite. Alcuni trovano
i mezzi per il loro fine
vicino a casa.
Altri viaggiano
all'altro capo del mondo
per scoprire
il senso della fine
finché le rughe della storia
sono sui loro visi,
e l'età le scava
con sapere e conoscenza.
Il sole ruba immagini
di chi eravamo
mentre ci abbruna la pelle,
portandole
al colore della rivelazione.
che rimane dell'esilio
se non un respiro prolungato
in cui la vita si espande
e moto continuo
siamo solo un numero ridicolo
uniti dalla nostra realtà oltre oceani
e sconfinati territori deserti
e vite confinate.
Non ci saranno sopravvissuti
nella guerra d'identità
saremo i soli
a riconoscerci
a conservare vivo il ricordo reciproco
della distanza
a testimoniare altri tempi
altre abitudini altre stirpi
che rimane dell'esilio
se non la nostra assenza
Un'indifferenza al vetro
le onde e le maree sono in realtà
istigazioni del vetro
o sono meccanismi?

sabbia silice erosione e contrasto
irrompono nel respiro di
colui che soffia la vita
per plasmare un vascello
chiarezza e fragilità forma
e riflesso plasmano la visione
e il suo momento.
Ripiego su me stesso
come in un vento
sostenuto dal vuoto
il dialetto del mio corpo emerge
in forme di costrizione
una testa in una ciotola
un vento e un paio
di mani sospese
a coppa in lontananza
a racchiudere solo un desiderio
di essere relegate in uno scaffale
trattenute inchiodate dentro a un
muro
dimmi che ne sai
di telefoni che squillano
e sedie vuote
a cena
invecchiare al di fuori
di te
pensando che lo spazio
sia proprio quel che ci vuole
per farti compagnia
dimmelo
perché possa ricordarlo
nei momenti in cui
il tuo viso mi appare
dinanzi
e mi domanda che ne so
dell'amore e dell'oblio

CRY UNCLE

(translation by Silvia Albertazzi)

Our hands have come to smell
of work and sun;
we insinuate ourselves
into the lives of others

with a full head and empty hands.
Life is an accumulation
Of losses some find
the means to an end
close to home.
Others travel
to the ends of the earth
to find out
what the end means,
until the lines of history
are on our faces,
and age deepens then
with knowledge and apprehension.
The sun steals images
of who we were
as it darkens our skin,
brings them to
the color of disclosure
what remains of exile
if not a long drawn-out breath
in which life expands
and continuous motion
we are but a ridiculous number
whose reality unites across oceans
and deserts boundless territories
and confined lives.
There will be no survivors
in the war of identity
we will be the ones
to recognize ourselves
to keep our reciprocal memory
of distance alive
to witness other times
other habits other ancestries
what remains of exile
if not our absence.

An indifference to glass
are the waves and tides
the actual instigation of glass
or are they mechanism?
sand silica erosion and contrast
break into the breath of
the glass blower whose life gives

shape to a vessel
clarity and fragility form
and reflection shape the vision
and its moment.

I lean toward myself
as I would into a wind
supported by emptiness
my body's dialect emerges
in shapes of containment
a head in a bowl
a wind and a pair
of hands suspended
cupped in distance
hold merely a desire
to be shelved
nailed held upon a wall.

Tell me what you know
about telephones ringing
and empty chairs
through dinner
growing old outside
of yourself
thinking that space
is indeed all that one needs
to keep company
tell me so
that I may remind myself
during those times
when your face rises
up in front of me
to ask what I know
of love and forgetting

Pasquale Verdicchio - Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature: Modern Literature; Poetics; Italian Cinema; Cultural Studies; Environmental Movements and Literatures., in the Dept. of Literature at UCSD since 1986. He has published essays and books on Italian and Italian North American culture.

He is currently member of various literary boards in US and Canada and program co-director of the San Diego Italian Film festival.

From Florence to San Diego, in search of the long-lost Leonardo

On May 7, 2009, the ICC gave its members an exclusive insight into an Italian mystery about to be solved in San Diego.

UCSD Professor Maurizio Seracini explained in interesting detail about the groundbreaking research that led his team to search for Leonardo Da Vinci's lost masterpiece mural, the Battle of Anghiari. His aim, to support the preservation of Italy's invaluable cultural heritage.

Professor Seracini took the attendees into the UCSD's state-of-the-art tridimensional visual room, and demonstrated the laboratories multiple screens in action for the project.

A tasteful and tantalizing aperitivo prepared by the restaurant Acqua al 2 of San Diego followed, around which cultural interest and sincere friendship intermingled resulting in a great success for the ICC initiative.



BÈSAME PHOTOGRAPHY

www.besamephotography.com

STUDENT'S CORNER

I cibi ibridi

By Josephine Baldwin (ICC Student)

I cibi a casa delle famiglie cosiddette multiculturali o “ibride”, cioè, composte da persone di diverse nazionalità, o innanzitutto da persone che hanno vissuto in diversi paesi per molti anni, sono di solito interessantissimi. Per elaborare cibi singolari ed attraenti bisogna rischiare, in altre parole, si deve avere il coraggio di mescolare ingredienti che nelle cucine più tradizionali non si metterebbero mai insieme. Vale a dire che è necessario avere una mentalità aperta per quanto riguarda la cucina, se si vuole riuscire ad elaborare un pasto diverso, lontano dai piatti più tradizionali.

Negli ultimi decenni la società è cambiata moltissimo. Fino a relativamente poco tempo fa, la maggior parte della gente non viaggiava lontano da casa propria; molti erano quelli che venivano a morire nello stesso paese, nella stessa città in cui erano nati. Di conseguenza, i cibi tradizionali erano circoscritti ai luoghi di appartenenza. Certo, non erano così conosciuti come lo sono oggi, e di conseguenza, questi cibi regionali o locali sono rimasti puri. Si cucinavano secondo ricette, in alcuni casi, antichissime; si tramandavano di generazione in generazione. Alcune persone avevano perfino la loro propria ricetta e la mantenevano segreta, come se fosse un tesoro.

Al giorno d'oggi, le frontiere sono quasi scomparse tra la maggior parte delle nazioni dell'Europa occidentale. Inoltre, la gente viaggia molto di più che prima. Questo fatto ha favorito gli scambi tra persone da paesi molto diversi: si condividono molte cose, innanzitutto le ricette per i piatti cosiddetti tipici del luogo.

A casa mia, per esempio, esemplifichiamo questo fenomeno ibrido. Quando tutta la famiglia si riunisce intorno al tavolo, ci sono contributi internazionali: Mia madre prepara i “pigs in a blanket”, salicce prima fritte e dopo ricoperte di pasta sfoglia; io cucino una “paella” spagnola che, secondo mia sorella, è “perfetta”: riso, cozze, pollo, carciofi, gamberi, peperoni, cipolla, conditi con pepe e soprattutto, zafferano. Le insalate sono molto popolari a casa mia, e queste sono internazionali, e riflettono davvero la combinazione di ingredienti di origini diversi. Per quello che riguarda i dolci, ce n'è una grandissima varietà: mia madre prepara un “rice pudding” davvero straordinario: è un dolce tipicamente inglese che si prepara con riso, latte, uvetta, zucchero e noce moscata. Un altro dessert che piace molto a tutti è la “Crema Catalana”, una crema dolce, la sezione superiore della quale si caramellizza con uno strumento speciale. Questo dolce gode di una gran popolarità in Francia: lì si chiama “Crème Brûlée”. La Catalogna è celebre per i suoi dolci tipici, che sono stati esportati in molti paesi: Le “Monas de Pasqua”, torte di cioccolato che assomigliano a sculture; i “Massini”, torte di crema e cioccolato molto fini ed elaborate.

Per concludere, devo dire che mi sento molto fortunata di essere nata in una famiglia ibrida: i nostri cibi non sono mai stati noiosi!

Dear Members: Would you like to see your story or poem in this newsletter? Please send us your poem, or a story (in Italian and or in English) on a topic of common interest for ICC. Write to: info@icc-sd.org.



Looking Forward

Kettner Nights: Friday July 10, 2009

Held from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. In downtown San Diego's Little Italy, the art has as much flavor as the espresso and pasta. The art and design district, modeled after New York City's trendy SoHo and Chelsea districts, offers art-lovers and design patrons diverse resources. Come explore this ever-growing distinctive neighborhood with an art walk through the businesses and studios on Kettner Boulevard and beyond.

For more information call:
Perry Meyer Fine Art
619-358-9512.

Little Italy Festa: October 11 from 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The historic business district of Downtown San Diego's Little Italy will come alive with authentic Italian music, fine Italian food, a bocce ball tournament and specialty crafts in the Fifteenth Annual Italian Festa, Sunday, October 11 from 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Come and enjoy over 120 Italian Food & Crafter Booths, 2 stages of entertainment, Gesso Italiano (Italian Chalk): Little Italy's Chalk Painting Event, a Stickball Tournament and a Beer & Wine Garden. Load up the family, friends & pets and come to the Largest Italian Festival outside of New York City.

This event is held on India Street between Ash and Grape Streets.

Parking Tickets for Sale

Frustrated about parking in Little Italy? Parking tickets are available for sale to Saturday morning students. Parking lot is directly across from the ICC. Each ticket is \$3.00 and can be used from the hours of 9:00 am to 12:30 pm on Saturday only. Please see Dianna in the office for details.



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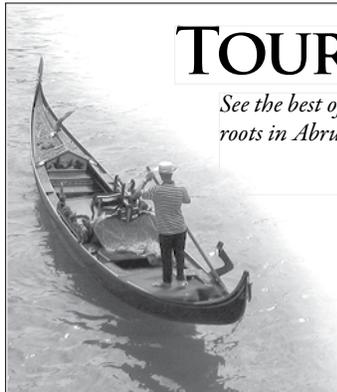
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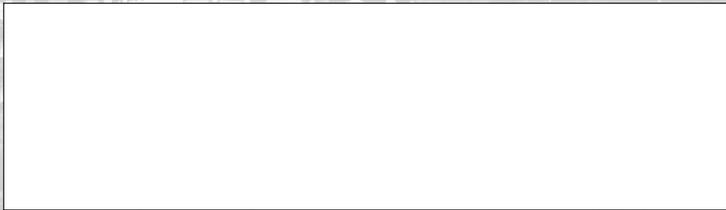
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photo by Andrea Scott



Membership Form

Did you notice a fluorescent circle around the date on your mailing label? It's a kind reminder that your membership at the Italian Cultural Center has expired. Please take a moment to renew it. As you know, the ICC is a non-profit organization and we need all the support we can have from our members in order to be able to continue our programs.

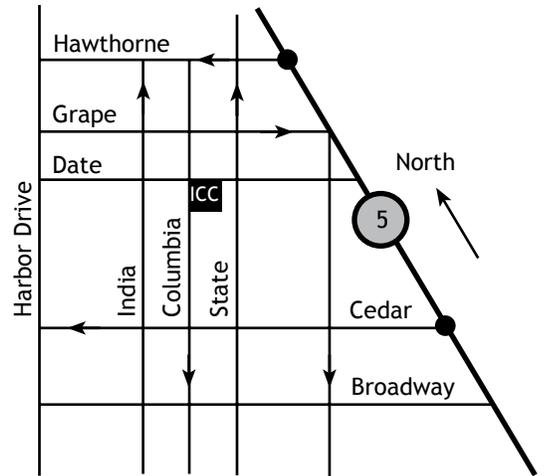
Individual	\$25	Family	\$35
Friend	\$50	Business	\$200
Patron	\$250	Benefactor	\$500

Enclosed is my additional gift of: _____

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ICC Map



■ The Italian Cultural Center