

## Italian Collections in UK Libraries: Past, Present & Future

**Study Day, The British Library Knowledge Centre, Eliot Room, Friday 17th June 2022**

*A day-long exploration of the amazing diversity of 600 years of collecting Italian books in the UK.*

*With the help of specialists from libraries, the book trade, publishing and academia, explore the amazingly rich variety of Italian printed book collections in the UK, from Dante to Elena Ferrante, and the ways they've been acquired and read over the last 600 years. Found in major public institutions as well as hidden away in lesser-known collections, the presence of these books reflects the long history of Anglo-Italian relations, from the Grand Tour to the Risorgimento and beyond. After a series of talks on individual collections the day will end with a round-table discussion looking at ways of using and promoting this important historical legacy as well as at the issues surrounding the publication and current acquisition of Italian books in a digital age.*

### Programme

09:30: Registration

10:00: Welcome: Janet Zmroczek (Head of European and American Collections, The British Library)

10:05: Welcome: Andrea Del Corno' (Italian Specialist, The London Library, ISLG Chair)

#### Past

10:10-10:40: Abigail Brundin (Director, British School at Rome) and Dunstan Roberts (University of Cambridge), 'The Italian collections in National Trust and English Heritage Libraries'

10:40-11:00: Tudor Allen (Senior Archivist for Camden Council), 'Sources for the Study of London's Italian Quarter: Archives of the Mazzini-Garibaldi Club and the Italian Hospital'

11:00-11:20: Stephen Parkin (Curator Printed Heritage Collections, The British Library), 'The Colt Hoare collection of Italian topographical books in the British Library'

11:20-11:30: Discussion

11:30-11:45: Tea and coffee

#### Keynote Speaker

11:45-12:15: Giuliana Pieri (Professor of Italian and the Visual Arts, Head of the School of Humanities, Royal Holloway University), 'Beyond Words and Images: Re-thinking twentieth-century Italian Books'



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## Present

12:15-12:45: Julianne Simpson (Rare Books and Maps Manager, John Rylands Library) and Stephen Milner (Serena Professor of Italian Studies, University of Manchester) 'Le Tre Corone: Italian collections at the John Rylands Library – projects and promotion'

12:45-13:05: Tabitha Tuckett (Rare Books Librarian, UCL) 'Italian rare books and archives in UCL Special Collections'

13:05-13:35: Cristina Dondi (Professor of Early European Book Heritage, University of Oxford) 'Mapping the early Italian book heritage around the UK: From distribution to dispersal'

13:35-13:45: Discussion

13:45-14:45: Buffet lunch

## Keynote speaker

14:45-15:15: Michele Casalini (CEO, Casalini Libri) 'Collections aren't built in a day: Changes and trends in Italian collecting'

## Future

15:15-16:30: Round table chaired by Andrea Del Corno', with Prof Cristina Dondi, Andrea Mazzocchi (Bernard Quaritch Rare Books and Manuscripts), Valentina Mirabella (Curator, Romance Collections, The British Library), Prof Giuliana Pieri, and Maria Riccobono (Librarian, Italian Cultural Institute).

16:30: Katia Pizzi (Director, Italian Cultural Institute)

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