



WAATI CONFERENCE 2021
SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY

SYNOPSIS AND BIOGRAPHIES

Keynote Address
Heritage Room

Italians and Italian on the net: il xké e il xkome/the why and the how

According to recent data 73% of the Italian population is online and almost 50% access the network every day. Social media, which count 34 million active users in Italy, absorb on average almost 2 hours of their day. Sites, blogs, forums, e-mails, chats, social networks... indeed many people write on the internet who otherwise would not write. But what kind of language do Italians use on the net? How does Italian respond to the technological challenge? This special language is called variously 'scritto trasmesso', 'scrittura elettronica', 'lingua di internet', 'neoepistolarietà tecnologica'. Many typical traits of youth language can be identified, as well as a widespread use of dialect. Also strongly evident is oral expressiveness, captured through colloquialisms, emoticons and punctuation. We also find frequent anglicisms (thread, post), often adapted to Italian (*tweet, taggare*). Sometimes the Italian alternative spreads alongside the original English word, as in *postare* and *pubblicare*, or *wall* and *bacheca*. There are even all-Italian solutions, such as *chiavetta* for *USB flash drive*, and there is no lack of humorous intent. Overall, we can say that the Italians and Italian, responding to innovation online, show a remarkable creativity.

Professor John Hajek is Professor of Italian Studies at the University of Melbourne. He is also director of the Research Unit for Multilingualism and Cross-cultural Communication (RUMACCC) at the University of Melbourne. He studied previously at the Universities of Melbourne, Florence, Padua and Oxford before returning to Australia. Originally trained as an Italian dialectologist, he has held research fellowships in the UK and Australia, as well as appointments in linguistics and Italian Studies. He has a wide range of research interests, including language change in Italy, Italian language education in Australia. He is a passionate advocate for languages education for all Australian students.

Parallel Session 1

R22

Western Australian: Curriculum Languages - Year 6

Reflecting on three years of implementation of the Western Australian: Curriculum Languages and considering the Language needs of students in their final year of primary school.

Adriana Douglas is a Manager – Curriculum and Assessment at SCSA in WA. With over three decades of experience in the field of education including as a classroom teacher and HOLA of Languages in primary and secondary, and a broad knowledge and expertise in the area of Languages curriculum and policy development. She manages curriculum assessment and reporting in the Languages and HASS learning areas including guiding and supporting teachers across WA in their implementation of the WA Curriculum and Assessment Outline and WACE Courses, and consulting on and communicating Languages policy to personnel across sectors and systems, at state and national level. Most recently she has been involved in developing, with Languages teachers, the WAC: Languages Year 7-Year 10 Sequence for second language subjects in Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian and Japanese.

R23

Western Australian: Curriculum Languages - Year 7

How to best meet the Language needs of our Year 7s. An Introduction to the Western Australian: Curriculum Languages - Year 7: available resources, where to find them, curriculum requirements, and what to consider when choosing which Year 7 syllabus to deliver (P-10 or 7-10).

Nadia Civa is currently the Principal Consultant responsible for Years 7-12 Chinese and Italian at SCSA, where she has worked since 2005. Her role includes writing curriculum, developing support materials for P-12, providing guidance to teachers and schools in the delivery and assessment of Languages, and contributing to state and national reference groups. Earlier in her career Nadia created Year 11 and 12 teaching and learning materials for SIDE, authored a textbook for Italian beginners, and taught Italian, English and French in metropolitan and regional, secondary and primary schools. She also has 20 year of active involvement as a committee member on professional associations, including both WAATI and the MLTAWA, of which she is the immediate past president.

Parallel Session 2

R22

Maximising the Use of Target Language in Language Learning

This presentation will focus on how to maximise the use of target language through three main areas with an emphasis on the Primary Curriculum:

1. Instructions and Classroom Routines
2. Learning Activities and Tasks and
3. Language Advocacy and promoting language learning around school.

Mimma Harrison commenced her teaching career in secondary schools teaching HAAS, Italian, Drama, English and Theology. She has taught in rural and metro areas in both the CEWA and the DoE. In 2005 Mimma began teaching Italian in a primary school and has not looked back. Mimma is currently working between Beaconsfield PS and Phoenix PS.

Simona Demaio was born in Milan and has been a teacher of languages for 17 years. Originally a classroom teacher, she was asked to teach Italian and has been passionate about languages ever since. She has taught from K-10 and currently teaches at three schools in both the public and private sector. Simona has been on the WAATI committee for two years and enjoys helping other teachers and collaborating. She has been recently interviewed by Il Globo on the impact that COVID had on teaching languages in WA schools. She is passionate about cooperative learning and its implementation in the classroom.

R23

Project Based Learning in the Language Classroom

This presentation will look at ways of integrating many sub strands of the Western Australian Curriculum for Languages using a Project Based Learning approach.

Virginie Van Der Merwe has been a teacher of languages and EALD support for twelve years, both in French and Italian. She has taught from Year 1 to Year 10. She has been a participant in the Key Language Leaders Initiative, the SIDE TDS WAC:L team, the Switch/Leap program and worked with the SCSA on various projects. Virginie is the Co-ordinator for both the CCEN (Cockburn Central Education Network) for Languages and the K-6 Primary Languages Support School for Italian. She is currently part of the teacher reference group for ACARA reviewing the Languages program curriculum.

Parallel Session 3

R22

1 La famiglia italiana (Live stream from Italy)

This presentation will discuss the Italian family, its value and how it is represented. Furthermore, a terminological note will be made on the various types of families, on how they have changed over time and on the importance of grandparents, especially in the transmission of traditions.

Giulia Mazzotti is 26 years old. She obtained her master's degree in Foreign Languages and Literature in 2020 and is currently working as a collaborator for *Università Cattolica of Brescia*. She took part in the WAATI Assistenti Program twice: the first time in 3rd term in 2018, the second time in 2nd term in 2019. These experiences have changed her life and heart so much: in fact, she wrote her thesis on teaching Italian in Australia.

R23

1 Le Feste Italiane (Live stream from Italy)

This presentation will discuss Italian festivals and celebrations, and how they are important for Italian communities. Furthermore, a terminological note will be made on the various types of *sagre*: food, religious, Carnevale or historical.

Gian Luca Fugazza is a 26-year-old support teacher, currently working in a middle school (*scuola media*). He received his Master's degree in Foreign Languages and Literature on the 31st of March, 2020. He took part in the WAATI Assistentente Program during the first term in 2019 and left a piece of his heart in Australia.

<p>2 I passatempi This presentation aims to highlight some of the pastimes of Italians. 5 categories of people have been interviewed (a child, an adolescent, a young person, an adult and an elderly person) and each was asked what they do in their free time. Listening and reading activities for use in the classroom have also been created to accompany this presentation.</p> <p>Miriam Moroni is currently an Italian Language Assistant at Bob Hawke College in Perth. She has a degree in <i>Lingue, Letterature e Culture Straniere</i> from the <i>Università Cattolica di Milano</i>. She has worked as an English language teacher at secondary schools in Lodi, her hometown, and as a Language Assistant in primary and secondary schools in Perth.</p>	<p>2 Made in Italy in COVID times: how Italian companies are facing the pandemic This presentation aims to describe how the large Italian companies have responded to COVID-19. It will explore the difficulties that have been faced and the decision of these companies to reinvent their production.</p> <p>Giulia Ferraro is originally from the province of Pisa and is currently working as an Italian Language Assistant at Lesmurdie SHS. Giulia has a degree in <i>Mediazione linguistica e culturale (Università per Stranieri di Siena)</i> and in <i>Lingue moderne per la comunicazione e cooperazione internazionale (Università degli Studi di Padova)</i>. Giulia completed further studies at both the Vilnius and Lomonosov Moscow State Universities. She has recently completed a Masters in <i>Global Marketing, Comunicazione e Made in Italy</i>, and has received the title of <i>Professionista Accreditato dalla Fondazione Italia-USA</i>. Before moving to Australia, Giulia worked in Italy as a teacher of Italian to foreign students.</p>
<p>3 Le case italiane - Dai nuraghi sardi al Bosco Verticale: l'evoluzione della casa nei secoli This presentation will discuss the typical Italian housing that has developed through the course of the centuries. We will discuss <i>Nuraghi Sardi</i>, Ancient Roman houses, medieval castles, Renaissance buildings, Baroque palaces, public housing through to modern dwellings.</p> <p>Giulia Ferraro is originally from the province of Pisa and is currently working as an Italian Language Assistant at Lesmurdie SHS. Giulia has a degree in <i>Mediazione linguistica e culturale (Università per Stranieri di Siena)</i> and in <i>Lingue moderne per la comunicazione e cooperazione internazionale (Università degli Studi di Padova)</i>. Giulia completed further studies at both the Vilnius and Lomonosov Moscow State Universities. She has recently completed a Masters in <i>Global Marketing, Comunicazione e Made in Italy</i>, and has received the title of <i>Professionista Accreditato dalla Fondazione Italia-USA</i>. Before moving to Australia, Giulia worked in Italy as a teacher of Italian to foreign students.</p>	<p>3 I Problemi dei Giovani This presentation focuses on 3 aspects: smoking, alcohol and youth unemployment. For each of these topics, information will be presented that has been gathered through surveys. It will also examine the causes of these phenomena, the consequences and possible solutions and initiatives that could resolve (at least in part) these issues. With respect to alcohol, the presentation addresses the issue of binge drinking, while smoking will be discussed in general. The issue of youth unemployment will be discussed, paying particular attention to the current situation in Italy with COVID-19.</p> <p>Miriam Moroni is currently an Italian Language Assistant at Bob Hawke College in Perth. She has a degree in <i>Lingue, Letterature e Culture Straniere</i> from the <i>Università Cattolica di Milano</i>. She has worked as an English language teacher at secondary schools in Lodi, her hometown, and as a Language Assistant in primary and secondary schools in Perth.</p>

**One Act Play
Heritage Room**

"Amicizia" by Eduardo De Filippo

Per il Convegno del 13 febbraio 2021, siamo noi tre (gli adulti) a portare in scena "Amicizia", uno spassoso atto unico di Eduardo De Filippo, per riallacciare i legami con la WAATI come quando nel passato portavamo un po' di entertainment al Convegno annuale assieme al nostro caro Luciano Pinto. "Amicizia" è una breve commedia scritta nel 1952 e contenuta nel secondo volume della Cantata dei giorni dispari. Eduardo De Filippo, considerato uno dei più importanti artisti italiani del secolo scorso, è stato autore di numerose opere teatrali da lui stesso messe in scena e interpretate e, in seguito, tradotte e rappresentate da altri anche all'estero. Autore prolifico, lavorò anche nel cinema con gli stessi ruoli ricoperti nell'attività teatrale.

AMICIZIA (Atto unico di circa 30 minuti)

L'opera narra la storia di un certo Alberto Califano che da diverso tempo non fa visita all'amico Bartolomeo Ciaccia. Quando lo incontra, viene a sapere che l'uomo è ormai alla fine dei suoi giorni. Bartolomeo ha una sorella, Carolina, che lo accudisce e tenta di esaudire tutti i suoi desideri. Cosa non si è disposti a fare per un amico malato? Per far felice Bartolomeo, l'amico in fin di vita, Alberto si traveste in più personaggi per appagare i desideri del suo carissimo "amico"... almeno fino al finale.

GLI ATTORI

Le "Stelle Nascenti" è un gruppo di giovani figli di italiani che, come i loro genitori sono appassionati a continuare a promuovere la cultura e la lingua italiana. Questo gruppo teatrale è nato da poco più di tre anni fa sotto la guida di me stesso (Rino Pellone), di Giuseppe Luna e di Fabiana Figoni. Noi tre conduciamo laboratori teatrali per portare in scena i ragazzi con rappresentazioni in italiano.

Rino Pellone

Fin dalla tenera età ho coltivato la mia passione di esibirmi sul palco e portare gioia al mio pubblico. Nel corso degli anni ho apprezzato la sfida di adattarmi a vari personaggi. Ho avuto l'amata opportunità di interpretare molti dei ruoli principali delle brillanti commedie del grande Eduardo De Filippo. Da quando sono arrivato a Perth da Melbourne nel 1996, ho fatto parte dell'Italian Theatre of WA (insieme al nostro amato Luciano Pinto) e continuo ad essere il Chairperson e Artistic Director dell'Italian Theatre of WA (ITWA) delle Stelle Nascenti.

Giuseppe Luna

Il mio amore per il teatro iniziò quando frequentavo le scuole superiori e vidi recitare il monologo finale de "L'uomo dal fiore in bocca" di Pirandello. Fui talmente affascinato che imparai io stesso quel monologo. Dopo una decina di anni iniziai a partecipare ad attività di teatro amatoriale nella zona dei Castelli Romani. Arrivato in Australia (nel 2004) ho recitato in brevi spettacoli teatrali in inglese finché non mi sono unito al gruppo teatrale Italian Theatre of Western Australia (ITWA). Assieme a Rino Pellone e Fabiana Figoni conduco laboratori teatrali per le Stelle Nascenti. Amo il teatro perché, sul palcoscenico, ho la possibilità di essere una persona completamente inventata.

Fabiana Figoni

Sono nata a Roma dove ho vissuto alternandomi tra Milano e Firenze. Cinque anni fa con mio marito e nostro figlio ci siamo trasferiti a Perth, diventando in breve tempo cittadini Australiani. Grazie a mio padre conoscitore di cinema e teatro e mia madre cantante lirica è nata la mia passione per il teatro ed il canto e poi lo studio di entrambi. A Roma ho fatto parte della compagnia teatrale Le Formiche con la quale abbiamo messo in scena spettacoli di prosa e musical. Ho lavorato per il teatro dei ragazzi, esperienza per me importante e formativa. Qui ho capito come lo studio della recitazione può aiutare gli adolescenti a crescere a conoscere se stessi attraverso lo psico-dramma. Grazie a Rino e Giuseppe faccio parte delle "Stelle Nascenti". Metto a disposizione la mia esperienza e i ragazzi la loro energia. Insieme è sempre una nuova scoperta.

Plenary Address Heritage Room

Staying true by changing always: opportunities ahead for Italian in WA

Language teachers are resourceful, imaginative and adaptable professionals. They have to be! As the world around us changes and policies and practices keep shifting, we must keep evolving. The best way to stay true to our mission and to who we are, is to keep rethinking what we are doing and doing it differently. This talk will discuss some examples of this from Italian teaching in Western Australia. From his own recent experience, Dr Kinder will show how teachers can use words and pictures from Italian history, the theme of the 2020 *Settimana della Lingua Italiana*. From medieval wall paintings, to Renaissance illuminated manuscripts, to *Topolino*, to memes and Instagram, words and pictures have always been intertwined in Italy's long history. Today's students respond well to this mix of language and culture.

Associate Professor Dr John Kinder is a Professor of Italian Studies and Chair of European Languages and Studies at the University of Western Australia. He is a Corresponding Fellow of the Accademia della Crusca. He has published on the language of Italian migrants in Australia and New Zealand, on the comparative grammar of Italian and English and has produced a cultural history of the Italian language in multimedia format. John Kinder is Professor of Italian at UWA. He learned his first words of Italian at university in New Zealand, which was the start of a life-long journey. He is proud to be WAATI's first Honorary Life Member and Australia's first member of the Accademia della Crusca.