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Mapping Interactions Italy in the World – The World in Italy

Keynote speaker: Andrea Ciccarelli (Indiana University): "Crossing Borders: Italian Literature Beyond Frontiers"

On behalf of the graduate students of the Italian Section Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at Harvard University and the Department of Italian Studies at Brown University, we are pleased to announce the fourth joint Graduate Student Conference for Italian Studies, to be held on **5th-6th March, 2011** at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

At a distance of 150 years from the Unification of Italy and the formal establishment of a geographically defined Italian state, this conference will look at ways to examine and, in a sense, 'map' Italy's position within today's global culture. How does one address the question of Italian identity? Which features of Italian culture (literary, artistic, historical, philosophical, political etc.) have been and are still influential and noteworthy worldwide? Which aspects of foreign or traditionally-defined 'outside' influences or cultures have been and continue to be predominant or marginalized in Italian culture and history?

We will consider proposals from all periods and disciplines. Proposals may address, but are not restricted to, the following topics:

- Italian writers abroad/foreign writers in Italy
- Travel and exploration
- Interaction between Italian and foreign intellectuals
- Translators and translations
- Linguistic contaminations, bilingualism, dialects, 'italofonia'
- Debating stereotypes
- Negotiating identities
- Relationship between USA and Italy
- Italy in/and the European Union
- United nation/migrant nation
- The role of new media in shaping Italy
- Exile

Presentations should not exceed **20 minutes** (approximately 8-10 pages of double-spaced text). Papers and presentations may be in Italian or English. We strongly recommend that participants use the language in which they feel more confident and make an explicit reference to the pertinence of their paper to the topic of the conference.

Please send an anonymous abstract (no longer than **300 words**) and a cover sheet with the title of your paper, your name, affiliation, contact information (including telephone and e-mail address) and technical equipment needed as a Microsoft Word file attachment to chiasmi@fas.harvard.edu.

Chiasmi@brown.edu

Brown University Department of Italian Studies | Harvard University Department of Romance Languages and Literatures