

PERSONAL INFORMATIONS



**Giorgio Manzi**

📍 Sapienza Università di Roma  
 Dipartimento di Biologia Ambientale  
 Museo di Antropologia “Giuseppe Sergi”

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M | Roma, 09/02/1958 | Nazionalità Italiana

POSITION

Full professor (SSD BIO/08, SC 05/B1) at the Sapienza Università di Roma, Facoltà di Scienze Matematiche Fisiche e Naturali, Dipartimento di Biologia Ambientale

FORMATION / DEGREE

Doctor cum laude in Scienze Biologiche, 1980-1981 at the Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza” (thesis in Comparative Anatomy, tutor prof. Alberto Stefanelli)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Appointments  
 at the Sapienza  
 Università di Roma

Director of the Polo museale Sapienza  
 Director of the Museo di Antropologia «G. Sergi»

Member in the faculty of the Scuola di Specializzazione in Beni Archeologici

Member in the faculty of the PhD program in Biologia Ambientale ed Evoluzionistica

Other relevant experiences  
 or appointments

Vice-secretary of the Istituto Italiano di Antropologia (Is.It.A.) and Assistant editor of the Rivista di Antropologia (now Journal of Anthropological Sciences) from 1991 to 2003

General Secretary of the Istituto Italiano di Paleontologia Umana (Is.I.P.U., Roma) from 1999 to 2006

Member in the faculty of the Scuola di Paleoantropologia a the Università di Perugia since 2011

Member in the Directive Council of the Associazione Antropologica Italiana (A.A.I.) dal 2016

Member of the Scientific Board for the “Uomo di Altamura” and the prehistoric site of Lamalunga (Altamura, Bari), Soprintendenza Archeologia della Puglia, dal 2008

Director of the Italian Mission in northern Tanzania “Studio e valorizzazione di siti paleoantropologici plio-pleistocenici della Tanzania settentrionale”, that in 2016 has had special recognition of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs “(MAECI)”

Associate Editor of the «American Journal of Physical Anthropology»

In the Comité de Lecture of the «Bulletins et Mémoires de la Société d'Anthropologie de Paris»

In the Panel of Editors of the «Rendiconti Lincei – Scienze fisiche e naturali»

In the Directive Committee of «Reti, saperi, linguaggi (Italian Journal of Cognitive Sciences)»

Consultant for Paleoanthropology at «National Geographic Italia»

Columnist of «Le Scienze», with a monthly column entitled "Homo sapiens"

**University teaching** Teaching activity at the Sapienza Università di Roma. Present courses for the Faculty of Natural Sciences: Paleoanthropology, Human Ecology and Natural History of the Primates, Museology; for the School of Specialization in Archaeology: human paleontology. Member of the Faculty of PhD programs in Biologia Animale (1999-2010) and in Biologia Ambientale and Evoluzionistica (since 2011) of the Sapienza Università di Roma. Tutorial assistance in MA, MSc, PhD theses.

Member of the scientific committee and lecturer for the “Master-school of Paleoanthropology” held in Perugia, Italy; years 2011-2016.

**Research interests** Main research interests are in paleoanthropology and skeletal biology, including in particular: i) studies on fossil specimens from the Early, Middle and Late Pleistocene, as well as the Holocene, from Italy, Spain, Libya and Ethiopia; ii) special focus on topics such as the earliest human presence in Europe, origin and fate of the Neanderthals, evo-devo interpretation of the fossil record with special reference to the origin of Homo sapiens; iii) researches concerning human populations of central Sahara during the Holocene; iv) projects involving the study of human skeletal samples from Italy dated from the Neolithic to the Early Middle Ages. Methods include either traditional or multivariate approaches to morphology, such as geometric morphometrics and treatment of CT data; phenetic evaluation of numerical data, with original interpretation of the “epigenetic” discrete traits of the human cranium and inferences about ontogeny in extinct hominines. Other interests are in dental anthropology, paleodemography, paleopathology, forensic anthropology, and history of science.

Reviewer for various scientific journals, including American Journal of Human Biology, American Journal of Physical Anthropology, Bulletin and Mémoires de la Société d'Anthropologie de Paris, Comptes-rendus de l'Académie des Sciences de Paris, Comptes Rendus Palevol, Current Anthropology, Journal of Anthropological Sciences (formerly Rivista di Antropologia), Journal of Archaeological Sciences, Journal of Human Evolution, Nature, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA.

**Field activities** Field activities in various prehistoric sites in Italy and abroad, including Grotta Breuil (Monte Circeo, Italy; Late Pleistocene), various sites in the Tadrart Acacus massif and surroundings (Fezzan, Libya), Sima de los Huesos cave site (Sierra de Atapuerca, Spain; Middle Pleistocene), Lower Paleolithic localities in central Italy (co-director of the excavations at Ceprano-Campogrande 2000-2006 and Colle della Pece 2007-2010), Melka Kunture localities (Ethiopia), Laetoli and Olduvai (Tanzania).

**Publications** Author/co-author of papers published by international scientific journals, including: Nature Communications, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA, The Anatomical Record, Evolutionary Anthropology, Journal of Human Evolution, Quaternary Science Reviews, American Journal of Physical Anthropology, PLoS One, American Journal of Human Biology, Current Anthropology, Journal of Anthropological Sciences etc. Editor or contributor of/in monographs.

**Congresses and symposia** Member of scientific or organizing committees of conferences, symposia, and colloquia; among the most notable: "Humans in the focus of our evolution" (16-19 March 2005, Roma-Pofi-Ceprano, Italy); "Nostro fratello Neanderthal: when we were not alone" (Circeo National Park, Sabaudia, Italy). Invited speaker in several international conferences (Johannesburg, Gibraltar, Zagreb, Tempe).

**Museology and museography** Curator (until 1992) and then director (since 2004) of the Museum of Anthropology «Giuseppe Sergi» of the Sapienza Università di Roma; currently also director of the Polo museale Sapienza (coordination center of the 20 museums of the Sapienza Università di Roma).

Contribution to various exhibitions. Among the most recent are worthy of mention: the collaboration to the concept, planning and realization of "La scimmia nuda" (Museo Tridentino di Scienze Naturali, April 2007 - January 2008 and following transfers) as well as the role of consultant in Paleoanthropology for the exhibition "Homo Sapiens": la grande storia della diversità umana" (Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Roma, November 2011 - April 2012 and following transfers).

**Scientific dissemination** Author of hundreds of dissemination papers in books, magazines, newspapers, websites etc.; guest-editor of special issues of scientific magazines; participant and/or curator for radio and TV programs.

Author/co-author of popular books published by Il Mulino (Bologna), Laterza (Roma-Bari), Left Coast Press (CA, USA).

Invited speaker at numerous conferences and seminars in Italy (at least one per month in the last years); invited speaker at conferences and seminars also in Spain, France, and Switzerland.

## MORE INFORMATONS

### Publications for the public(selection)

- Manzi G. (2013). Il grande racconto dell'evoluzione umana. Il Mulino, Bologna.
- Manzi G. (2010-2016). Rubrica mensile "Homo sapiens" (72 articoli al novembre 2016). In *Le Scienze*, Gruppo Editoriale L'Espresso, Roma.
- Manzi G. (2001). Storie di fossili italiani. Postfazione a J.L. Arsuaga, "I primi pensatori e il mondo perduto di Neandertal"; pp. 259-280. Feltrinelli, Milano.
- Manzi G. (2006). Homo sapiens. Breve storia naturale della nostra specie. Il Mulino, Bologna.
- Manzi G. (2006). Darwin, Huxley e il "bersaglio grosso". Prefazione a J.L. Arsuaga, "Luce si farà sull'origine dell'uomo"; pp. VII-XXI. Feltrinelli, Milano.
- Manzi G. (2007). L'evoluzione umana. Ominidi e uomini prima di Homo sapiens. Il Mulino, Bologna.
- Manzi G. & Vienna A. (2009). Uomini e ambienti. Il colore della pelle e altre storie. Il Mulino, Bologna.
- Manzi G. & Rizzo J. (2011). Scimmie. Osservare loro per conoscere noi. Il Mulino, Bologna.
- Manzi G. (2013). Il prigioniero di Altamura. *Il Venerdì di Repubblica*, 4 ottobre: 70-73.
- Manzi G. (2016). L'uomo migrante. *La Lettura / Corriere della Sera*, 5 giugno: 6-7.

### Scientific publications (best 10 in the last 10 years)

- Bastir M., Rosas A., Gunz Ph., Peña-Melián A., Manzi G., Harvati K., Kruszynski R., Stringer C. & Hublin J.J. (2011). Brain base evolution in highly encephalised human species. *Nature Communications*, 2, article n. 588 (10.1038/ncomms1593).
- Di Vincenzo F., Churchill S.E. & Manzi G. (2012). The Vindija Neanderthal scapular glenoid fossa: a comparative shape analysis. *Journal of Human Evolution*, 62: 274-285 (10.1016/j.jhevol.2011.11.010).
- Di Vincenzo, F., Rodriguez, L., Carretero, J. M., Collina, C., Geraads, D., Piperno, M., et al. (2015). The massive fossil humerus from the Oldowan horizon of Gombore I, Melka Kunture (Ethiopia, >1.39 Ma). *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 122: 207-221 (10.1016/j.quascirev.2015.05.014).
- Lari M., Di Vincenzo F., Borsato A., Ghirotto S., Micheli M., Balsamo C., Collina C., De Bellis G., Frisia S., Giacobini G., Gigli E., Hellstrom J.C., Lannino A., Modi A., Pietrelli A., Pilli E., Profico A., Ramirez O., Rizzi E., Vai S., Ventura D., Piperno M., Lalueza-Fox C., Barbujani G., Caramelli D. & Manzi G. (2015). The Neanderthal in the karst: first dating, morphometric, and paleogenetic data on the fossil skeleton from Altamura (Italy). *Journal of Human Evolution*, 82: 88-94 (10.1016/j.jhevol.2015.02.007).

Manzi G. (2016). Humans of the Middle Pleistocene: The controversial calvarium from Ceprano (Italy) and its significance for the origin and variability of *Homo heidelbergensis*. *Quaternary International*, 411: 254-261. (10.1016/j.quaint.2015.12.047).

Manzi G., Magri D. & Palombo M.R. (2011). Early–Middle Pleistocene environmental changes and human evolution in the Italian peninsula. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 30: 1420-1438 (10.1016/j.quascirev.2010.05.034).

Masao F.T., Ichumbaki E.B., Cherin M., Barili A., Boschian G., Iurino D.A., Menconero S., Moggi-Cecchi J. & Manzi G. (2016). New footprints from Laetoli (Tanzania) provide evidence for marked body size variation in early hominins. *eLife* 2016, 5: e19568 (10.7554/eLife.19568).

Mounier A., Condemi S. & Manzi G. (2011). The stem species of our species: a place for the archaic human cranium from Ceprano, Italy. *PLoS ONE*, 6 (4): e18821, 1-11 (10.1371/journal.pone.0018821).

Peretto C., Arnaud J., Moggi-Cecchi J., Manzi G., Nomade S., Pereira A., Falguères C., Bahain J.J., Grimaud-Hervé D., Berto C., Sala B., Lembo G. Muttillio B., Gallotti R., Thun Hohenstein U., Vaccaro C., Coltorti M. & Arzarello M. (2015). A Human Deciduous Tooth and New <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>39</sup>Ar Dating Results from the Middle Pleistocene Archaeological Site of Isernia La Pineta, Southern Italy. *PLoS ONE*, 10 (10): e0140091, 1-19 (10.1371/journal.pone.0140091).

Profico A., Di Vincenzo F., Gagliardi L., Piperno M. & Manzi G. (2016). Filling the gap. Human cranial remains from Gombore II (Melka Kunture, Ethiopia; ca. 850 ka) and the origin of *Homo heidelbergensis*. *Journal of Anthropological Sciences*, 94: : 41-63 (10.4436/jass.94019).

**Present bibliometric data** *H-index*: 22, *Citations*: 1129 by 757 documents (fonte SCOPUS).  
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**Conferences and seminars** See [https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giorgio\\_Manzi](https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giorgio_Manzi)

**Grant and awards** P.I. of the “Award funding scheme” granted by the Sapienza for the year 2013 - prot. C26H13A45J  
P.I. or investigator in numerous researches funded by the Italian Ministry of Instruction (MIUR), Ministry of Culture (MIBACT), Research National Council (CNR) and the Sapienza Università di Roma.  
P.I. of the project nicknamed KARST: “Rediscovering Altamura: advanced multidisciplinary investigations on the skeleton from the Lamalunga cave, Italy”, recently granted by the Italian Ministry of Instruction (MIUR) as a PRIN project (call 2015).

International award for Physical Anthropology “Fabio Frassetto” in 2006, credited by the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei.

Journalistic prize “Lucio Colletti” in 2016, credited by the Centro Studi Lucio Colletti.