

Franco Baldasso, CV

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2016— **Bard College**, Division of Languages and Literature
Assistant Professor of Italian
Director of the Italian Studies Program
- 2015— Director of the Study Abroad Program in Italy
- 2015-2016 **Bard College**, Division of Languages and Literature
Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian
- 2008-2014 **New York University**, Department of Italian Studies
Adjunct Instructor

EDUCATION

- 2014 **New York University**, Ph.D. in Italian Studies
- 2011 **New York University**, M.A. in Italian Studies
- 2006 **Università di Bologna (Italy)** B.A. *magna cum laude*, in Lettere Moderne

PUBLICATIONS

Authored Books

- Against Redemption: Democracy, Memory and Literature in Post-Fascist Italy* (Under Review).
- L'età di Whitman e l'esilio. L'America inedita di Paolo Milano* (Milan: Mimesis, forthcoming).
- Curzio Malaparte, la letteratura crudele*. Kaputt, *La pelle e la caduta della civiltà europea* (Rome: Carocci 2019). REVIEWS: *Italian Studies*, *Fabula*, *Rassegna della letteratura italiana*, *Filologia e Critica*, *Oblio, g/s/i*, *La Balena Bianca*, *Doppiozero*
- Il cerchio di gesso. Primo Levi narratore e testimone* (Bologna: Pendragon 2007). REVIEWS: *Corriere della Sera*

Co-edited Journal Special Issue

- Italy in WWII and the Transition to Democracy: Memory, Fiction, Histories*, co-edited with Prof. Simona Wright (Jersey College), special issue of *NeMLA Italian Studies*, 36 (2014). REVIEWS: *Studi Culturali*, *Annali d'Italianistica*

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- "Secolarizzazione e «fuga dal reale». Paolo Milano e New York," in *Esilio e creatività*, ed. by Renato Camurri (Rome: Donzelli, 2021 forthcoming).
- "Alberto Savinio and the Myth of Babel: Homecoming, Genealogies and Translation in *Hermaphrodito*," *The Italianist*, 40, 1 (2020).
- "Diventare stranieri. *Paura della libertà* di Carlo Levi tra storia, redenzione e identità ebraica," *Allegoria*, 81, 1 (2020).
- "Curzio Malaparte e la guerra nei Balcani. Letteratura, propaganda, censura," in *Curzio Malaparte e la ricerca dell'identità europea (1920-1950)*, ed. by Emmanuel Mattiati et al. (Chambéry: Presses de l'Université Savoie Mont Blanc, 2020).

“Interview with Boris Pahor,” *Context*, 23 (2011).

“George Didi Huberman, *Immagini malgrado tutto*,” *Poetiche. Nuova Serie*, 8, 1 (2006).

Online publications

“Carlo Levi, lo Stato manaro” (<http://www.alfabeta2.it>).

“The Metamorphoses of Alberto Savinio” (<http://www.publicbooks.org>).

“Elena Ferrante’s Secret Mirror” (<http://www.publicbooks.org>).

“Paying Attention like Primo Levi: An Interview with Ann Goldstein” (<http://www.publicbooks.org>).

“Chronicle of a Soul: Roberto Saviano” (<http://www.publicbooks.org>).

“How Fascism Pushed Women out of the Frame.” Review of Ruth Ben Ghiat, *Italian Fascism’s Empire Cinema*, (<http://www.publicbooks.org>).

“Morality and the Italian Resistance: An Interview with Stanislao Pugliese” (<http://www.publicbooks.org>).

“Futurist Cheerfulness” (<http://www.publicbooks.org>).

“A Loaded Gun: Primo Levi and the Germans after the Camp” (http://www.primolevicenter.org/The_Centaur/Entries/2009/11/1_A_Loaded_Gun_Primo_Levi_the_Germans_after_the_Camp.html).

“A Tranquil Star? Primo Levi: The Man and the Narrator” (<https://primolevicenter.org/printed-matter/a-tranquil-star/>)

“Criticism of Primo Levi Takes New Directions.” Review of the International Conference *Primo Levi in the Present Tense*, 2/28-29/2008, Yale University, (<http://www.primolevicenter.org/news>).

Edited Books (Selection)

Firenze com'era. Dal dopoguerra agli anni Settanta, le immagini di una Firenze ancora nella nostra memoria (Bologna: Pendragon 2008).

Firenze ferita. La guerra, le devastazioni dei bombardamenti, l'arrivo degli Alleati: la città dal 1940 al 1944 (Bologna: Pendragon 2008).

Firenze in camicia nera. Le cerimonie, le adunate, le celebrazioni del Ventennio sulle rive dell'Arno (Bologna: Pendragon 2007).

Firenze tra Otto e Novecento. Il fascino eterno di una città magnifica nelle fotografie di Giuseppe e Vittorio Jacquier (Bologna: Pendragon 2007).

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

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| 2021 | Visiting Researcher, Sapienza Università di Roma |
| 2021 | Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society |
| 2019 | Remarque Institute Visiting Fellowship, New York University |
| 2018 | Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/National Endowment for the Humanities Post-Doctoral Rome Prize 2019, American Academy in Rome |
| 2017 | CIMA Affiliated Fellowship at Civitella Ranieri Foundation, Center for Italian Modern Art – New York |
| 2014 | Adjunct Professional Development Fund, New York University |

- November 2018 *1916: "Like Leaves in Autumn"*, "Metaphysical Years Lecture Series," Center for Italian Modern Art, New York
- May 2018 *Democrazia e disfatta. Il dissenso della letteratura nella transizione verso il Post-Fascismo*, University of Banja Luka, Banja Luka (Bosnia)
- April 2018 *Alberto Savinio and the Myth of Babel: Homecoming, Genealogies and Translation in Hermaphrodito*, "Alberto Savinio Study Days," Center for Italian Modern Art, New York
- April 2018 *Curzio Malaparte and the Tragic Understanding of Modern History*, "Veterans in Literature, Literature by Veterans Working Group," Stanford University, Stanford (CA)
- March 2017 *Against Redemption: Literary Dissent during the Transition from Fascism to Democracy in Italy*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick (NJ)
- February 2017 *Curzio Malaparte*, "I mediatori della cultura tedesca in Italia," Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy
- February 2016 *A Mirror for Italy: Intellectuals in Trieste Facing the Collapse of Yugoslavia*, "Italian and Mediterranean Colloquium," Columbia University, New York
- January 2016 *Against Redemption: Literary Responses to the Transition from Fascism to Democracy in Italy*, Auburn University, Auburn (AL)
- October 2013 *Grant Writing Symposium for Graduate Students in the Humanities*, The Humanities Initiative, New York University
- January 2013 *Umberto Saba and the West after Majdanek*, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, New Haven (CT)
- January 2011 *The Other as the Judge: Testimony and Rhetoric in Primo Levi's Se questo è un uomo*, Italian Cultural Institute, Stockholm, Sweden
- January 2010 *Ulisse e l'Angelica farfalla. Poetica della 'rottura di civiltà' in Primo Levi*, "Giornata della Memoria 2010," Università della Calabria, Italy
- October 2009 *A Loaded Gun: Primo Levi and the Germans after the Camp*, "New Voices on Primo Levi. III Annual Symposium," The Graduate Center, CUNY

Invited Speaker: Round Tables and Public Conversations

- October 2020 *Curzio Malaparte and Diary of a Foreigner in Paris* (NYRB Classics), book launch with writer Edmund White and translator Stephen Twilley (publicbooks.org), Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò, NYU
- December 2019 *Curzio Malaparte, la letteratura crudele* (Carocci), book launch with authors Maurizio Serra and Elena Stancanelli, Casa delle Letterature, Rome, Italy.
- June 2018 *Sistema periodico. Il secolo interminabile delle riviste* (Pendragon) book launch with the editors, Galleria TRA, Ca' dei Ricchi, Treviso, Italy
- October 2018 *Curzio Malaparte and The Kremlin Ball* (NYRB Classics), book launch with translator Jenny McPhee (NYU), Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò, NYU
- February 2018 *Alberto Savinio and his Other: Nivasio Dolcemare*, readings by Sara Fruner, CIMA, New York

- June 14-25, 2021 *The Cultural Heritage and Memory of Totalitarianism*. Summer School for Graduate Students, Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy, Co-Director with Franca Sinopoli (Sapienza)
- October 17, 2018 *Writing after Fascism. Curzio Malaparte between Paris and Moscow*. A conversation with author and translator Jenny McPhee (NYU) and editor and translator Steven Twilley (publicbooks.org), Bard College (NY)
- February 9-10, 2017 *FIRB Project: "Storia e mappe digitali della letteratura tedesca in Italia. Editoria, campo letterario, interferenza"* ("History and Digital Maps of German Literature in Italy: Publishing, Literary Field, Interferences," in collaboration with Istituto Italiano di Studi Germanici in Rome and Sapienza Università di Roma/Humboldt Universität, Berlin (www.ltit.it). Contribution to the Second Research Unit
- November 19, 2016 *Modernism & Fascism*. Seminar organized for the 18th Modernist Studies Association Conference, Pasadena (CA). Invited speakers: Jennifer Scappettone (University of Chicago) and Laura Wittman (Stanford University)
- March 8, 2016 *Celebrating the Complete Works of Primo Levi*. A conversation with editor and translator Ann Goldstein (New Yorker) and translator Michael F. Moore (PEN/Heim Translation Fund). Introduction by Cecile Kuznitz (Bard College). In collaboration with the Hannah Arendt Center, Bard College
- May 8, 2013 *When Humanities Falter: Frictions, Detours, Translations*. Conference organized at the Humanities Initiative Center at NYU. Among the participants: Prof. Federico Finchelstein (New School), Kevin Fellesz (Columbia), Jeff Dolven (Princeton), Jane Tylus (NYU), Humanities Initiative, New York University
- April 18, 2011 *Italy in WWII and the Transition to Democracy: Memory, Fiction, Histories*. Scholarly seminar organized for the NeMLA Annual Conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick (NJ)
- March 26, 2010 *Jean Améry and Primo Levi: Rhetorics of Testimony*. Graduate student workshop with Prof. Eckart Goebel (NYU), Mark Sanders (NYU), Jared Stark (Eckerd College), Casa Italiana Zerilli Marimò, New York University

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Editorial and Scientific Board

Allegoria. Per uno studio materialistico della letteratura (Palumbo Editore, Palermo)

Archivio della Memoria sulla Grande Guerra [*Archive for the Memory of WWI*] "Centro Studi Storico Militari Piero Pieri," Vittorio Veneto, TV, Italy. Member of the Scientific Committee

Journal External Referee

Music Quarterly, Sprachkunst, The Italianist, Forum Italicum, NeMLA Italian Studies, Sapienza University Press

Book Proposal Evaluation

Bloomsbury Publishing, Routledge

TEACHING

- Spring 2021 *Speaking Truth to Power: Testimony, Prison, Exile*, Bard College
- Spring 2020— *First Year Seminar: The Self and the World*, Bard College
- Spring 2018 *Primo Levi: Scientific Imagination and the Holocaust*, Bard College

2006-2007 **Abacus – Scuole Private**, Bologna (Italy), Instructor of Latin Language and Literature, Medieval and Early Modern History
2004-2007 **Promedia Communications**, Bologna (Italy), Freelance Journalist
2000-2006 **Franco Cesati Publishing**, Florence (Italy), External Editor

AFFILIATIONS

American Academy in Rome, Society of Fellows

Italian Art Society

Modernist Studies Association

Modern Language Association

North East Modern Language Association

American Association of Italian Studies

LANGUAGES

Italian (native speaker)

English (fluent)

French (reading skill)

German (reading skill)

Latin (reading skill)