

VOLUME I

1985

SPUNTI E RICERCHE

rivista d'italianistica

DEPARTMENT OF ITALIAN
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

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The next issue of SPUNTI E RICERCHE will include, among others, articles on peasant movements in twentieth century Italy and modern literary perspectives on the Italian peasant class.

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SPUNTI E RICERCHE

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FOREWORD

The idea of a review or journal of Italian studies linked to the Italian Department of the University of Melbourne sprang from discussions among some of its tutors in 1981-82. The subsequent expiry of several contracts and movement of individuals to other universities and areas of employment slowed down progress towards the realization of the idea. If then lack of funds stalled matters altogether for a time, it was the sometime weary persistence, the sometime sporadic stubbornness of some working loosely in concert that overcame the obstacles.

Recognition is here due to them: Piero Genovesi and Manuela Caluzzi for those initial, involved discussions, Piero again for his organizational support and practical typographical advice, Cordelia Gundolf, head of the Italian Department in 1982 who set aside a portion of valuable departmental moneys for the initial stages, Dino Bressan for recent and crucial impetus towards securing more necessary funds, Stephen Kolsky, Myra Caliò and Geoffrey Hull for acting as consultants and readers of articles, all the contributors, the typists Carol Trumble and Luba Cowall, Paul Cubberley, our departmental secretary Consuelo Di Leo for her close revision work, Diana Cavuoto and Rosa Musolino for their extensive proof reading.

Walter Musolino.

PREFACE

SPUNTI E RICERCHE is a new Australian journal of Italian studies dedicated to continue fostering, increasing and diversifying Australian research and enquiry in this field already successfully promoted by a journal like ALTRO POLO. Sustained, high-quality scholarly enterprises such as ALTRO POLO have been rare, if not unique. SPUNTI E RICERCHE, in its first issue, may initially only aspire to some significance. Since it further proposes itself as an annual publication such an aspiration may also seem inflated. Time and readership will tell.

SPUNTI E RICERCHE hopes to identify itself and make its mark by consistently, at times even exclusively, offering its pages to 'Australian' writers concerned with Italian literature, politics, linguistics, economics, history, society, cinema and art. However, it also intends to study and encourage the more valuable manifestations of the cultural work produced by Italians, or about Italians, in Australia. It is with this in mind that SPUNTI E RICERCHE invites its eventual readership to participate in and correspond with it directly by submitting articles, reviews of books, more primarily creative material such as a short story or a poem - in Italian or English - or simply a critical or thought-provoking letter in reply to an article already published. Thus the form and substance of SPUNTI E RICERCHE will try to be evolutionary, eclectic, engaging, seeking, as it does in this issue, to range from exegetical, academic and original investigations into aspects of the works of the great traditional Italian authors - herein Machiavelli, Montale, Jacopone da Todi - to giving evaluative insights into contemporary studies of modern historical events of Italian significance in Australia such as the situation of Italian Prisoners of War in this country or the local manifestations of Fascism or Anti-Fascism in the war years.

Notwithstanding this, the editors wish to indicate that contributions from non-Australians will also be considered for publication.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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