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edizioni di pagina

Indice

Luigi Maria Lombardi Satriani <i>Lectio magistralis: Messina come una giovinezza</i>	7
SAGGI	
Dorothy Louise Zinn <i>Nomen omen?</i> La convenzione degli pseudonimi nella rappresentazione etnografica	23
Letizia Bindi Leggi, mappe, comunità. L'ecomuseo: un campo per l'etnografia delle istituzioni	45
ETNOGRAFIE	
Lia Giancristofaro Mitologie neo-borboniche e disagio patrimoniale in alcuni contesti metropolitani del Centro-Sud	71
Pietro Meloni Due retoriche della produzione vinicola senese: il patrimonio e la merce	87
Gaetano Mangiameli Una salutare ambiguità. Orti urbani, antropologia, trasformazioni	113
SEQUENZE	
Vita Santoro La <i>Storica Parata dei Turchi</i>: festa laica, rituali della partecipazione e comunità di pratica	141
REPERTORI	
Gian Luigi Bruzzone Giovanni Giannini e Paolo Toschi (con lettere del 1935-1938)	157

Ciriaca Coretti I fondi fotografici del Centro di documentazione "Rocco Scotellaro e la Basilicata del secondo dopoguerra" di Tricarico	169
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ABSTRACTS edited by Sandra Ferracuti	191
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GLI AUTORI	195
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Abstracts

edited by Sandra Ferracuti

Luigi Maria Lombardi Satriani
Lectio magistralis: *Messina as Youth*

This *lectio* preliminarily emphasizes Lombardi Satriani's feelings of gratitude towards the three Sicilian universities and Mario Atzori (President of the *Federazione Italiana Tradizioni popolari* - Italian Federation for Popular Traditions), holder of the "Cocchiara" Award, for having honored him with the same, very high recognition. Lombardi Satriani particularly appreciated receiving this recognition since it was conferred by the University of Messina, where his own scientific and academic studies began, in the early 1960's. The *lectio* outlines the different phases of this itinerary and recalls the author's scholarly relations with some of his colleagues at the University of Messina. Names and relevant episodes from those years crowd the *lectio*, composing a vital hymn to memory. A special focus is given to Lombardi Satriani's memories of Sicily and of Antonino Buttitta, a scholarly and intellectual fellow of the author for fifty years. After having led us through an exploration of Sicilian cultural atmospheres and intellectuals, the *lectio* ends in Messina, where it started.

Dorothy Louise Zinn
Nomen omen? *The Use of Pseudonyms in Ethnographic Writing*

Surfing through the history of ethnography between the Trobriand Islands and cyberspace, the author of this contribution inquires into the practice of attributing pseudonyms in ethnographic writing. She traces the development of the widely held view of the need to protect not only research participants, but also entire organizations and communities, within a growing concern for the ethical and even legal consequences of revealing identities. The author outlines the various strategies that ethnographers have used to hide the identities of their research subjects. However, there are several doubts as to the actual efficacy of pseudonyms, and there are even well-founded reasons *not* to use pseudonyms in the representation of research protagonists, especially arguments inspired by feminist thought. The author affirms the need for a mindful reflection on the complexity of this aspect of the practice of ethnographic writing, in order to be able to choose the most appropriate and ethical approach in each single case.

Letizia Bindi

Laws, Maps, Communities. The Ecomuseum: A Field for the Ethnography of Institutions

This paper outlines the twenty-year-long debate about ecomuseums in Italy and compares it to other European experiences, within the framework of the existing legislations concerning landscape, environmental, and cultural heritages. Quite recently, the proposal for a new law on ecomuseums has been discussed in Italy, with the aim to find inspiration from and summarize the various regional regulations. Many Italian regions are also updating and rewriting laws concerning the preservation and enhancement of local landscapes and cultural practices, with the aim, among others, to foster the participation of local communities in such developments. This paper stresses the relevance of anthropology and the ethnographic approach to the analysis of such these heritage-related processes.

Lia Giancristofaro

Neo-Bourbon Mythologies and Heritage-Related Discomfort in Some Metropolitan Areas of South-Central Italy

This ethnography was conducted in the metropolitan areas of Abruzzo. In the contexts observed, next to a submerged folklore that faces the future, there is a new explicit folklore that apparently aims to confine and mummify local identity. This official folklore, sponsored and supported by local authorities, creates lavish rituals of reenactment of the Bourbon period, emphasizes exclusive identity, and finally reenacts the old romantic metaphors of popular tradition as a static, organic, and inviolable body. Faced with the dangers of this perspective, scholars, the civil society, cultural mediators and institutions could jointly realize the social use of cultural anthropology. From Boas to De Martino, such use is indicated as the main objective of the discussion on cultural diversity and folklore and it supports the Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO 2003), whose reflexive meaning is misunderstood in the Italian public discourse.

Pietro Meloni

Two Rethorics of Wine-Related Identity in the Sienese Area: Heritage as Brand and Nostalgia

The aim of this article is to analyze the rhetorical discourses about wine-producing in the Sienese area, where in 2012 I conducted ethnography, interviewing peasants, vinedresser, journalists, and local scholars. This text focuses on heritage and commodity, both involved in the rhetorical representation of wine as a typical product and cultural symbol of this territory. Heritage is used as an ideological argument to deny the commoditization of wine, even if commoditization is the result of every discourse about wine.

Gaetano Mangiameli

A Healthy Ambiguity: Urban Gardens, Anthropology, Transformations

Urban agriculture is attracting growing interest all over the world. This article is based on a fieldwork started in 2011 in allotment gardens managed by local public administrations in Emilia-Romagna (Italy), and it is still ongoing. The experiences of gardeners often reveal heterogeneous strategies that mobilize various combinations of social, cultural, economical, and ecological capital. Public urban gardens can be understood as

laboratories of socio-cultural diversity, where people with different backgrounds share and exchange competences, points of view, working tools, seeds and vegetables. The “healthy ambiguity” of the article’s title refers to the open and manifold character of this experience in terms of goals, outcomes, evaluations and socio-cultural profiles.

Vita Santoro

The Storica Parata dei Turchi: Secular Festival, Ritual of Participation, and Community of Practice

This contribution shows a number of photos from the *Storica Parata dei Turchi* in Potenza, taken by the author in May 2017 during ethnographic research. This secular event precedes the religious celebrations dedicated to the city’s patron Saint, Gerardo, and it has evolved through the years with a focus on the search for a foundational event and repeated attempts to obtain institutional recognition. This *Parata* has the character of so-called «historical reenactments» and it shows at least two distinctive traits: on the one hand, the wide engagement of volunteers from various communities of practice (associations and civil society), achieved through rituals of participation; on the other hand, the fervent devotion to the saint, which catalyzes, redefines and strengthens the sense of local belonging every year.

Gian Luigi Bruzzone

Giovanni Giannini and Paolo Toschi (with Letters Dated 1935-1938)

This paper focuses on the friendly relations of mutual esteem between two scholars of folklore, Giovanni Giannini (1867-1940), who was a student of Alessandro D’Ancona, and Paolo Toschi (1893-1974), one of the most productive scholars of the 20th century. Such relations can be inferred from the few frank and amiable letters they exchanged. These folklore scholars deserve more detailed studies.

Ciriaca Coretti

The photographic archives of the research centre Rocco Scotellaro e la Basilicata del secondo dopoguerra, in Tricarico

The purpose of this article is twofold: on the one hand, it aims to shed light on the photographic collections available in the research centre *Rocco Scotellaro e la Basilicata del secondo dopoguerra*; on the other hand, it aims to draw attention to the ethnographic relevance of such collections in the Basilicata region. The images refer to the time span between 1952 and 2002 and were acquired by the municipality of Tricarico between 1985 and 2008, the town being at the heart of several photographic inquiries conducted in Basilicata. Particularly, this essay focuses on 197 photographs, it is based on research carried out between 2011 and 2012, and analyses the history of each collection, with the aim to outline both the cultural and the historical contexts in which they were produced. Research work also included in-depth bibliographic research and interviews to some of the authors, and it also led to a systematic inventory and a detailed identification of the images, all arranged in “F data sheets” simplified by the author, so as to facilitate consultation and use.