

**AURORA DONZELLI**

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**November 2025**

**CURRENT POSITION**

2020-Present Associate Professor- Department of History and Cultures-University of Bologna, Italy

**PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

2015-2023 Associate Professor-Anthropology Department– Sarah Lawrence College, NY  
2009-2014 Assistant Professor-Anthropology Department–Sarah Lawrence College, NY  
2008-2009 Visiting Researcher-Endangered Languages Academic Program, SOAS, London,  
2008-2009 Visiting Lecturer-Linguistic Anthropology – Linguistics Department, SOAS, London  
2008-2010 Research Fellow-Institute of Theoretical and Computational Linguistics, Lisbon  
2005-2008 Associate Senior Researcher–Institute of Social Sciences, Lisbon  
2005-2008 Visiting Professor-University of Milano-Bicocca  
2005-2006 Research Affiliate-Department of Anthropology, UCLA, Los Angeles, US

**GRANTS, HONORS, AWARDS**

2022-2024 **WENNER-GREN FOUNDATION** Principal Investigator post-PhD Research Grant  
Grant# 8450927052. **\$20,000**

2021 **EDWARD SAPIR BOOK PRIZE**-HONORABLE MENTION AWARD for *Methods of Desire* (UHP  
2019). The Sapir Prize is awarded biennially to books that makes the most significant  
contribution to our understanding of language in society, or the ways in which language  
mediates historical or contemporary sociocultural processes.

2021 **Specialist Publication Accolade** for *One or Two Words* (NUS 2020) **ICAS Book Prize**  
(International Convention of Asia Scholars)

2015-2018 **National Science Foundation** Grant # 1461440, Principal Investigator. **\$109,842**

2018 **ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS MUSEUM**, Singapore-Research Fellowship **\$23,000**

2016-2017 “Get it done!” Award, Sarah Lawrence College **\$20,000**

2012-2013 Teaching Release Grant (Spring 2013), Sarah Lawrence College **\$15,000**

2010-2020 Faculty Development Funds, Sarah Lawrence College

2010-2020 Ziesing Research Grant, Sarah Lawrence College

2009-2010 Faculty Start up Grant, Sarah Lawrence College **\$5,000**

2008-2011 Postdoctoral Fellowship, **Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology** (FCT)  
Grant# SFRH/BPD/40397/2007 **EUR 48,746**

2005-2008	Postdoctoral Fellowship, <b>Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology</b> (FCT) Grant# SFRH/BPD/21059/2004 <b>EUR 70,959</b>
2004	Postdoctoral Fieldwork Grant, University of Milan-Bicocca
2000-2002	Fieldwork Grant, University of Milan-Bicocca e MIUR (COFIN national project)
1999- 2004	PhD Grant (three fully funded years of scholarship), University of Milan-Bicocca

## **EDUCATION**

2023	National Scientific <b>Habilitation</b> (ASN) to the <b>rank of</b> Professore di <b>I Fascia</b> (Full Professor) in Demo-ethnoanthropological Sciences (SC <b>11/A5</b> – SSD <b>M-DEA/01</b> ) Validity from 12/12/2023 al 12/12/2035
2022	Certification CITI Program Ethics with Human Subjects (ID 49194445). Validity from 5/28/2022 to 5/27/2025
2020	National Scientific <b>Habilitation</b> (ASN) to the <b>rank of</b> Professore di <b>II Fascia</b> (Associate Professor) in Demo-ethnoanthropological Sciences (SC <b>11/A5</b> – SSD <b>M-DEA/01</b> ) Validity from 11/12/2020 through 11/12/2032
2020	National Scientific <b>Habilitation</b> (ASN) to the <b>rank of</b> Professore di <b>I Fascia</b> (Full Professor) Cultures of Central and Oriental Asia (SC <b>10/N3</b> – SSD <b>L-OR/21</b> Languages and Literatures of China and Southeast Asia) Validity from 11/12/2020 through 11/12/2032
1999-2004	<b>PhD in Anthropology</b> with distinction, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy <b>Degree date 04/25/2004</b>
2001-2002	PhD Visiting Student, Department of Anthropology and CLIC (Center for Language, Interaction and Culture) at UCLA, Los Angeles, US
1997-2000	<b>BA in Indonesian Language and Culture</b> , IslAO (Italian Institute for African and Oriental Studies), Milan, Italy <b>Degree date 10/26/2000</b>
2000	Postgraduate Specialization Diploma in Cultural Anthropology (one-year course program), University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy
1999	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bandar Baru Bangi-Malaysia, Participant in the “Advanced Malay and Indonesian Abroad” program, sponsored by COTIM (Consortium for Teaching Indonesian and Malay)
1992-1999	<b>BA and MA (Laurea) in Philosophy</b> (Magna cum laude), University of Pavia, Italy <b>Degree date 04/25/1999</b>
1996-1997	Reading University, UK, ERASMUS European Exchange Program, undergraduate courses in Philosophy and Linguistics
1987-1992	High School Diploma, Liceo Classico Statale G. Parini, Milan

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Monographs [peer-reviewed]**

- (2019) *Methods of Desire: Language, Morality, and Affect in Neoliberal Indonesia*. (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press). <https://uhpress.hawaii.edu/title/methods-of-desire-language-morality-and-affect-in-neoliberal-indonesia/>
- (2020) *One or Two Words: Language and Politics in the Toraja Highlands of Indonesia*. (Singapore: NUS Press). <https://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/O/bo68162961.html>

### **Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals**

- (2025) "The Translation Machine: Exploring the Infrastructures of Valorization under Semiocapitalism." *Signs and Society* 13(3):311-325, special issue on "Infrastructures of Valorization under Semiocapitalism," Aurora Donzelli (ed.)  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/sas.2025.10017>  
ISSN: 2326-4489 (Print), 2326-4497 (Online)
- (2025) "Translations Interrupted: Italian Neorural Revivals and the Neodialect Poetics of Nonscalability." *Signs and Society* 13(3):326-354, special issue on "Infrastructures of Valorization under Semiocapitalism" Aurora Donzelli (ed.)  
DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1017/sas.2025.13>  
ISSN: 2326-4489 (Print), 2326-4497 (Online)
- (2025) "QRcoding the Smart City: Dystopian governmentality and the digital infrapolitics of the post-pandemic present." *Signata Annales des Sémiotique/Annals of Semiotics* 16: 1-23, special issue on "Semiotics of Space in the Era of Computational Logic and Digital Practices: A Contemporary Perspective." Enzo D'Armenio, Aluminé Rosso, and Cristina Voto (eds.)  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4000/14rhg>  
URL: <http://journals.openedition.org/signata/5594>  
ISSN: 2565-7097
- (2025) "On the Making of Signboards Corporeal inscriptions and Material Transpositions of the Writing into the Written." *Semiotic Review*, 12:1-48, special issue on "Dialogues between Continental Semiotics and Linguistic Anthropology." Constantine Nakassis and Tatsuma Padoan (eds.).  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.71743/eq18s297>  
ISSN: 3066-8107
- (2024) "From mandala to flowchart: Managerial governmentality and the evidentiary technologies of Indonesia's Reformasi." *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, 34(2): 290-319.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/jola.12435>  
ISSN:1055-1360; E-ISSN:1548-1395
- (2024) The copycat paradigm Italian "Class-A" journals and the paradoxes of excellence." *Language, Culture and Society*, 5(2): 182-298.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1075/lcs.00041.don>  
ISSN: 2543-3164; E-ISSN: 2543-3156
- (2023) "On Metapragmatic Gaslighting: Truth and Trump's Epistemic Tactics in a Plague Year." *Signs and Society* 11(2): 1-30.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1086/724084>  
ISSN: 2326-4489; E-ISSN: 2326-4497

- (2023) "Subjects to Freedom: The Entanglements of Desire in Upland Indonesia." *Ethos* 51(1): 81–95.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/etho.12368>  
ISSN: 0091-2131; E-ISSN: 1548-1352
- (2022) "Kinetic Intensities and Moral Registers of Pandemic Place Branding." *Sociolinguistics Studies* 16(4): 435-460 (special issue on Pandemic Place Branding).  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1558/sols.23523>  
ISSN: 1750-8649; EISSN: 1750-8657
- (2021) "Conspicuous Transparencies: Corporate capitalism, graphic design and curatorial debates in a contemporary art foundation." *ERQ (Ethnography and Qualitative Research)* 3/2021: 551-575.  
DOI: <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.3240/102942>  
ISSN: 1973-3194; EISSN: 2612-2421; ISBN: 978-88-15-29642-9
- (2021) "L'etica protestante e l'economia del dono: note sull'incontro missionario nell'Indonesia orientale." [Protestant Ethics and the Gift Economy: Notes on the Missionary Encounter in Easter Indonesia]. *Annali di studi religiosi* 22: 111-135.  
DOI: [10.14598/Annali\\_studi\\_relig\\_22202108](https://doi.org/10.14598/Annali_studi_relig_22202108)  
ISSN: 2284-3892
- (2020) "The Act of Reading Aloud: Animating the Neoliberal Speaking Subject in Post-Suharto Indonesia." *Discourse and Society* 31(5): 459-477.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0957926520914688>  
ISSN 0957-9265; EISSN 1460-3624
- (2020) "Material words: The aesthetic grammar of Toraja textiles, carvings, and ritual language." *Journal of Material Culture* 25(2): 167-195.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/1359183519858378>  
ISSN: 1359-1835; EISSN: 1460-3586.
- (2019) "The 'Tiny Hand' of Donald Trump and the Counterpolitics of Typographic Parody." *Signs and Society* 7(2): 217-244, (with A. Powell Bugden).  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1086/702567>  
ISSN: 2326-4489; EISSN: 2326-449.
- (2019) "Discovering by Surrendering: For an Epistemology of Serendipity Against the Neoliberal Ethics of Accountability." *Antropologia* 6(1): 163-183.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14672/ada20191529163-183>  
ISSN: 2281-4043; E-ISSN: 2420-8469.
- (2019) "Convertire al Capitalismo: Etica Calvinista e Rituali Pagani Tra Gli Altipiani Di Sulawesi, In Indonesia." [Conversion to Capitalism: Calvinist Ethics and Pagan Rituals in the Sulawesi uplands] *Illuminazioni* 49: 39-64.  
ISSN: 2037-609X.
- (2017) "From the womb to the tree: Child rearing practices and beliefs among the Toraja of Sulawesi." *Wacana* 18(3): 658-691 (with T. Hoppenbrouwers and S. Sandarupa).  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.17510/wacana.v18i3.632>  
ISSN: 1411-2272; EISSN: 2407-6899.
- (2016) "The Grammar of Politics: Morality, Agency, and Voice Selection in Toraja Political Discourse." *Journal of Anthropological Linguistics* 58(4): 411-441.  
DOI: [10.1353/anl.2016.0037](https://doi.org/10.1353/anl.2016.0037)  
ISSN: 0003-5483; EISSN: 1944-6527.

- (2010) "Is ergativity always a marker of agency? Toraja and Samoan grammar of action and the contribution of emancipatory pragmatics to social theory." *Applied Linguistics Review* 1: 193-220.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110222654.193>  
**ISSN:** 18686303; **EISSN:** 1868-6311.
  - (2010) "Rice intimacies. Reflections on the 'house' in Upland Sulawesi and South China." *Archiv für Völkerkunde* (57-58): 37-64, Special Issue "Constructing the Future – Remembering the Past. Houses and Architecture in Southeast Asia," (with G. Santos).  
**ISSN:** 0066-6513.
  - (2007) "Etnicità e Linguaggio tra i Toraja di Sulawesi (Indonesia) [Ethnicity and Language among the Toraja (Indonesia)]." *RIPLA Journal of Applied Psycholinguistics/Rivista di Psicolinguistica Applicata*, 7(3): 147-169.  
DOI: 10.1400/91131  
**ISSN:** 1592-1328; **EISSN:** 1724-0646.
  - (2007) "Words on the Lips and Meanings in the Stomach: Ideologies of Unintelligibility and Theories of Metaphor in Toraja Ritual Speech." *Text and Talk* 27(4): 533-557, Special issue on *Unintelligibility in Ritual Speech*.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/TEXT.2007.023>  
**ISSN:** 1860-7330; **EISSN:** 1860-7349.
  - (2005) "La disciplina delle emozioni tra introspezione e performance: pratiche e discorsi del controllo a Toraja (Indonesia)." *Antropologia*, 5 (6): 37-71, Special Issue on the "Anthropology of Emotions" (with D. Hollan).  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14672/ada2005131%25p>  
**ISSN:** 2281-4043; **E-ISSN:** 2420-8469.
- (2003) "Diversity in Unity: Multiple Strategies of a Unifying Rhetoric. The Case of the Resemanticisation of Toraja Rituals." *JAI* ("Indonesian Journal of Anthropology").  
DOI: [10.7454](https://doi.org/10.7454)  
**ISSN:** 1693167X; **E-ISSN:** 16936086.
- (2001) "Il turismo a Tana Toraja: un contesto per molti discorsi." *Afriche e Orienti*, 3 (3/4): 60-64.  
**ISSN:** 1592-6753.

### **Chapters in Books [peer-reviewed]**

- (2021) "Persuasion." In James Stanlaw (ed.), *The International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology*. Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 1-5.  
**DOI:** 10.1002/9781118786093.iela0310.  
**ISBN:** 9781118786765
- (2021) "Hardly Speaking: Ethnographic Rapport and the Ordinary Ethics of Host-Guest Interaction in Upland Sulawesi (Indonesia)." In Zane Goebel (ed), *Reimagining Rapport: Understanding the Discursive Construction of Fieldwork Relationships*. Oxford University Press, pp. 97-116.  
**ISBN:** 9780190917074 (hardback); **ISBN:** 9780197558744 (paperback).
- (2021) "'Milan, a place to be': Expo 2015 and the chronotopic rebranding of Italy's moral capital. In Irene Theodoropoulou and Johanna Woydack (eds.) *Research Companion to Language and Country Branding*. Routledge, pp. 281-298.  
**ISBN:** 9780367343590 (hardback); **ISBN:** 9780367566654 (paperback); **ISBN:** 9780429325250 (ebook).

- (2019) "From 'Top down' to 'Bottom up' New Order's Vertical Synchronicity and the Vintage Aesthetics of the Margins in Post-Suharto Political Oratory." In Debbie Cole, Zane Goebel, and Howard Manns (eds.) *Contact Talk: The Discursive Organization of Contact and Boundaries*. Routledge, pp. 72-88.  
**ISBN:** 9781138370753 (paperback); **ISBN:** 1138370746 (hardback); **ISBN:** 9780429427848 (ebook).
- (2017) "The Fetish of Verbal Inflection: Lusophonic Fantasies and Ideologies of Linguistic and Racial Purity in Postcolonial East Timor." In Sanja Bahun and Dusan Radunovic (eds.) *Language, Ideology, and the Human: New Interventions*. Routledge, pp. 131-157.  
**ISBN:** 9781138108424 (paperback); **ISBN:** 9781409428343 (hardback); **ISBN:** 9781315591469 (ebook).
- (2008). "Copyright and Authorship: Ritual Speech and the New Market of Words in Toraja." In David Berliner and Ramon Sarró (eds.) *Learning Religion. Anthropological Approaches*. Oxford and New York: Berghahn Books, pp. 141-60.  
**ISBN:** 978-1-84545-594-1 (paperback).

## **Book and Film Reviews**

- (2024) *On the ethnographic antonyms of loss and change: Review of Death of the One Who Knows* by Dana Rappoport (Director), *Religion and Society: Advances in Research*, 14(1):217-218.  
**DOI:** [10.3167/arrs.2023.140115](https://doi.org/10.3167/arrs.2023.140115)  
**ISSN:** 2150-9298; **EISSN:** 2150-9301.
- (2014) "Political Oratory and Cartooning: Ethnography of Democratic Processes in Madagascar by Jennifer Jackson, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 24(3): 370-372.
- (2006) "Power, Prestige and Bilingualism International Perspectives on Elite Bilingual Education" by Anne-Marie de Mejia, *Multilingua* 25(3): 351-357.
- (2005) "Acting Authoritatively; How Authority is Expressed through Social Action among the Bentian of Indonesian Borneo" by Kenneth Sillander, *Bijdragen tot Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, Leiden, 161 (4): 528-9.

## **Chapters in Books [non peer-reviewed]**

- (2024) "Il suono del manoscritto e il gesto della parola. Tra scrittura digitale e materialità testuale." In: Francesco Leonetti, *Il Vecchio col Bastone*. Marco Rustioni (ed.). Milano, Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, pp. 56 – 61.  
**ISBN:** 978-8896-132-25-8.
- (2024) "Prabowo Subianto e il nuovo volto *gemoy* dell'autoritarismo populista indonesiano," *Rise* 9(1): 9-13. Twai. Torino World Affairs Institute. <https://www.twai.it/articles/prabowo-subianto-autoritarismo-populista-indonesiano/>
- (2023) "The Graphic and Sculptural Writing of Arnaldo Pomodoro," *The Catalogue Raisonné of Arnaldo Pomodoro*, Milano, Arnaldo Pomodoro Foundation, pp. 1 – 5.  
[https://www.arnaldopomodoro.it/catalogue\\_raisonne/artworks/?lang=en](https://www.arnaldopomodoro.it/catalogue_raisonne/artworks/?lang=en)
- (2022) "La vita quotidiana come citazione: Linguaggio, merci e mass media nella contemporaneità tardo-capitalista." Introduction to the Italian edition of C. V. Nakassis, *Fare Stile: Culture Giovanili e Mass Media nell'India del Sud*. Milano: Raffaello Cortina Editore, pp. IX-XXII.  
**ISBN:** 978-88-3285-455-8

- (2022) “Linguaggio.” In Berardino Palumbo, Giovanni Pizza, Pino Schirripa, *Manuale di Antropologia Sociale e Culturale*. Hoepli, pp. 216-230.  
**ISBN:** 9788836007080.
- (2021) “Introduzione.” In Alessandro Duranti, *Antropologia del Linguaggio*. Meltemi, pp. 19-33.  
**ISBN:** 9788855194990.
- (2007) “Agenti vulnerabili: agency, intenzionalità e carisma nell'oratoria politica a Toraja (Indonesia). In Aurora Donzelli and Alessandra Fasulo (eds.) *Agency e Linguaggio: Etnoteorie della Soggettività e della Responsabilità nell'Azione Sociale*, Rome: Meltemi, pp. 85- 110.  
**ISBN:** 13: 9788883535505; **ISBN** 10: 8869160157.
- (2007) “Introduzione: Ripensando all'agency a partire dallo studio del linguaggio.” In Aurora Donzelli and Alessandra Fasulo (eds.) *Agency e Linguaggio: Etnoteorie della Soggettività e della Responsabilità nell'Azione Sociale*, Rome: Meltemi, pp. 11-27.  
**ISBN:** 13: 9788883535505; **ISBN** 10: 8869160157.
- (2007) “L'Islam, la differenza e l'erotico: una storia indonesiana” (with G. Malpezzi), in Quaderni Asiatici, Centro di Cultura Italia Asia "Guglielmo Scalise Milano, 79: 17-54.  
**ISSN:** 2038-9795.
- (2002) “Pratiche comunicative tra i Toraja di Sulawesi.” In Vincenzo Matera, *Etnografia della comunicazione. Teorie e pratiche dell'interazione sociale*, Rome: Carocci editore, pp. 97- 150.  
**ISBN:** 9788843020720.

### **Edited volumes and special issues**

- (2025) *The Translation Machine: Infrastructures of Valorization under Semiocapitalism. Signs and Society*. Volume 13, Special Issue 3 – Guest Editor <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/signs-and-society/issue/90FA0CF079665B65F51920BB5CFB623D>
- (2022) *Fare Stile: Culture Giovanili e Mass Media nell'India del Sud*. Milano: Raffaello Cortina Editore.  
**ISBN:** 978-88-3285-455-8. Curated Italian Edition of *Doing Style: Youth and Mass Mediation in South India* by Constantine V. Nakassis. 2016. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- (2021) *Antropologia del linguaggio* di Alessandro Duranti, Milano: Meltemi. **ISBN:** 9788855194990 Curated Italian Edition of *Linguistic Anthropology* by Alessandro Duranti. 1997. Cambridge: Cambridge University of Press
- (2007) *Agency e Linguaggio: Etnoteorie della Soggettività e della Responsabilità nell'Azione Sociale*” (con A. Fasulo) Rome: Meltemi. **ISBN:** 13: 9788883535505; **ISBN** 10: 8869160157.

### **Art books and literary anthropology books**

- (2022) *Dispatches from Home and the Field During the Covid-19 Pandemic*. Palgrave Studies in Literary Anthropology. Springer International Publishing. With Robert Desjarlais, Sabina Perrino, Joshua Reno, Nicholas Barlett, Margaux Fitoussi, Alexa Hagerty, Rafadi Hakim, Emily NG.  
**ISBN:** 9783031191923.
- (2017) *Entering Arnaldo Pomodoro's Labyrinth*. Bologna: Confine, Art & Culture Publishing (co-authored with G. Fienga & F. Maria Giani). **ISBN:** 978-88-96427-78-1.
- (2016) *Ingresso nel Labirinto*. Raccolta di testi critici sull'opera ambientale di Arnaldo Pomodoro. Bologna: Editore Confine (con G. Fienga & F. Maria Giani). **ISBN:** 978-88-96427-76-7.



## **Online Interviews**

- Aurora Donzelli on her book, *Methods of Desire*. Interview with Setrag Manoukian, McGill University, Posted October 11, 2021 <https://campanthropology.org/2021/10/11/aurora-donzelli-on-her-book-methods-of-desire/>
- Aurora Donzelli on her book, *One or Two Words*. Interview with Nicco La Mattina, UCLA, March 28, 2022 <https://campanthropology.org/books-sorted-by-regions/>

## **Manuscripts in progress**

- ***Back to the Roots: Language, Capitalism, and Agrolinguistic Poetics of Unscalability in Rural Italy***

This project furthers the understanding of rural revivals in Italy and beyond through a new focus on the poetic (i.e. world-making) role of language in envisioning utopian alternatives to global capitalism. Drawing on audiovisual and ethnographic data collected by participating in the lives of hobby-farmers, neo-rural entrepreneurs, and food activists, my monograph-in-progress argues that neo-rurality is an existential and political project that draws on creative linguistic and semiotic practices as a way to respond to the ongoing standardization of both agricultural labor and human interaction.

## **In preparation**

- *From metapragmatic gaslighting to linguistic state of exception: Donald Trump and the language reform of the new right*. Forthcoming in *Social Research: An International Quarterly*, Vol. 93, No. 1 (Spring 2026) Special Issue on "Gaslighting," Oz Frankel (ed.). Johns Hopkins University Press. <https://www.socres.org/forthcoming>
- "Utopian Diagrams and Dystopian QR Codes: The Promises and Discontents of Contemporary Indonesia's Semiotic Landscapes." Forthcoming In *Potentialities of Semiotic Landscapes: Language Practices, Materialities and Agency*. Tatsuma Padoan, John Leavitt, Lijing Peng (eds.). British Academy/Liverpool University Press.
- *The Last Ray of the Empire: Creolized Tongues and Lusophone Ideologies of Purity in a Former Portuguese Colony* (in preparation).
- *Semiotics of Political Change: Reform, Revolution, Return*, Forthcoming in *Annual Review of Anthropology*, Anthropology of Language and Communicative Practices section, Volume 56, October 2027.

## **INVITED TALKS**

- *On Unit(s) of Analysis*  
Invited participation in the Research Seminar on *Continental Semiotics and in Linguistic Anthropology. A Theoretical and Methodological Comparison*. Organizers Constantine Nakassis & Maria Giulia Dondero Maison Suger, Paris, June 15, 2026.
- *On Stereotypes*  
Invited participation in the Research Seminar on "Semiotics and Stereotypy" Organizers Constantine Nakassis & Maria Giulia Dondero Paris Center at the University of Chicago, Paris, June 16, 2026.
- *Poetic non-scalability and agrolinguistic (un-)translatability in neorural Italy*  
Invited talk and participation in Research Seminar in the series *Language and Society*, Inter University Centre, Dubrovnik, Croatia, June 22-26, 2026.



- *Enregistering the revolution: the metapragmatics of sedimentation and subversion in Indonesian political oratory*

Invited talk at the *Séminaire International de Sémiotique à Paris (2025-2026)*

Coordonné par Juan Alonso Aldama (Université. Paris Cité) et Maria Giulia Dondero (F.R.S.-FNRS / Université de Liège)

Fondation de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme—Maison Suger, Paris, April 8, 2026.

- *Poetry, Political Change, and Linguistic Reform in Times of Resurgent Autocracy*

Keynote Lecture, *Linguistic Anthropology in Europe: Past, Present, and Futures*

The inaugural ELAN conference, Leiden University, Leiden, Netherlands, November 6-7, 2025.

- *Pouring new wine into old skins: Semiotic ideologies of religious conversion as translation in the Sulawesi highlands of Indonesia*

2025 ISR-FBK Summer Symposium on *Ideologies of Conservation and Transformation*

Institute of Religious Studies and Buno Kessler Foundation Trento, Italy, June 23-24, 2025.

- *Regimes of Capitalist Translation and Acts of Poetic Un-scalability in Rural Italy*

Monday Seminar Colloquium Series, University of Chicago, 112 Haskell Hall, Chicago IL, USA.

Department of Anthropology at the University of Chicago, November 17-19, 2024.

- *Pragmatic Regimentation and Late Capitalism in an “out-of-the-way place”*

Friday Seminar, Senior Research Seminars, University of Cambridge, Free School Lane Cambridge CB2 3RF, UK. Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge, October 18, 2024.

- *Language contact in contemporary linguistic anthropological research: enregisterment, language ideologies, and translanguaging*

Invited talk at the PhD Seminar Series in Linguistics on Language contact, Salone delle conferenze, II Piano Palazzo Corigliano, University of Naples L'Orientale, Naples, Italy, Ottobre, 25 2024.

- *Spaccasassi, Visciole e Moscioli: Regimi di Traduzione Capitalistica e Poetiche Agro-linguistiche di Non-Scalabilità nell'Italia Centrale*

University of Messina, Invited talk at Conference: “Voci dallo Stretto”, 26-27 Settembre, 2024.

- *On the Making of Signboards: Corporeal inscriptions and Material Transpositions of the Writing into the Written.*

Invited Research Seminar in the EN/EN series, University of Chicago.

Discussant: Maria Giulia Dondero

Turin Polytechnic University, Turin, Italy, March 22, 2024.

- *Dal mandala al diagramma di flusso: Rappresentazioni del potere dello Stato nell'Indonesia contemporanea*

Invited talk at Casa della Cultura, Milan Conference Series “I Palazzi del Potere” organized by Italia-Asia Association, February 26, 2024.

- *La traduzione come infrastruttura linguistica del Tardocapitalismo: Esempi etnografici dagli altipiani indonesiani e dall'Italia neorurale*

Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Invited Talk at Laboratorio di Etno-Antropologia Dipartimento di Studi Linguistico e Culturali, Prof. Alessandra Gribaldo e Stefano Boni October 18, 2023.

- *Pendekatan Antropologi Linguistik kepada Pengertian Hubungan Sosial*

(Toward a linguistic anthropological approach to the understanding of social relations)

Invited talk in Indonesian at (Fakultas Ilmu Budaya)

Universitas Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, January 9, 2023.

- *Language and Late Capitalism in an “out-of-the-way place”*

Invited Talk at CUNY Graduate Center Ph.D. Program in Anthropology Colloquium

CUNY, Manhattan, NYC. May 6, 2022

- Distinguished Books of 2022 Presidential Roundtable  
In celebration of the Sapir Book Prize Honorable Mention awarded to *Methods of Desire: Language, Morality, and Affect in Neoliberal Indonesia* at SLA Conference, Boulder, Colorado. April 8, 2022.
- *On Trump's Metapragmatic Gaslighting*, Discussant's remarks in the series *Talking Politics 2020*, Organized by University of Chicago Department of Anthropology & University of Colorado Boulder Program in Culture, Language, and Social Practice (CLASP). October 9, 2020.
- *Methods of Desire: Language, Morality, and Affect in Neoliberal Indonesia* Book Launch  
Discussant: Prof. Joseph Sung-Yul Park  
Asian Research Institute- NUS, Singapore, October 30, 2019.
- *Speaking by Images: Towards a materialist analysis of Austronesian Art*  
Invited lecture at the Graduate Seminar, Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies  
University of Naples, L'Orientale, Naples, June 26, 2019.
- *Material Words: The Grammar and Aesthetics of the Toraja Textiles, Carvings, and Ritual Language*  
Asian Civilizations Museum, Singapore, Public Lecture, May 2018.
- *Shifting Idioms of Longing and Love in Toraja Political Discourse*  
Plenary address at Young Scholar Symposium in Humanities and Arts (INUSHART)  
Universitas Indonesia, Depok, Jakarta, August 2017.
- *Ethnographic Rapport and the Ordinary Ethics of Host-Guest Interaction in Upland Sulawesi*  
International Symposium on Ethnographic Rapport, Organizer Zane Goebel,  
La Trobe University, Melbourne, July 2016.
- *Creolized Tongues and Lusophone Ideologies of Purity in a Former Portuguese Colony*  
International Linguistic Association Monthly Lecture Series,  
Borough of Manhattan Community College, October 2014.
- *Learning How to Offer Coffee: Guests, Hosts, Desires, and Ordinary Ethics in Toraja*  
ASIANetwork Freeman Student-Faculty Fellowship Program, Ubud, Bali, June 2013.
- *The Calvinist Missionaries and the Funeral rites of the Toraja of Sulawesi*  
PIME Missionary Foundation, Milan, February 2013.
- *Grammar and Moral Philosophy*  
New York Linguistic Anthropology Work Group Series  
Anthropology Department, NYU, November 2011.
- *Vulnerable Agents: The Ethnopragmatic Construction of Toraja Practical Philosophy*  
Linguistics Department Seminar, SOAS, London, June 9, 2009.
- *Speaking from the Margins: The Pragmatics of Parody and Locality in Toraja (Indonesia)*  
Bloomsbury seminars in Applied Linguistics, Department of Applied Linguistics & Communication,  
Birkbeck College, University of London, February 24, 2009.
- *Marginality, Metapragmatics, and Indigenerity in Indonesia*  
Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, February 11, 2008.
- *Language Ideologies and Multiple Indexicalities*  
Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA, USA, February 19, 2008.
- *Linguistic Ideologies and Code-switching Practices*  
Invited Speaker, Seminar on Linguistic Anthropology, Prof. Vincenzo Matera, Department of Humanities  
and Education, University of Milano-Bicocca, November 2004.

- *The Role of the Toraja Middle-class Intelligentsia and of the Christian Party (Parkindo) in the Shaping of Local Identity in the Early Postcolonial Era*  
Invited Speaker, Public Lecture at Sekolah Tinggi Teologi (High School of Theology), Rantepao, Tana Toraja, Indonesia, October 2004.

## **SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS**

- Discussant remarks on Yukun Zen's paper: "Reading More Intensively": Labor, Scale, and the Problem of Reading in Linguistic Anthropology  
Elan EASA Linguistic Anthropology Network Research Seminar, online, December 8, 2025.
- Discussant remarks for the panel *Complexity at large: analysing the Italian sociolinguistic scenario through anthropological tools*  
Organizers: Andrea R. Leone Pizzighella and Rosalba Nodari  
*Linguistic Anthropology in Europe: Past, Present, and Futures*  
The inaugural ELAN conference, Leiden University, Leiden, Netherlands, November 6-7, 2025.
- *Linguistic Anthropology with an Attitude, Part 2: Being with Alessandro Duranti*  
Roundtable/Town Hall  
Organized by: Rachel George and Robin Riner Conely  
American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, US, November 20, 2025.
- *Lusophone Specters: Creolized Tongues and Ideologies of Purity in a Former Portuguese Colony*  
Panel on *Panel on Heritage Language, Racialization, and (Post)colonialism, PART II*  
Organized by: Chantal Tetrault  
American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, US, November 20, 2025.
- *The porous instauration of Arnaldo Pomodoro's cuttlebone inscriptions*  
Panel 57. *Creating, Crafting, Designing, Fashioning, Moulding, Shaping, Fixing. Aesthetic Practices as Instaurative Practices: How to Account for Them and for the Good they Produce?*  
Convenors: Alvise Mattozzi, Laura Lucia Parolin, Carmen Pellegrinelli  
*Technoscience for Good: Designing, Caring and Reconfiguring*  
10th Sts Italia Conference Politecnico Di Milano, June 11-13, 2025.
- *QR codes and the digital (DIS)-organization of the post-pandemic present*  
Panel: *Collective Organizational Form: Imagination's Semiotic Infrastructure*  
Organizer: Jack Sidnell  
Discussant: Greogory Urban  
*Imagination, Creation, Critique*, the 2025 Society for Linguistic Anthropology Biennial Conference, at the University of Chicago, Hyde Park, Chicago US, May 29-31, 2025
- *Pandemic Impacts on Anthropological Praxis: Reflections from Wenner-Gren Grantees*  
Roundtable/Town Hall  
Organizers: Mariana Mota (Harvard University) & Gabrielle Robbins (Johns Hopkins University)  
American Anthropological Association, Tampa, FL, US, November 20, 2024.
- *Regimes of Capitalist Translation and Acts of Poetic Un-scalability in Rural Italy*  
Panel: *Capitalism in Theory and Practice: Ethnographic Engagements with Racial, Colonial, and Critical Theories of Capitalism.*  
Organizer: Elliott M. Reichardt  
Discussant: Duff (Gregory) Morton  
American Anthropological Association, Tampa, FL, US, November 20, 2024.

- *Il gesto della scrittura: Arnaldo Pomodoro e Francesco Leonetti*  
Round Table: “La lunga arte: Francesco Leonetti e Arnaldo Pomodoro,”  
Organizers: Bitta Leonetti & Aurora Donzelli  
Almo Collegio Borromeo, Piazza Collegio Borromeo 9, Pavia, October 3, 2024.
- Discussion remark on Tatsuma Padoan’s paper: *Ritual as Enunciative Praxis: Some Reflections from Katsuragi, Japan*  
Elan EASA Linguistic Anthropology Network Research Seminar, online, June 20, 2024.
- Discussant Remarks on Maria Giulia Dondero’s paper: *Enunciative Praxis in Artificial Intelligence Image Analysis and Generation*  
EN/EN Research Seminar, University of Chicago Center in Paris, Paris, May 31, 2024.
- Bodies, signs, and languages on the move across the Pacific  
Informal session for ASAO (Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania)  
Co-organizers: Kathleen C. Riley and Miki Makihara  
February 3, 2024, online.
- *Translations interrupted: Italian neorural revivals and the neodialect poetics of unscalability*  
Session Title: *The Translation Machine. Exploring the Linguistic Infrastructures of Valorization Under Semiocapitalism*  
Organizer: Aurora Donzelli  
Chair: Webb Keane  
Discussant: Constantine Nakassis  
American Anthropological Association (AAA) & Canadian Anthropological Society (CASCA Toronto, Canada), November 2023.
- On Place-branding and Moral Registers in Pandemic Times: From “Milan won’t stop” to “One step at a time”  
Organizer: Asif Agha. Discussant: Andrew Carruthers  
Eighth Annual Conference on Semiotic Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania, May 2022.
- On Providing Evidence of Indonesia’s Democratic Transition  
Session Title: “Responsibility and Evidence in Late Capitalist Discourse”  
Organizer: Aurora Donzelli Discussant: Judith T. Irvine  
American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, MD, US, November 2021.
- On Freedom, Desires, and Discursive Genres in a Theory of Practice  
Organizers: Alice Bellagamba e Guido Zingari. Discussant: Bruno Riccio  
Third SIAC Conference, Rome, September 22-25.
- On Metapragmatic Gaslighting: Truth and Trump’s Epistemic Tactics in a Plague Year  
Session Title: “Political Discourse in the era of COVID 19: Gender, power, and ideology”  
Organizers: Diana Boxer, Lilian Atanga  
17<sup>th</sup> International Pragmatics Conference, Online, June 2021.
- On Love Songs, Political Speeches, and Shifting Political Economies of Emotions  
Itaseas, Procida, Italy, May 2019.
- On the Metapragmatics of Donald Trump’s Talk  
Session Title: “The Metapragmatics of Political Talk.”  
Organizers: Dana M. Osborne and Katherine B. Martineau. Discussant: Asif Agha  
117<sup>th</sup> AAA annual meeting, San José, CA, US, November 2018.
- On Shifting Emotional Registers in Toraja Political Speech  
Session Title: “Emotion, Register, and Politics,” Reviewed by the Society for Linguistic Anthropology.  
Organizers: Janina Fenigsen. Discussant: Jim Wilce

116<sup>th</sup> AAA annual meeting, DC, US, November 2017.

- On Food Sharing and Morality in Southeast Asia

Session Title: Out of the kitchen and into the slaughterhouse: food and language beyond the cookbook and the dinner table.

Organizers: Jillian Cavanaugh and Kathleen Riley

CASCA/IUAES2017, Ottawa, Canada, May 2017.

- On Qualia and the Moral Aesthetics of Typefaces in Northern Italian Contemporary Art Foundations

Session Title: “Stereo-types: Voicing Persons, Entities, And Concepts Through Graphic Artifacts,”

Organizers: Keith Murphy and Anna Weichselbraun. Discussant: Karl Swinehart

115<sup>th</sup> AAA annual meeting, Minneapolis, MN, US, November 2016.

- On Performing Accountability and Dis-claiming Responsibility in Indigenous Political Speech

ISMIL20, International Symposium on Malay/Indonesian Linguistics, Melbourne, Australia, July 2016.

- On Neoliberal Scripts in Post-Suharto political language

ITASEAS, Italian Association for Southeast Asian Studies, Procida, Naples, Italy, 19-21 June 2016.

- On Nostalgic Yearnings and Neoliberal Aspirations in Post-Suharto Toraja Speechmaking

Session Title: “Idioms of Desire, Intention, and Responsibility in Post-Suharto Indonesia”

Organizer: Aurora Donzelli. Discussant: Rosemary Coombe, Zane Goebel

114<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, US, November 2015.

- On Neoliberal Democracy and the Global Indigeneity in Post-Suharto Political Oratory

Session Title: “Margins, hubs, and peripheries in a decentralizing Indonesia”

Organizer: Zane Goebel. Discussants: Joel Kuipers, Asif Agha, Jan Blommaert.

Sociolinguistics of Globalisation, University of Hong Kong, June 2015.

- On The Entextualization of Neoliberal Scripts in Indonesian Bureaucratic Discourse

Session Title: “The Invisible Specter: Linguistic Anthropology, Neoliberal Morality, and the Linguistic Incarnations of the Enterprising Self”

Organizer: Aurora Donzelli. Discussant: Bonnie Urciuoli.

113<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, DC, US, December 2014.

- On The Linguistic Production of Sovereignty and Indigeneity in the *Era Reformasi*

ISMIL 18, International Symposium On Malay/Indonesian Linguistics, Procida, Italy, June 2014.

- On Temporal Crossovers and Vintage Aesthetics in Contemporary Indonesian Discourse

Session Title: “Strategies and Performances of Temporal Heteroglossia,”

112<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, US, November 2013.

- On Portuguese Postcoloniality and Lusophone Fantasies in Contemporary East Timor

111<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, US November 2012.

- On the Ideologies of Linguistic and Racial Purity in Postcolonial East Timor

110<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada, November 2011.

- On How the Study of Transitivity in an “Exotic” Language Can Challenge Traditional Semantic and Philosophic notions

38th International Systemic Functional Congress (ISFC), University of Lisbon, Portugal, July 2011.

- On The Affected Agents of Toraja political discourse

Panel: “The Limits of Agency: Exploring the Interface between Semantic and Social Constructs of Agency”

Organizer: Patricia Mayers. Discussant: Laura Ahearn.

Pragmatic Association (IPra), Manchester, UK, July 2011.

- On The Ethnopragmatic Construction of Toraja Practical Philosophy  
Bloomsbury Round Table on Communication, Cognition & Culture, Birkbeck College, London, June 4, 2009.
- On The erasure of grammar and the counter-discourse of semantics ELAP Workshop: Beliefs and Ideology, SOAS, Thornhaugh St, London, February 28, 2009.
- On Discursive genres in Indonesian contemporary debates on “good governance”  
Instituto de Cultura Inglesa da Faculdade de Letras da Universidade de Lisboa, January 2009.
- On Neoliberalism, Transnational Governmentality, and Political Decentralization in South Sulawesi  
Session Title: “Bureaucratic Attachments”. Reviewed by Ass. for Political and Legal Anthropology.  
107<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Meeting, San Francisco, USA, November 2008.
- On Eating and Distinction in Asian Rice Societies: South China and Upland Sulawesi (with G. Santos)  
Session Title: “Food and Culture”. Reviewed by the Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition.  
107<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Meeting, San Francisco, USA, November 2008.
- On Discourse, Literacy, and Language ideologies in the multilingual context of East Timor.  
Institute of Theoretical and Computational Linguistics, Lisbon, Portugal, October 8, 2008.
- On the Cultural Politics of Good Governance: Crisscrossing Articulations of the Global and the Local in Toraja Political Discourse”  
Panel: “Challenges of local and regional cultural politics in Southeast Asia”.  
Organizers: Birgit Bräuchler and Kari Telle  
EASA 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia, August 27-29, 2008.
- On Indigeneity, Ethnicity, and Communicative Practices in Toraja Speech  
3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Austronesian Languages & Linguistics-  
SOAS, London, September 21-22, 2007.
- On the work and the politics of desire in Toraja (upland Sulawesi)  
EUROSEAS 5th International Conference, Naples, Italy, September 12-15, 2007.
- On the ‘house’ in upland Sulawesi and rural South China (co-authored with Gonalo Santos)  
Panel: “Living in Memory: Houses, history and social/natural environment in Southeast Asia”.  
Organizers: Gabriele Weichart and Jani Kuhnt-Saptodewo Museum of Ethnology Vienna  
EUROSEAS 5th International Conference, Naples, Italy, September 12-15, 2007.
- On Metapragmatic Representations of Marginality, Ethnic Identity, and Locality in Toraja Speech.  
Panel: “Intersections of Identity: Explorations of Language Ideology around the World”. Organizers:  
Christopher Engelke and Anja Vogel, UCLA. Discussant: Paul Kroskrity.  
105<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jos , November 15, 2006.
- On Ergative Case-marking and the Encoding of Agency in Toraja Political Speech.  
2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Austronesian Languages & Linguistics, Oxford, June, 2006.
- On Unintelligibility and Metaphors in Toraja Ritual Speech. AAA Invited Session  
AAA Invited Session, “Meaningful Nonsense in Ritual Language”  
Organizer: Kristina Wirtz. Discussant: Joel Kuipers.  
103<sup>rd</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, December 13, 2004.

### **ORGANIZER OF CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND PANELS**

- Roundtable (co-organized with Bitta Leonetti): “La lunga arte: Francesco Leonetti e Arnaldo Pomodoro,” Almo Collegio Borromeo, Piazza Collegio Borromeo 9, Pavia, October 3, 2024.

<https://www.collegioborromeo.it/it/event/la-lunga-arte-francesco-leonetti-e-arnaldo-pomodoro-tavola-rotonda/>

- AAA 2023 Panel on *Translation and Semiocapitalism* for the joint meeting American Anthropological Association (AAA) e della Canadian Anthropological Society (CASCAS), Toronto, Canada, November 2023.
- SLA 2022 Member of the Steering Committee for the SLA 2020 Spring Conference, Boulder, CO, April 7-9.
- AAA 2021 Panel on: "Responsibility and Evidence in Late Capitalist Discourse," Reviewed by the Society for Linguistic Anthropology, Organizer Baltimore, US, November 2021.
- Euroseas 2021 Panel on: "Place-Branding in Southeast Asia: A Contested Landscape," 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of the European Association for Southeast Asian Studies, Palacky University of Olomouc, Czech Republic, Organizer (with Antonia Soriente), September 2021.
- SLA 2020 "Responsibility and Evidence in Late Capitalist Discourse" (with Joseph Park), Society for Linguistic Anthropology Bi-Annual Conference, Boulder, Co, September.
- AAA PANEL ON: "Idioms of Desire, Intention, and Responsibility in Post-Suharto Indonesia," Reviewed by the Society for Linguistic Anthropology. 114<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, US. Organizer, November 2015.
- AAA INVITED PANEL ON: "The Invisible Specter: Linguistic Anthropology, Neoliberal Morality, and the Linguistic Incarnations of the "Enterprising Self Strategies and Performances of Temporal Heteroglossia", Reviewed by the Society for Linguistic Anthropology. 113<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, DC, US. Organizer and Chair, December 2014.
- "Endangered Languages in New York City", Lecture by Daniel Kaufman, PhD, Adjunct Professor at CUNY and Director of the Urban Field Station for Linguistic Research, NYC. Sarah Lawrence College, December 2009.
- "China and the Challenges of Diversity", Three Conferences by Professor Stevan Harrell jointly organized with Gonalo Santos, Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, Auditorium A. Sedas Nunes, June 2007.
- "Islam, Difference, and The Erotic: an Indonesian Story", Conference by Goenawan Mohamad, University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, May 2006.
- "Agency in Human Interaction", International Workshop jointly organized with Alessandra Fasulo, University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, October 2005.

## **CURATION OF ART SHOWS**

2024

### **Co-curator**

"LA LUNGA ARTE. FRANCESCO LEONETTI E ARNALDO POMODORO"

HORTI EXTRA ART, ALMO COLLEGIO BORROMEO, Lungo Ticino Sforza 46, PAVIA

September 19-Ottobre 30, 2024 Horti & Arnaldo Pomodoro Foundation

Together with the co-curators Bitta Leonetti and Federico Maria Giani, she developed the exhibition concept, composed the textual apparatus, collaborated on the choice of the exhibited works and on installation layout. The exhibition, which takes inspiration from the title of the volume *L'arte lunga* (Feltrinelli, 1992), co-authored by Leonetti and Pomodoro, offers a reflection on the literary-artistic partnership between a sculptor and a writer and presents some works born from the collaboration of the two authors and various archive materials, largely unpublished, coming from the Arnaldo Pomodoro



Archive and from the Leonetti heirs: letters, photographs, working papers, drawings and poems.  
<https://www.horti.it/>

2018

**Consultant**

“ANCESTORS AND RITUALS”

ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS MUSEUM, 1 EMPRESS PI, SINGAPORE 179555

With Dr. Ruth Barnes (Thomas Jaffe Curator of Indo-Pacific Art at Yale University Art Gallery) and Steven G. Alpert (collector and curatorial consultant at the Dallas Museum of Art), she assisted Theresa McCullough (ACM Principal Curator) in the selection of artefacts and fabrics to be exhibited in the new ACM wing on Austronesia rituals and ancestors. Inaugurated on 12/1/2018, the new museum wing is dedicated to the indigenous societies of Southeast Asia. <https://www.nhb.gov.sg/acm/galleries/faith-and-belief/ancestors-and-rituals>

## **RESEARCH NETWORKS AND WORKING GROUPS [NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL]**

2024

**Member of the committee for Francesco Leonetti (1924-2017) centennial.**

2023-2024

**Member of the Entextualization/Enunciation working group.** Based on frequent research and reading seminars, this endeavor brings together anthropologists and semiologists from European and American universities (University of Chicago, University of Harvard, University of Notre Dame, Polytechnic of Turin, CNRS-Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Cork University, University of Cagliari) and is aimed at creating a dialogue between US linguistic anthropology and Paris school post-Greimasian semiotics and to produce a journal special issue.

2020-2022

**Member of the Writing Viral Collective**, an experimental ethnographic working group, gathering a number of anthropologists (University of Chicago; SUNY Binghamton; Columbia University; Sarah Lawrence College) who, throughout the 2020-2022 pandemic, periodically met online via Zoom to collaborate at an experimental research project, which produced a co-authored monograph entitled *Dispatches from Home and the Field During the Covid-19 Pandemic*. (Palgrave 2022)  
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-19193-0>

2022-

**Member of CaMP reading group**, a reading group gathering European and North American scholars of anthropology, performance and media studies, who periodically meet online for a reading seminar. <https://campanthropology.org/virtual-reading-group/>

2021-

**Member of ELAN (EASA Linguistic Anthropology Network** part of European Association of Social Anthropologists), a research network of scholars interested in promoting linguistic anthropology research and teaching across European academic institutions and facilitate community building among linguistic anthropologists and allied scholars who work, study, research, or are otherwise interested in the intersection between language and social relations in Europe and beyond. Elan coordinates a monthly online seminar in which participants read and discuss a work-in-progress shared by a colleague. Elan publishes a regular newsletter featuring information on linguistic anthropology related events, job openings and publications. and has hosted online reading groups, meet-the-author book discussions, and teaching workshops. We encourage new ideas for network events. <https://www.easaonline.org/networks/elan/>

2009-2020

**Member of NYLAWG Research Group** (New York Linguistic Anthropology Working Group). Based in the NYU (New York University) Department of Anthropology, NYLAWG is an informal research group gathering scholars who work in various universities situated

in the “Tri-State-Region” (New York, New Jersey e Connecticut) with the aim of facilitating intellectual exchanges about anthropological perspectives on language. NYLAWG also organizes a periodic research seminar in which participants read and discuss a work-in-progress shared by a colleague.

<https://as.nyu.edu/departments/anthropology/graduate/doctoral-programs/graduate-program-in-linguistic-anthropology.html>

2000-2002     **Member of the national research project COFIN ex-40% ‘I luoghi dei Vivi e i luoghi dei morti’** (places of the living places of the dead). National Scientific Prof. Francesco Remotti. Local Research Unit University of Milan. Director Prof. Ugo Fabietti.

## **MEMBER OF EDITORIAL BOARDS**

SEMIOTIC REVIEW (2025-)

[HTTPS://WWW.SEMIOTICREVIEW.COM/](https://www.semioticreview.com/)

JOURNAL OF LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY (WILEY)-MEMBER OF EDITORIAL BOARD (2025-2028)

[HTTPS://ANTHROSOURCE.ONLINELIBRARY.WILEY.COM/JOURNAL/15481395](https://anthrosource.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15481395)

LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY (CAMBRIDGE)- ASSOCIATE EDITOR (2024-2027)

[HTTPS://WWW.CAMBRIDGE.ORG/CORE/JOURNALS/LANGUAGE-IN-SOCIETY/INFORMATION/ABOUT-THIS-JOURNAL/EDITORIAL-BOARD](https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/language-in-society/information/about-this-journal/editorial-board)

SIGNS AND SOCIETY (UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO AND CAMBRIDGE)- MEMBER OF EDITORIAL BOARD (2023-2026)

[HTTPS://WWW.JOURNALS.UCHICAGO.EDU/JOURNALS/SAS/BOARD](https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/journals/sas/board)

## **REVIEWER FOR ACADEMIC JOURNALS AND PRESSES**

- American Anthropologist
- Annali di Studi Religiosi
- Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde (BKI)
- Cambridge University Press
- Current Anthropology
- Ethos
- Ethnos
- Etnografia e Ricerca Qualitativa
- Indonesia
- Language in Society
- Journal of Linguistic Anthropology
- Journal of Material Culture
- Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute (incorporating Man)
- Journal of Sociolinguistics
- Oxford University Press
- Polaar
- Routledge
- Signs and Society
- Social Semiotics
- Text and Talk
- University of Toronto Press
- Versus: quaderni di studi semiotici

## **COURSES TAUGHT (2009-PRESENT)**

### UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA

- INTERDISCIPLINARITY, TRANSLATION, CLUES: Umberto Eco's Semiotics (C7669) – Module II (8 hours). Special Course for the Collegio Superiore solo nell'A.A. 2025/2026. Co-taught with Claudio Paolucci e Pierluigi Basso.
- LANGUAGE AND LATE CAPITALISM- (GRADUATE) 2021-PRESENT
- SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY (M-Z)- 2020-PRESENT
- LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY-(GRADUATE ) 2021-PRESENT
- CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY (M-Z)- 2020-21

### SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

- LANGUAGE AND CAPITALISM—ADVANCED/ Intermediate—Spring 2020
- How Things Talk—Lecture— Spring 2020
- LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY –Intermediate – Yearlong (2009-20010)
- LANGUAGE, CULTURE, AND INTERACTION – Open- Yearlong (2009-2010)
- LANGUAGE AND THE POLITICS OF EVERYDAY LIFE– Advanced - Fall (2010-2011)
- LANGUAGE, CULTURE, PERFORMANCE, AND INTERACTION– First Year Studies (2010-2011)
- LANGUAGE AND RACE- Open- Spring (2010-2011)
- CONSTRUCTING THE SELF AND IMAGINING THE OTHER IN THE US AND BEYOND – Open- Fall (2011-2012)
- FIELD METHODS IN THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE- Intermediate – Fall (2011-2012)
- LANGUAGE, CULTURE, AND PERFORMANCE –Lecture- Spring (2011-2012)
- POLITICAL LANGUAGE AND PERFORMANCE – Advanced - Spring (2011-2012)
- THE POWER OF WORDS: LANGUAGE, HEGEMONY, AND SOCIAL INEQUALITY - Open- Fall (2012-2013)
- CULTURES OF THE COLONIAL ENCOUNTER - Intermediate - Fall (2012-2013)
- GLOBAL FRICTIONS AND FLOWS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND BELOW - Intermediate - Yearlong (2013-2014)
- Love In the Time of Neoliberalism– FALL (2014-2015)
- Language, Politics, And Affect – INTERMEDIATE – SPRING (2014-2015)
- Language And the Poetics of Emotions –OPEN– SPRING (2016-2017)
- How Things Talk: The Linguistic Materialities of Late Capitalism (Fys 2018-2109)
- Language Matters: The Cultural Grammars of Capitalism- ADVANCED (2018-2109)
- How Things Talk-Lecture (Spring 2020)
- Language And Capitalism Advanced (Spring 2020)

## **FIELDWORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 42 months of Ethnographic and Linguistic Fieldwork in Indonesia (Jakarta, Makassar, Tana Toraja): July 1997 to September 1997 (Toraja); July 1998 to September 1998 (Toraja); July 2000 to August 2000 (Toraja); July 2001 to September 2001 (Toraja); May 2002 to March 2003 (Jakarta, Makassar, and Toraja); June 2004 to October 2004 (Makassar and Toraja); December 2005 to January 2006 (Toraja); November 2007 to January 2008 (Toraja), April-May (Bali) 2013, June 2013 (Toraja); July-August 2016 (Jakarta); October 2016-January 2017 (Toraja), May-June 2017 (Toraja); August-November 2017 (Toraja); March 2018 (Toraja and Mamasa), December 2022-January 2023 (Jakarta and Bali), January 2024 (Jakarta and Bali).
- 6 months of Fieldwork in Portugal (Lisbon): April-August 2008, July-September 2007, April-May 2006, August 2011.
- 3 months in Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur, Bandar Baru Bangi): June-August 1999.
- 2 months in Northern Australia and Timor Leste (Darwin and Dili): January-February 2008.

- 17 months of fieldwork in northern and central Italy: May-September 2019; June-October 2020, July-November 2022, July-October 2023; June-August 2024
- 5 months in the US (NY, California): January-April 2017; October-December 2020

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (AAA)  
Society for Linguistic Anthropology (SLA)  
ASAO (Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania)  
ELAN (European Linguistic Anthropology Network)

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

- Commissione Overseas, University of Bologna (2021-)
- Committee on Diversity, Fall 2019 (elected member-three year tenure)
- Committee on Student Life, Fall 2013 (elected member-three year tenure)
- Committee on Student Work, Spring 2012 (elected member)
- Member of Practice-based learning group, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2015
- Member of Faculty Teaching Workshops, 2009-2014
- Participation in “Bringing Theory to Practice: Empowering Women and Ending Racism”, Office of Community Partnerships and the Office of Diversity and Campus Engagement, November 2011
- Member of Seidelman committee, Spring 2011
- Representative for the Social Sciences at the Faculty Group Reception on Admitted Students’ Days, Spring 2011 and 2012
- Technology Liaison - Representative for the Social Sciences Group, Fall 2010
- Language and Race, Talk given on April 12, 2010 for the 2010 DAPS Race Summit 2010

## **Languages**

- English
- Italian
- Indonesian
- Portuguese
- Toraja