

Brendan Hennessey

Binghamton University • Department of Romance Languages and Literatures
bhennes@binghamton.edu

CURRENT APPOINTMENT

2014 – Present: Associate Professor of Italian, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures,
Binghamton University (SUNY)

EDUCATION

2006-2011: University of California – Los Angeles, Ph.D. 2011, Italian Studies

2003-2005: University of Notre Dame, M.A. 2005, Italian Studies

1996-2000: University of Wisconsin – Madison, B.A. 2000 History & Italian

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Luchino Visconti and the Alchemy of Adaptation (SUNY Press, 2021)

Selected Publications

“The Old, the Frail, and the Misinformed: Cholera and Visconti’s *Death in Venice* (1971),” in *Disguising Disease in Italian Political and Visual Culture: From Post-Unification to Covid-19*, edited by Sharon Hecker & Arianna Arisi Rota. New York: Routledge, 2024. [Invited article]

“‘Neorealism is a scam:’ Fernando Vallejo, the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia, and Italy’s Connection to Colombian Cinema,” *Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies*, Vol 12, Issue 2 (2024): 1-17. [Peer-reviewed article]

“*Senso*,” in *Italian Cinema from the Silent Screen to the Digital Image*, edited by Joseph Luzzi, 317-322. Bloomsbury Academic, 2020. [Invited essay]

“Luchino Visconti” (2020), *Oxford Online Bibliographies*. [Peer-reviewed critical bibliography]

“Standards and Peculiarities: The Christopher G. Wagstaff Film Collection,” *Italian Culture*, Vol. 37, Issue 2 (2019): 132-136. [Peer-reviewed article]

“Reel Simulations: CGI and Special Effects in Two Films by Paolo Sorrentino,” *The Italianist*, 37.3 (2017): 449-463. [Peer-reviewed article]

“Introduction,” by Brendan Hennessey, Laurence E. Hooper, Charles L. Leavitt IV, Special Issue: Realisms and Idealisms in Italian Culture, 1300-2017, *The Italianist*, 37:3 (2017): 281-288. [Peer-reviewed article]

“Patterns of Pugilism: *Rocco e i suoi fratelli* (1960) and the Boxing Film,” *The Italianist*, 36:2 (2016): 214-242. [Peer-reviewed article]

“Resisting Discrimination and Anti-Semitism on the Culture Page of *L’Unità del Popolo*, 1939-1941.” *Italian American Review*, Volume 4, Number 1 (2014): 1-20. [Peer-reviewed article]

“Bread, Wine, and Celluloid: Tuscan Cuisine at the Movies (82-3),” “Romola (12-13),” “Bobby Deerfield (62-3),” “Hannibal (98-9),” “Under the Tuscan Sun (108-9),” in *World Film Locations: Florence*, edited by Alberto Zambenedetti. Bristol: Intellect, 2014. [Invited essays]

“Notes on a Queer Visconti: Auteurism, Identity, and Ambiguity, *The Damned* (1969),” in *Queer Crossings: Theories, Bodies, Texts*, edited by Silvia Antosa, 123-138. Milan: Mimesis, 2012. [Book chapter]

“Theatrical Spaces in Luchino Visconti’s *Le notti bianche* (1957).” *Modern Language Notes*, Volume 126, No.1, Italian Edition (January 2011): 157-178. [Peer-reviewed article]

“A Cinematic Premonition of Disorder: Social and Political Satire in Bellocchio’s *La cina è vicina*.” *Carte Italiane*, Vol. 4 (2008): 173-188. [Peer-reviewed article]

Edited Collections

Special Issue, *The Italianist* 37.3 (2017) ‘Realisms and Idealisms in Italian Culture, 1300-2017,’ edited by Brendan Hennessey, Laurence E. Hooper, Charles L. Leavitt IV, 188 pages.

Anniversary Issue, *Carte Italiane* (2008) ‘Italy 1968: Representations and Memories of 1968 and Its Aftermath in Italian Culture,’ edited by Sarah Carey and Brendan Hennessey, 333 pages.

Book Reviews

Review of Federico Vitella’s *L’età dello schermo panoramico: il cinema italiano e la rivoluzione widescreen* (2018) in *Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies*, Vol.8, Number 3 (June, 2020): 459-462.

Review of Michael Syrimis’ *The Great Black Spider on its Knock-kneed Tripod: Reflections of Cinema in Early Twentieth-century Italy* (Ontario Canada: University of Toronto Press, 2012) in *Forum Italicum*, 48.1 (May, 2014): 151-153.

Review of Antonio Vitti’s (ed.), *Incontri cinematografici e culturali tra due mondi* (Metauro Edizioni, 2012) in *Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies*, Vol. 1, N.3 (2014): 343-345.

Review of Jonathan Walker's *Pistols! Treason! Murder! The Rise and Fall of a Master Spy* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009) in *Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, Vol. 41 (2010): 313-315.

Translations

(Book) *Toward Total Poetry*. By Adriano Spatola. Translated by Guy Bennett & Brendan Hennessey. Los Angeles: Seismicity Editions, 2008.

(Poems) Selected poems by Giorgio Orelli & Luciano Erba. *Those Who From Afar Look Like Flies: An Anthology of Italian Poetry from Officina to the Present*, edited by Giuseppe Cavatorta & Luigi Ballerini. University of Toronto Press, 2016.

(Poems) Selected poems by Leonardo Sinisgalli. *Sentence: a journal of prose poetics*, No.6, Spring (2008).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Binghamton University – Independently Designed and Taught Courses (2014 – Present)

The Italian Mafia • Upper-level Undergraduate & Graduate Seminar

Filming Italian American New York • Upper-level Undergraduate & Graduate Seminar

Poetry of Light: Italian Literary Adaptation • Upper-level Undergraduate & Graduate Seminar

Italian Cinema from Fascism to the New Millennium • Upper-level Undergraduate & Graduate Seminar

Revolutionary Italy and the Risorgimento • Upper-level Undergraduate & Graduate Seminar

Culture and Cuisine in Italian Film and Literature • Upper-level Undergraduate & Graduate Seminar

Comedy, Italian Style • Upper-level Undergraduate & Graduate Seminar

Glamour and Industry in Italian Cinema • Upper-level Undergraduate & Graduate Seminar

Italian Through Film • Third-year Undergraduate Course

Reading Contemporary Italy • Third-year Undergraduate Course

2nd Year Italian • Undergraduate Course

Streaming Italy: How Netflix Represents Italy • First-year Undergraduate Course

Italian for Travel • First-year Undergraduate Course

University of Notre Dame – Post-doctoral Fellow (2013-14)

Colby College – Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian (2011 – 2013)

University at Buffalo – Lecturer in Italian (2010-11)

University of California, Los Angeles – Instructor of Italian (2006-2010)

University of Notre Dame – Instructor of Italian (2003-2005)

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

- 2024:** IASH Faculty Fellowship, Binghamton University (Fall Semester)
- 2022 - :** Co-Editor - Book Reviews, *Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies*
- 2020 - :** Affiliated Faculty, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures
University of Notre Dame
- 2013-14:** Post-Doctoral Scholar - Department of Romance Languages and Literatures,
University of Notre Dame
- 2010-11:** Research Mentor Fellowship - Department of Italian
UCLA
- 2006-9:** Chancellor's Award for Doctoral Research - Graduate Division
UCLA

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED LECTURES

- 2023** Panelist, Canadian Association of Italian Studies Conference, Montreal
“*Cristo si è fermato a Eboli* and the New Photographic Map of Italy, 5/6/23
- 2021** Panelist, American Association of Italian Studies Conference (Online)
“Adaptation and Rejection: The Case of *Ossessione*,” 5/24/21
- 2018** Invited Lecturer, *UNICO* Annual Meeting, Binghamton, New York
“Italian Americans in Western New York,” 5/3/18
- 2017** Invited Lecturer, The Future of the Wagstaff Film Collection
Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Notre Dame, 4/16/17
- Panelist, MLA Roundtable on Digital Humanities in Italian Studies, Philadelphia
“Introduction to the Christopher Wagstaff Digital Archive of Italian Film,” 1/5/17
- 2016** Panelist, Realisms and Idealisms Conference, Dartmouth College
“Decadentism in the Digital Age: Paolo Sorrentino in the Technosphere,” 4/17/16
- Invited Lecturer, Department of Romance Languages, Villanova University

“Romans Decomposed: Senescence and Decline in the New Italian Cinema,” 3/17/16

2015 Panelist, NEMLA Conference, Toronto, Canada

“Cyborg Separations: Cinematic Detachments of the Fascist Frogman,” 5/2/15

2013 Panelist, American Association of Italian Studies Conference, Eugene

“Fighters Migrate North: Southern Immigration in the Boxing Film,” 4/13/13

2012 Panelist, NEVIS Conference, Rome

“The Jewish Barber in New York: The Reception of Charlie Chaplin in Italian Harlem,” 6/15/12

2011 Panelist, Contemporary Italian Cinema Symposium, Bloomington

“Translating Resistance Mythology in Visconti’s ‘Giorni di Gloria,’” 4/15/11

2010 Panelist, University of Palermo Queer Crossings Conference, Palermo

“Constructing the Deviant Nazi in Visconti’s *La caduta degli dei* (1969),” 6/19/10

Panelist, NEMLA Conference, Montreal

“*White Nights* (1957) and Allegories of Italian Communism,” 4/10/10

BINGHAMTON PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2024: Interim Undergraduate Advisor

2022 - present: Member, Faculty Senate

2023 - present: Evaluation Coordinating Committee

2017 & 2022: Interim Graduate Advisor

2014 - present: Gamma Kappa Alpha Faculty Advisor

2014 - present: Advisor, Italian

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Italian: Near-native fluency

Spanish: Advanced written, spoken, and written comprehension

French: Advanced reading comprehension