



**Sapienza - University of Rome
Department of European, American
and Intercultural Studies**



Bad Cities
Literature & Urban Violence

June 3 - 4, 2019

**Edificio Marco Polo - Room 102
Circonvallazione Tiburtina, 4**

Sponsored by Sapienza - Università di Roma

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

**UGO RUBEO, PAOLO SIMONETTI
SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME**

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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**SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA**

FINANZIAMENTI DI ATENEO PER LA RICERCA SCIENTIFICA

3 JUNE 2019 9:00 REGISTRATION

9:30 OPENING REMARKS
Dean of the Faculty, Head of the Department, Organizers

9:30 SESSION A URBAN VIOLENCE & ITS LITERARY STYLES

PAUL GRIMSTAD (COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, N.Y.)
Style and Violence in Slicks and Pulps

PAOLO SIMONETTI (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
Sight and the City: A. Miller's *Focus* & P. Roth's *Nemesis*

Discussion

11:00 COFFEE BREAK

ANNA FERRARI (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
AIDS and New York: the Violence of Silence

UGO RUBEO (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
Bad Cities: from Poe's Paris to Contemporary L.A.

Discussion

13:00 LUNCH

15:00 SESSION B VIOLENCE IN BLACK TIE

ROSS POSNOCK (COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, N.Y.)
Deadly Sophistication: Surveying an American Urban Icon

MARCO PETRELLI (UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA)
When the Levee Breaks: New Orleans Through Katrina

Discussion

GIORGIO MARIANI (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
Baghdad Noir

UMBERTO ROSSI (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
Yoked in Gowanus: J. Lethem's *The Fortress of Solitude*

18:00 DRINKS & SNACKS

4 JUNE 2019

9:30 SESSION C THE EUROPEAN COUNTERPOINT

MASSIMO BLANCO (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
Parigi tra cronaca e finzione

MARIO MARTINO (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
Archetypes of metropolitan violence in Charles Dickens

Discussion

11:00 COFFEE BREAK

ELISABETTA MONDELLO (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
Il realismo dell'irrealtà. La città nera del romanzo italiano contemporaneo

ANTONELLA GARGANO (SAPIENZA - UNIVERSITY OF ROME)
Berlino ai margini

Discussion

13:00 LUNCH

15:00 SESSION D NEW DYNAMICS IN LITERARY CRIME

THOMAS HEISE (PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY)
The Death of the City: Blight, Gentrification, and the Redevelopment of Crime Literature

NICOLA PALADIN (UNIVERSITY OF TRIESTE)
New England Unbound: Peripheral Social Distortions in the Work of J. Haigh and J. Dee

ANNA SCACCHI (UNIVERSITY OF PADUA)
The Urban Ghetto as New Plantation: Angie Thomas's *THUG* and #BLM Literature

Discussion

ANTONELLO VILLANI (FILMMAKER AND FREELANCE COLLEGE PROFESSOR)
L.A. Dark. A Literary Tale in Images

19:00-21:00 CLOSING RECEPTION: CASA DELL'AVIATORE HOTEL