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Brief Biography

I am Associate Professor of Italian Literature at the Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, and of Italian Studies at the University of Sydney. My research addresses the diffusion of ideas in Italian and European history, especially between the thirteenth and the eighteenth century, and places itself at the intersection of the histories of literature, religion, and philosophy. After earning degrees from the Università di Bologna and Brown University, I have been a DAAD Fellow at the Seminar für Geistesgeschichte und Philosophie der Renaissance at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, a Frances A. Yates Fellow at the Warburg Institute in London, a Research Fellow at the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies at Columbia University, a Lauro de Bosis Fellow at Harvard University, and an Ahmanson Fellow at the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies - Villa I Tatti.

Curriculum Vitae

Current positions

Associate Professor of Italian Literature, Department of Education and Humanities, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia

Associate Professor (Level D) of Italian Studies, School of Languages and Cultures, University of Sydney

Academic positions

Associate Professor, Department of Education and Humanities, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia (2022-)

Chair, Department of Italian Studies, University of Sydney (2020-2022)

Associate Professor (Level D), Department of Italian Studies, University of Sydney (2019-)

Senior Lecturer (Level C), Department of Italian Studies, University of Sydney (2012-2018)

Lecturer (Level B), Department of Italian Studies, University of Sydney (2009-2011)

Lauro de Bosis Fellow in the History of Italian Civilization, Harvard University (2008-2009)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Italian Studies, McGill University, Canada (2006-08)

Research Fellow, The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University (2005-2006)

Research Fellow, The Warburg Institute, University of London (2004-2005; Frances A. Yates Short-time Fellow: Sept.-Dec. 2004)

Education

Ph.D. in Italian Studies, Brown University, USA (2004)

M.A. in Italian Studies, Brown University, USA (2002)

‘Laurea in Filosofia,’ Università di Bologna, Italy (2000)

Fellowships and honours

- Visiting Fellowship, Institute of Advanced Studies, Università di Bologna (November-December 2021; declined)
- Ahmanson Fellowship, Villa I Tatti - Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies (2014-2015)
- Visiting Fellowship, Sapienza Università di Roma (June 2011)
- Lauro de Bosis Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the History of Italian Civilization, Harvard University (2008-09)
- Visiting Professorship, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Facultad de Filosofía y Letras (May 2008)
- Research Fellowship, The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University (2005-06)
- Dame Frances A. Yates Short-term Fellowship, The Warburg Institute (Sept.-Dec. 2004)
- Honorable Mention: Joukowsky Foundation Outstanding Dissertation Award, Brown University (May 2004)
- Howard and Jan Swearer Graduate Fellowship, Brown University (2003-04)
- DAAD Research Fellowship, Seminar für Geistesgeschichte und Philosophie der Renaissance, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany (March-June 2003)
- University Fellowship, Brown University (June-July 2003)
- University Fellowship, Brown University (June 2002)

A. RESEARCH

Publications (selected)

Books

- Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, *Lettere*, edizione critica a cura di F. Borghesi (Florence: Olschki, 2018).
- *Concordia, pietas et docta religio. Le lettere di Giovanni Pico della Mirandola. Edizione e studio dell'incunabolo bolognese del 1496* (Bologna: il Mulino, 2004).

Edited volumes

- *Translating the East: Theories and Practices in Europe, China and Tibet between the Sixteenth- and the Nineteenth-Century*, eds. F. Borghesi and Y. Lü. A special issue of the journal *Intellectual History Review* 34/3 (2024).
- *La biblioteca di Giovanni Pico della Mirandola. Tra bilanci e prospettive di ricerca*, ed. F. Borghesi (Bologna: Marietti1820, 2024).
- *Peace and Concord from Plato to Lessing*, eds. A. Benjamin and F. Borghesi. A special issue of the journal *Theoria. A Journal of Social and Political Theory* 159 (2019).
- *From Ancient Theology to Civil Religion*, ed. F. Borghesi. A special issue of the journal *Intellectual History Review* 29/1 (2019).
- *Machiavelli*, ed. F. Borghesi. A special issue of the journal *Italian Culture* 32/2 (2014).
- Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, *Oration on the Dignity of Man. An edition with commentary*, eds. F. Borghesi, M. Papio and M. Riva (Cambridge-New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012).
- *Word and Image, East and West*, eds. G. Alù and F. Borghesi. A special issue of the journal *Literature & Aesthetics* 22/2 (2012).
- *Un seminario di filologia digitale alla Columbia University*, ed. F. Borghesi. *Storicamente* 4 (2008): <https://storicamente.org/rubrica-tecnostoria-2008.all>.

Journal articles and book chapters

- (with Y. Lü) “Translating the East: an introduction.” *Intellectual History Review* 34/3 (2024): 523-533. DOI: 10.1080/17496977.2024.2374689.
- “Ricostruire la biblioteca picchiana.” In *La biblioteca di Giovanni Pico della Mirandola. Tra bilanci e prospettive di ricerca*, ed. F. Borghesi (Bologna: Marietti1820, 2024): 9-28.
- (with Y. Lü, D. Canaris, and Th. Meynard) “Transforming the East: A New Research Project in Australia.” *Cromohs. Cyber Review of Modern Historiography*, 24 (2021): 148-160. DOI: 10.36253/cromohs-13573.
- (with A. Benjamin) “From Concord to Peace.” *Theoria. A Journal of Social and Political Theory* 159 (2019): 1-7.
- “From the ‘Renaissance’ to the ‘Enlightenment’.” *Intellectual History Review* 29/1 (2019): 1-10.
- (with D. Canaris) “Defining the Emotions in the Post-Cartesian Humanism of Giambattista Vico.” In *Before Emotion: The Language of Feeling, 400-1800*, eds. J. F. Ruys, M. W. Champion and K. Essary (New York-London: Routledge, 2019): 212-228.
- “Teologia delle religioni nel Quattrocento. La concordia in Niccolò Cusano e Giovanni Pico della Mirandola.” *Filosofia politica* 32/1 (2018): 29-46.

- “Il camaleonte in cerca di ordine. Giovanni Pico della Mirandola tra pluralismo religioso e concordia filosofica.” In *Pico tra cultura e letteratura dell’Umanesimo. Giornata di studi in occasione del 550° anniversario della nascita (1463-2013)*, ed. G. Ventura (Bologna: Dipartimento di Filologia Classica e Italianistica, 2017): 41-53.
- “Something New on Machiavelli: An Introduction.” *Italian Culture* 32/2 (2014): 79-84.
- (with Giorgia Alù) “Introduction: Between Word and Image, East and West”. In *Word and Image, East and West*, eds. G. Alù and F. Borghesi. Special Issue of *Literature & Aesthetics* 22/2 (2012): 1-12.
- “Interpretations.” In Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, *Oration on the Dignity of Man. An edition with commentary*, eds. F. Borghesi, M. Papio and M. Riva (Cambridge-New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012): 52-65.
- (with M. Riva) “Overview of the Text SS1-23.” In Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, *Oration on the Dignity of Man. An edition with commentary*, eds. F. Borghesi, M. Papio and M. Riva (Cambridge-New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012): 66-70.
- “Pro libertate nostra.” In *Giovanni Pico della Mirandola. Su pensamiento, influencias y repercusiones*, ed. E. Priani Saisó (Mexico City: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, 2012): 31-55.
- “For the Good of All: Notes on the idea of *concordia* during the late Middle Ages.” *Italian Poetry Review* 5 (2010): 215-236 [published in 2012].
- “Uma vida de obras.” In *Pico della Mirandola. Novo Ensaios*, ed. M. V. Dougherty, trans. G. Schanoski Jr. (São Paulo: Madras 2011): 237-256. Brazilian translation of “A life in works.”
- “«Al posto della morte c’era la luce»: l’etica della lettura di Pier Cesare Bori.” In *In the Image of God: Foundations and Objections within the Discourse on Human Dignity. Proceedings of the Colloquium at Bologna and Rossena (July 2009) in Honour of Pier Cesare Bori*, eds. A. Melloni and R. Saccenti (Berlin: LIT Verlag, 2010): 9-24.
- “A life in works.” In *Pico della Mirandola. New Essays*, ed. M. V. Dougherty (Cambridge-New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008): 202-219.
- “Un seminario di filologia digitale alla Columbia University.” *Storicamente* 4 (2008). DOI: 10.1473/stor296.
- “Anima.” In *Dizionario dei temi letterari*, eds. R. Ceserani, M. Domenichelli and P. Fasano (Turin: Utet, 2007), vol. I (A-E): 93-97.
- “Cos’è un ‘problema storico’? Riflessioni metodologiche su Ginzburg e dintorni.” *Discipline filosofiche* 16/1 (2006): 109-126.
- “Per la pubblicazione delle lettere di Giovanni Pico della Mirandola.” *Rinascimento* 43 (2003): 257-269 [published in 2004].
- “Pico e la concordia. A partire da un dibattito recente.” *Schede umanistiche* 17/2 (2003): 91-107.
- “Tracce e congetture per un percorso nel genere epistolare: premessa a una *recensio* del carteggio pichiano.” *Schede umanistiche* 14/2 (2000): 33-98.

Research grants

- 2023-2025: *Images of China from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment*, Borghesi F (lead), Guasti N, Menetti E, Cattaneo AM, Catto M, Motta F; Italian Ministry of University PRIN 2022 PNRR (P2022RWWHN; EUR229,903).

- 2021-2025: *Transforming the East: Jesuit Translations of the Confucian Classics*; **Borghesi F (lead)**, Lü Y, Canaris D, Meynard, T; Australian Research Council Discovery Project (DP210100458; **AUD229,950**).
- 2019: *Pico della Mirandola Virtual Library Project*; **Borghesi, F**, University of Sydney, Medieval and Early Modern Centre (**AUD5,000**).
- 2018-2019: *Multispecies Justice Program*; Celermajer D, Schlosberg D, **Borghesi, F**, Kindt J, McCalman I, Nassar D, Neimanis A, Park S, Pearse R, Quigley K, van Dooren T, Wadiwel D, Waldow A, University of Sydney, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences/FASS Strategic Research Themes 2018-2021 (**AUD79,745**).
- 2018: *Pico della Mirandola Virtual Library Project*; **Borghesi, F**, University of Sydney, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences/FASS External Engagement Accelerator (**AUD7,000**).
- 2017-2018: *Sydney Digital Humanities Research Group*; **Borghesi, F (lead)**, Whiteman S, Byron M, Allon M, Milam J, White S, Barwick L, McCrabb I, Hammond J, Sun C; University of Sydney, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences/FASS Collaborative Research Scheme (**AUD39,824**).
- 2017-2018: *Enlightenment Thinking*; Milam J, **Borghesi F**, Caine B, Gaukroger S, Sluga G, Nassar D, Waldow A, Moir C; University of Sydney, DVC Research/Sydney Research Excellence Initiative 2020 (SREI; **AUD150,984**).
- 2015-2017: *Cultures of Modernities in the Global Medieval and Pre-Modern World*; Amer S, Sirantoine H, Klein E, Anstey P, Gagne J, **Borghesi F**, Wooding J, Shaw J, Griffiths H; University of Sydney, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences/SSSHARC Collaborative Projects Support Scheme (**AUD37,000**).
- 2015-2020: *Concord in the Renaissance*; **Borghesi F**; Australian Research Council Discovery Project (DP150104077; **AUD179,700**).
- 2013-2023: *Sydney Intellectual History Network*; Milam J, **Borghesi F (2016-2023 co-lead)**, Waldow A, Asproumorgos A, Caine B, Ferng J, Fitzmaurice A, Gaukroger S, Helbig D, Karalis V, Kerridge I, Macarthur D, Nassar D, Redding P, Sadurski W, Sevel M, Sluga G, Smith M, Walton K; University of Sydney, DVC Research/Research Network Scheme (SyReNS; **AUD200,000**).
- 2012-2013: *Writing the World - Transnationalism in Literary Studies Research Group*; Morgan P, Bandhauer A, **Borghesi F**, Christie W, Cowan R, Dixon R, Giles P, Karalis V, Kirkpatrick P, Lu Y, Minter P, Parsons N, Rooney B, Suter R, Walsh A; University of Sydney, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences/FASS Collaborative Research Scheme (**AUD34,900**).
- 2012-2013: *Undoing the Ancient Research Group*; **Borghesi F (2013 lead)**, Blanshard A, Ledbury A, Milam J, Gagne J, Muecke F, Turner M; University of Sydney, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences/FASS Collaborative Research Scheme (**AUD36,700**).
- 2000-2005: *Research on Pico della Mirandola's Letters*; **Borghesi, F**; Centro Internazionale di Studi Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, Italy (**EUR20,000**).

Papers and talks (selected; excluding papers presented at professional associations)

- Papers presented at academic and other institutions: Art Gallery of New South Wales (Sydney, Australia), University of Sydney (Sydney, Australia), Monash University (Melbourne, Australia), University of Melbourne (Australia), University of Queensland (Brisbane, Australia), University of New England (Armidale, Australia), Harvard University (Cambridge, Mass., USA), Columbia University (New York, NY, USA), UCLA (Los

Angeles, CA, USA), State University of New York at Buffalo (Buffalo, NY, USA), Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, NY, USA), McGill University (Montreal, Canada), University of Toronto (Canada), Oxford University (UK), University of Bristol (UK), University of Helsinki (Finland), Utrecht University (Netherlands), Università di Bologna, Università di Firenze, Sapienza Università di Roma, Università di Padova, Università di Torino, Università di Napoli L'Orientale, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Soongsil University (Seoul, South Korea), Zhejiang University (Hangzhou, China), Seshadripuram Evening College (Bengaluru, Karnataka, India), Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (Mexico City, Mexico), Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos (Lima, Peru).

- Conferences organized as lead or co-organizer at academic institutions: Columbia University, UCLA, McGill University, University of Sydney, Australian National University (Canberra, Australia), Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, FSCIRE-Fondazione per le scienze religiose Giovanni XXIII (Bologna).

Primary supervisions (at the University of Sydney; MPhil- and PhD-level only)

Current:

- Gavin Waldron, Neoplatonism and Kabbalah in Renaissance Philosophy (PhD in Italian Studies; completion expected in 2024).
- Rose Counsell, Finding Common Places: Florilegia, Sententiae, and the Jesuits in Japan and China (PhD in Japanese Studies; co-supervisor; completion expected in 2026).
- Nicholas Hales, Bonhoeffer's Use of Nietzsche in His Ideas about Resistance and Obligation Towards Governing Authorities (MPhil in European Studies; completion expected in 2025).

Completed:

- 2023: Darius Sepehri (Giovanni Pico della Mirandola and His Islamic Sources; PhD in International Comparative Literature and Translation Studies).
- 2021: Sean Lyons (Textual Scholarship and Computation: A Fibonacci Philological Model of the *Oration on the Dignity of Man*; MPhil in Italian Studies).
- 2020: Liminal Geographies of Suicide in Dante's *Commedia* (Emma Barlow; PhD in Italian Studies).
- 2018: Sufi Mystics and Christian Philosophers on the Knowledge of God (1100-1800): A Comparative Study (Mona Al-sharif; PhD in European Studies).
- 2017: Towards a New Italian Poetry: Prosody, Space, and Translingual Versification (Alice Loda; PhD in Italian Studies).
- 2017: Giambattista Vico and the Chinese Rites Controversy (Daniel Canaris; PhD in Italian Studies).
- 2016: Interpretations of Dante's *Divine Comedy* during the Fascist Regime in Italy and England (Keon Esky; PhD in Italian Studies).
- 2014: A Critical Edition of Giovanni Pascoli's *Odi e Inni* (Francesca Ori; PhD in Italian Studies).

B. SERVICE

Editorial and advisory board roles

- 2021-. Member of the editorial board of 'Biblion. Testi commentati del Medioevo e dell'Età Moderna' (<https://www.giorgiopozzieditore.it/collane/biblion.html>).
- 2019-. Member of the editorial board of 'Francigena,' a journal on the influence of French textual culture on the Italian Middle Ages (<https://www.francigena-unipd.com>).
- 2018-. General Editor for the book series 'Global Perspectives on Medieval and Early Modern Historiography,' published by Brepols Publishers (<https://www.brepols.net/series/gph>).
- 2016-. Member of the advisory board of the book series 'Edinburgh Studies in Comparative Political Theory and Intellectual History,' published by Edinburgh University Press (<https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/series-edinburgh-studies-in-comparative-political-theory-and-intellectual-history>).
- 2014-. Member of the editorial board of 'Italian Culture,' the journal of the American Association for Italian Studies (<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/yitc20/current>).
- 2010-. Member of the Worldwide Advisory Board of the Virtual Humanities Lab at Brown University (<https://www.brown.edu/academics/italian-studies/research-and-publications/virtual-humanities-lab-vhl>).

Administrative and leadership roles

- 2024-. Member of the Centre for Interdepartmental Research on Digital Humanities (DHMoRe; Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia).
- 2024-. Member of the Teaching Quality ("AQ") Committee (Master Degree in Religions Histories Cultures, Università di Bologna-Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia-Facoltà Teologica dell'Emilia-Romagna).
- 2023-. Member of the Erasmus Committee (Department of Education and Humanities, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia).
- 2020-2022. Chair of the Department of Italian Studies (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney).
- 2019-2023. Deputy Director of the Medieval and Early Modern Centre (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney).
- 2018-2023. Co-director of the Sydney Intellectual History Network at the University of Sydney.
- 2017-2023. Founder and Lead Researcher of the Sydney Digital Humanities Research Group (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney).
- 2016-2020. Member of the Social Inclusion Committee (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney).
- 2012-2023. Member of the executive board of the Medieval and Early Modern Centre (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney).
- 2011-2022. Member of the Research Advisory Committee (School of Languages and Cultures, University of Sydney).
- 2009-2022. Library liaison officer (Department of Italian Studies, University of Sydney).
- 2009-2022. Study abroad coordinator (Department of Italian Studies, University of Sydney).

- 2011-2014. Chair of the Library Committee (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney).
- 2010-2014. Member of the Research Committee (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney).
- 2006-2013. Co-founder and coordinator of the NISA (Network of Italian Scholars Abroad).
- 2006-2008. Founder and main organizer of the “Italian Studies Speakers Series,” a conference series organized on behalf of the Department of Italian Studies at McGill University (C\$15,000 per calendar year received in supporting funds from the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Montreal for 2007 and 2008; C\$2,500 from McGill Faculty of Arts for academic year 2007-2008).
- 2006-2008. Study abroad advisor (Department of Italian Studies, McGill University).
- 2006-2008. Library liaison officer (Department of Italian Studies, McGill University).

C. TEACHING

Courses taught

Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy

- Undergraduate level: Letteratura italiana; Tecnologie del testo; Digital Humanities; Tradizioni mistiche cristiane.

University of Sydney, Australia

- Undergraduate level: Comparing Cultures: Europe and the East; Europe's Religions: Cultures and Beliefs; Dante and the Middle Ages; Machiavelli and Renaissance Italy; Passions in Italian Culture; History of Italian Literature; Free Thinking in the Italian Tradition (Honours Seminar); Medieval and Renaissance Italian Culture (Honours Seminar).
- Postgraduate level: Eros, Gender and Magic in the Renaissance.

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico, Mexico

- Postgraduate level: Tolerance and Concord in the European Philosophical Tradition (13th-20th century).

McGill University, Montreal, Canada

- Undergraduate level: Dante and the Middle Ages, The Italian Renaissance, Literature of the Renaissance, Tasso's *Gerusalemme Liberata*, Machiavelli.
- Postgraduate level: Transformations of the Idea of Concordia (13th-16th century), Petrarch and Petrarchism.