

WST 390.03

See Me Through You: Images of Italian Women in Contemporary Theatre and Popular Culture (Special Topic)

Instructor: Dr. Francesca Spedalieri
M/W 5:30 PM - 6:50 PM

Prerequisite:
WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor



Luigi Christopher Veggetti Kanku PENSIERI POSATI

What is, then, an “Italian Woman”? This class attempts to answer this question. We will use the plays of Palermitan director Emma Dante as a starting point to explore contemporary images of Italian women on stage and in popular culture in Italian and American film, TV series, and dramatic literature.

We will analyze these works through feminist and performance studies lenses in both an Italian and an American context. We will uncover the role of religion, class, sexuality, race, and geography in constructing (and deconstructing) the notion of a monolithic (and often romanticized) “Italian Woman.” We will investigate what synergies, tensions, and questions these works might conjure when superimposed to our “here and now.”



Marco Grassi 'Di-Gold Experience' 120-2



Poster for *Le Sorelle Macaluso* by Emma Dante
Courtesy of Compagnia Sud Costa Occidentale.