

JOYCE STUDIES IN ITALY

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JOYCE IN/AND ITALY

edited by

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FOREWORD

Twenty-nine years have elapsed since 1984, the year Giorgio Melchiori published *Joyce in Rome: the Genesis of Ulysses*, a volume of interrelated contributions for the 1982 Joyce Centenary celebrations in Rome. This was the first of what would become the *Joyce Studies in Italy* series, “an occasional publication aimed at collecting materials, which throw light upon Joyce’s work and Joyce’s world”. Open – at the outset – to the “contributions of scholars from other academic institutions, both in Italy and abroad”, in the course of time *Joyce Studies in Italy* has become a point of reference for Joyceans of every rank and country: established scholars, successful critics, young researchers and PhD students.

Still affirming its original intertextual approach, the series has always aimed at “developing a better understanding of the literary and human figure of Joyce, who, both as an individual and a writer, [still] represents an all-important cross-roads in Western culture.”

Particular consideration of the scientific interests of younger, would-be contributors – subject, as they are, to the recently adopted rules of the Italian evaluation system – is the reason for the present passage from the original form of occasional publication to that of a regular annual review. Our most heartfelt wish is that *Joyce Studies in Italy* might still continue to play its role on behalf of James Joyce – promoting a wider reading and a better understanding of his writing – and, at the same time, on behalf of his utopia of literature, intended as a key to human awareness, liberation and dignity.

From the wide range of Joyce’s works and Joyce’s criticism, contributions to the first number of this new series discuss a variety of topics, ranging from problems of translation with *Finnegans Wake* and *Ulysses*, to comparative readings of Joyce and Italian authors, such as Carlo Emilio Gadda and Stefano D’Arrigo, from Jacques Lacan and the Joyce effect, to Joyce’s use of *In the Track of the Sun* as a source in *Ulysses*, and the “histrionic” dimension of language in *Ulysses*.

A new addition to the volume is the Book Review section, which, we hope, will become more substantial in the future.

Our personal thanks go to Peter Douglas for his patient support.