



Invention of Italy







Tuesday 17th May 2016 - 6.30pm

Massimo Montanari

FOOD

Pellegrino Artusi and Unification at the table

In 1891 Pellegrino Artusi published a recipe book called *Science in the Kitchen and the Art of Eating Well* which he would continue to work on for twenty years, with subsequent additions and amendments made with the help of his male and female readership. For the first time ever a single recipe book was intended to contain most of the typical dishes of Italian local cuisine. Artusi mostly drew on family accounts (collected personally) from throughout Italy, in a survey of that ongoing exchange of theory and practice that has always characterized the history of Italian cooking.

Massimo Montanari teaches Medieval History and Food History at the University of Bologna, where he also directs a Master in "History and Culture of Food"

Tuesday 24th May 2016 - 6.30pm

John Foot **FOOTBALL**

1982: Pertini and the world champions

In 1982 Italy won the World Cup in a 3-1 victory over West Germany. The Italian President, the diminutive anti-fascist ex-partisan Sandro Pertini, celebrated in the stands. Meanwhile, in Italy itself, a wild party had just got underway and would continue for days. This talk will look at the links between national identity and the national team, and the ways in which that identity has been strengthened and weakened by its relationship with national sporting prowess and occasional disaster.

John Foot teaches Contemporary Italian History at the Department of Italian at the University of Bristol

Tuesday 31st May 2016 - 6.30pm

Lucy Riall UNIFICATION

Garibaldi and the Expedition of the Thousand

The story of Garibaldi and the Thousand is emblematic of the Risorgimento and Italian unification. The victory of the Expedition was not certain; when Garibaldi left Quarto he did so with low expectations of success: his aim was to make a dramatic gesture to demonstrate the existence of an Italian nation. Until the day it could exist politically, Italy had to be created on a symbolic level. But this is not the end of the story: the very handful of heroic Italians who created Italy, including Garibaldi, were soon to be politically marginalized. An Italian paradox.

Lucy Riall is Professor of History at Birkbeck, University of London, and holds the Chair in the Comparative History of Europe at the European University Institute in Florence

Tuesday 7th June 2016 - 7.30pm

Simona Colarizi

LIFESTYLE

1960: The economic miracle and "La dolce vita"

In just over a decade Italy had emerged from the material and moral ashes of the Second World War and a searing civil war that spelled the end of Fascism. A new democratic and republican State had been born, but the changes with respect to the past were not limited to institutions and politics.

A miracle — this was the exact term used to define those years of tumultuous growth in Italy, the years of Federico Fellini's "La Dolce Vita" which captured both the highs of the economic boom but also growing nostalgia for a world of tradition and certainty that was forever past.

Simona Colarizi is former Professor in Contemporary History, University of Rome "La Sapienza"

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Lectures will take place on Tuesdays at the National Library of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

FREE EVENT

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