

DAY ONE: JUNE 11

ROOM 107, MARCO POLO

9.00-10.00

REGISTRATION & GREETINGS

opening remarks: **Donatella Montini**
(Director of the PhD Programme
in SELT, Sapienza University of Rome)

10.00-11.30

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Chair: Fabio Ciambella

by **Esterino Adami** (University of Turin) titled:
"Words We Eat by': Embodied Joy and/in
Food Texts from the Anglosphere"

11.30-12.00

COFFEE BREAK

12:00-13:30

PANEL 1: LANGUAGES & STYLES OF JOY

• **Michele Brugnetti**, (Sapienza University of Rome & University of Silesia in Katowice) "Art Is the Veil': Oscar Wilde's Aestheticism & the Joy of Dispersal"

• **Giulia Travaglini** (Sapienza University of Rome), "Homely Joys in Stranger Tongues: How Contemporary Multilingual Writers Are Rewriting 'Home' in Anglophone Literature"

• **Adriana Marinelli** (University of Naples Parthenope), "'Sorrow, Joy, Woven Together':

The Stylistic Fabric of Affective Complexity in Robert Graves's Poetry"

13.30-15.00

LUNCH BREAK

15.00-17.00

PANEL 2: JOY AS COMMUNICATION

• **Tatiana Kozlova** (Sapienza University of Rome), "The Role of Positive Emotions in Second Language Teaching and Learning"

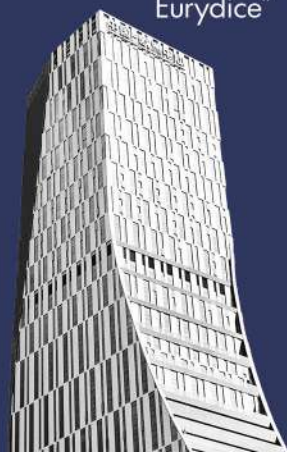
• **Dagmara Wasilewska** (University of Silesia in Katowice & Sapienza University of Rome), "The Joy of Encounter: A Familiar and Free Dialogue Between John Marshall and Madhusūdana Rāṛhīand, the Earliest English Translation of the 'Bhāgavata Purāṇa'"

• **Zoe Patterson** (Trinity College Dublin), "First We Feel. Then We Read: James Joyce Reading Groups, Modernist Hostility, and the Affectivity of Social Reading"

• **Chiara Mastronardo** (Trinity College Dublin), "The Joy of Being Shipwrecked: Sailing Through Julieta Campos' The Fear of Losing Eurydice"

17.30

SOCIAL DRINKS



DAY TWO: JUNE 12

ROOM 107, MARCO POLO

9.00-11.00

PANEL 3: JOY AS RESISTANCE

• **Martina Lombardo** (Sapienza University of Rome & University of Silesia in Katowice), "Dancing in the Face of Colonialism: Historic Trauma and Joyful Resistance in Phoenix Boudreau's 'Hunger'"

• **Isabel Rolfe** (Newcastle University), "Phantasies of Joy: The Occult Quest for Economic Independence in the Writings of Olivia Shakespear and Florence Farr"

• **Giulia Pellegrinotti** (University of Pisa), "The Existence of Joy and Sorrow in Brandon Sanderson's Mistborn as a Propeller for Rebellion and Change"

• **Yusra Hamiham** (Université Libre de Bruxelles), "Joy as Counter-Discourse: Writing, Languages, and Resistance in Rafik Schami's Narrative"

11.00-11.30

COFFEE BREAK



11.30-13.00
KEYNOTE LECTURE

Chair: Martina Lombardo

by **Francesca Mussi** (San Raffaele University of Rome) titled: "Pain and Joy in Indigenous Contemporary Storytelling from Canada"

13.15-14.00
CLOSING REMARKS

closing remarks: **Fabio Ciambella**
(Sapienza University of Rome)

**SCIENTIFIC
COMMITTEE**

The Faculty Board of the
PhD Programme in English
Literatures, Language and
Translation

**ORGANISING
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Michele Brugnetti, Wiktoria
Goluch, Oliwia Lasocka,
Martina Lombardo, Giulia
Travaglini

GRAPHICS

Aurora Agostini

MODERN JOYS

**11/12
JUNE
ROME • 2026**

*When the moon comes through the trailing
willow boughs, I see your face, I hear your
voice and the bird singing as we pass the osier
bed. What are you whispering?
Sorrow, sorrow. Joy, joy.
Woven together; like reeds in moonlight.*

(Virginia Woolf, "The String Quartet", 1921)



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



UNIwersYTET ŚLĄSKI
W KATOWICACH

Sapienza Graduate Conference 2026
39th Cycle of the SELT PhD Programme
Department of European, American and Intercultural Studies

MODERN JOYS

**The Affective Imagery of
Anglophone Modernity and
Its Languages of Joy**



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