

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

**Silvio Carta** is a PhD candidate in Italian Studies at the University of Birmingham. He is currently working on ethnographic films and documentaries in Sardinia and on the visual representation of mountain shepherds in Sardinia's interior.

**Sebastiano Ferrari** graduated with a distinction in Foreign Language and Literatures from the University of Calabria (UNICAL). He taught for five years at the Department of Italian of the National University of Ireland, Galway, (NUIG) as Language Assistant and part-time Lecturer. He was awarded a PhD in Italian cultural studies at Galway. He currently works as an Italian Teacher at the *Institut des langues vivantes* of the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL), Belgium.

**Joseph Francese** is Professor at Michigan State University, Senior Editor of Italian Culture, the journal of the American Association for Italian Studies, and a member of PMLA Advisory Committee. He is the author of more than three dozen articles and chapters on topics in Renaissance and contemporary literature, and has written books on Pasolini, postmodern narrative, and Italian cultural politics in the 1950s. His most recent book, *Socially Symbolic Acts. The Historicizing Fictions of Umberto Eco, Vincenzo Consolo, and Antonio Tabucchi*, was published in 2006 by Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. He has edited three volumes of collected essays, the latest being *Perspectives on Gramsci: Culture, Politics, and Social Theory* for Routledge.

**Andrea Hajek** studied French, Comparative Studies and Italian Studies at Utrecht University (Netherlands). She received her doctorate in Italian Studies from the University of Warwick (Coventry), with a dissertation on the public memory of the 1977 student protest movement in Bologna. She has published articles on 1970s terrorism in Italian history education and Italian contemporary fiction, and has a chapter on the '77 protest movement in a forthcoming German publication on the self-stylisation of the European left-wing milieu of the 1960s and 1970s. She has been a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for the study of Cultural Memory (University of London).

**Rossella Merlino** is currently completing PhD research at the University of Strathclyde, under the supervision of Joseph Farrell. Her research interests are on the cultural dimension of criminal organisations with specific reference to the Sicilian mafia. She received her MA in Contemporary Italian Culture and History from University College London. She is author of *From a Man to a 'Man of Honour': The Role of Religion in the Initiation Ritual of Cosa Nostra*, which is forthcoming in *The International Journal of the Humanities*.

**Henry Partridge** was recently awarded an MSc in Countering Organised Crime and Terrorism from the UCL Department of Security and Crime Science. His current research interests include organised crime, Sicilian history and literature. He has a PhD in German from Royal Holloway, University of London.