

and resistant, with broader ramifications for cultural mobility across the Mediterranean and our understanding of Venice as a uniquely diverse Early Modern city.

I am deeply grateful to the BSR for the Fellowship. I owe much to my fellow award-holders, the staff and in particular Harriet O'Neill (Assistant Director for Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences), who was a constant source of encouragement and advice.

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British and Italian intellectual networks: the Scots and English Colleges in Rome, c. 1603–1745

During my time as a Rome Fellow at the British School at Rome (2020–21), I researched the experiences of British students who studied at the English and Scots Colleges in Rome between 1603 and 1745. Practising the Catholic faith in England and Scotland during this time period was highly dangerous, and many students who desired a Catholic education had to travel abroad. I chose to focus specifically on the English and Scots Colleges in Rome as two case-studies for how Catholic students experienced migration and education overseas. The central aim of my project was to examine how the studies and experiences of students in Rome informed their national and confessional identity formation. My research focused on two key questions. First, to what extent did students' education abroad shape or challenge their theological and political beliefs, especially regarding the crisis of the Catholic Church back home? Second, to what degree did their interactions with local communities overseas contribute to their identity formation?

To answer these questions, I spent the majority of my time consulting material at the Historical Archive of the Pontificia Università Gregoriana, the Archivio Storico de Propaganda Fide and the Scots College archive. While my access to archives was significantly hindered by the severity of the pandemic in the autumn, I was able to enter all three regularly from March 2021. At the Gregorian University, I consulted evidence of the curriculum that British students were taught. Although students lived at their national colleges, they trained at the Collegio Romano (the central Jesuit-run educational institution in Rome and the precursor to the modern Gregorian University). The archive of the Gregorian University contains lecture notes, philosophical theses and treatises authored by professors at the Collegio Romano. These sources demonstrate how the education offered at the college created a confessional identity for Catholic students that transcended geographic and national boundaries. At the Propaganda Fide, I researched the experiences of missionaries who had attended the Scots or English College in Rome (as well as those elsewhere in Europe). Many missionaries who wrote to the Propaganda Fide discussed how the education at the national colleges might be improved to aid further the Catholic mission. Lastly, at the Scots College archive, I consulted material related to the administration of the institution, the student body, and the college's response to political and religious developments back home. From this

research, I reached the preliminary conclusion that these colleges were critical sites for building a confessional identity that transcended geographic borders. However, they were simultaneously places where national tensions and the problem of what it meant to be 'British' were confronted and negotiated on an international scale.

I am incredibly grateful to the BSR for giving me the opportunity to start this new project immediately after the completion of my PhD. From September 2021, I shall take up a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship at the University of St Andrews, where I shall expand my initial BSR research into a broader cross-confessional project about the studies and experiences of Reformed and Catholic student migrants from the British Isles. I cannot thank enough everyone at the BSR (staff, artists and scholars) for the wonderful company they provided during the duration of my Fellowship. It was truly a blessing to weather the darker days of the pandemic as part of such a welcoming, positive and enthusiastic community.

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ROME AWARD

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The 'modern' soprano: performing the donna nova in early twentieth-century Italy

The debate around the nature of femininity and the roles of women in public life gained momentum in the decades that span the turn of the twentieth century. The crucial contribution of female writers, medical doctors, lawyers, political thinkers, feminist activists and actresses to this profound shift in the cultural, social and political perception of womanhood has attracted the interest of literary and theatre historians over the last four decades. By contrast, feminist themes in the lives and careers of female singers have been discussed only in a marginal way within musicology. My work is the first major contribution to the field and began with a Rome Award which then became part of a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship. In this context, my three months in Rome were absorbed in archival research around a specific *donna nova* (new woman), soprano Emma Carelli. After an international stage career, Carelli became for over fourteen years the *impresaria* (general manager) of the Teatro Costanzi, which is today the Rome Opera House.

As a pioneer of *verismo*, the new realistic Italian opera of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Carelli not only brought the high-level standards of the spoken theatre acting onto the opera stage, but also transformed the old practices of singing, creating a new 'modern' vocal style. In the Archives of the Teatro dell'Opera I found seven of Carelli's scrapbooks in which she collected an impressive number of press reviews of her own performances. By building a literature of her own performance history, Carelli left behind an absolutely unique body of material that can be used to investigate critics' and audiences' reactions to the new performance style of *verismo* opera in a transnational perspective. This is of particular relevance to Carelli, as she toured constantly between Europe and Latin America.