

Programme 2018

**INTERNATIONAL
POETRY
FESTIVAL**



POETRY AND TRAVEL

VIII Edition

18th – 19th – 20th May

Friday 18th May

from 10am to 12.30pm

Meeting between poets, Liceo Classico and Scientifico A. Volta students and those attending Liceo Psicopedagogico and Musicale T. Ciceri

from 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Meeting between poets, Liceo Linguistico Europeo Orsolino San Carlo students and those attending CSF Enaip Como

Meetings reserved to students

Saturday 19th May

Insubria University - Via Sant'Abbondio 12

from 10am to 12.30pm

Introduction by **Mr Roberto Galaverni** (literary critic and cultural journalist working for the Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera)

Interventions by **Ms Michela Prest** (Physics Prof), Stefano Serra Capizzano (Full professor of numerical analysis. Founder of the Department of Science and High Technology and of the Ph D school of Calculus) and **Mr Dome Bulfaro** (poet, performer and visual artist)

Meeting between poets and Insubria students.

Europa in versi International Poetry Slam And Reading

Villa Gallia-Villa Olmo Stroll

3pm

Welcoming authorities- Mrs Laura Garavaglia: President at “La Casa della Poesia di Como” and artistic director for “Europa in Versi”.

Introduction by Mr Roberto Galaverni: literary critic and journalist for the cultural Corriere della Sera insert “La Lettura”.

Musical improvisation: Simone Mambretti and Filippo Oggioni, from Conservatorio di Como, playing the sax

International Poetry Slam

An exciting gripping competition among some of the most renowned poet-slammers and national Champions in their native countries. A jury will be appointed to proclaim the winner. It is a new and original way to spread poetry, which on no account should be missed. This international poetry slam, characterised by the high artistic value of the participants, who come from all over the world, is poised to be remembered as a memorable event.

Master Cerimony: **Dome Bulfaro**

(DJ **Mattia Marangi**, evento divulgato anche dalla LIPS, Lega Italiana Poetry Slam)

Slammers:

Regie Gibson - (US champion) - born in Mississippi and grown up in Chicago, Illinois, with a fundamentalist-evangelical mother and a father working as a policeman in Chicago. The cultural melting pot of this city often used to clash against his strict family education. The impact of different cultures and types of music, as for instance jazz, blues and Jimmy Hendrix's sound strongly influenced Gibson and his poetry. He is an author, a composer, a teacher and a workshop facilitator. He has accomplished reading and performances, taught and held congresses at colleges, universities and theatres all over the world. Both him and his work appear in the film New Line Cinema "Jones Love" based on real events of his life. He performed in all the US, Canada, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Paris, England, Italy and Cuba. In 2017 he founded Neon JuJu: a set of Literarymusic combining spoken word, songs and poetry with hip-hop, rock, classical music and electronic devices. His poetry book Storms Beneath The Skin (EM Press) was published in 2001 and received the Golden Pen Award. It is widely published in magazines and anthologies.

www.regiegibson.com

Tania Haberland - (South Africa) Tania Haberland was born in South Africa in 1973. A poetess, a multi-purpose artist, a teacher, half-Mauritian, half-German; she studied and lived in the U.S., England, Germany, Italy, Mauritius Islands and Saudi Arabia. She speaks different languages among which Italian. She has often been socially and politically active: she has run poetry workshops in a centre for refugee women coming from various parts of Africa, organised events against xenophobia, clitoris mutilation and provided services as a counsellor-poet for abused women in Johannesburg. She proposed her Spoken Word live performances in several headquarters in the UK. Her commitment has been broadcast by press, CDs, MDs, videos and DVDs from Bristol to Milan, from Congo to Mauritius and from Germany to the U.S. Her performing experiences range from slams, art performances and collaborations with musicians from different styles and countries all over the world. She read her poems at the Parliament and at the National Gallery of South Africa. She acted in numerous international Literature festivals.

www.taniahaberland.com

D' De Kabal - (French Champion) A rapper, a slammer, a writer and a director, but also a co-founder and a singer of the French rap group Kabal. He has recorded several

albums as a one-man-band. He has been devoting to the theatre for years. In 2005 he established the group R.I.P.O.S.T.E. These projects also include Greek tragedy rewriting and performances, as for instance *Agamennone* and *Oreste*. Among the issues he emphasises it is worth quoting not only violences against women, but also children and disinherited people's rights. A writing lab manager for young prisoners: guests of the French under-age correctional system. Married with children, he is very well-known all around the world.

<https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/D%27deKabal>

Olivia Bergdahl - (Swedish Champion) Anna Olivia Bergdahl was born in Goteborg on 24th July 1989. She started dealing with Poetry Slam in January 2002 when she was 12. She became a Swedish champion of Poetry Slam in Helsingborg in 2007, when she was not an adult yet. In 2008 she participated in the Poetry Slam World Cup, in which she ranked fourth. In spring 2015 she wrote her debut novel *Efter Ekot*. She wrote for the National Radio and won some literary prizes, among which the National Swedish Radio Novel Prize 2016. Her performances at the Royal Theatre and her incessant tours in Sweden, Europe and in the United States are to bear witness that Olivia is one of the most capable and incredible Northern artists keen on contemporary live poetry. Most of her slams are performed with a relative video clip.

www.oliviabergdahl.se

<https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/OliviaBergdahl>

Simone Savogin - Italian, thirty-eight years old born in 1980. A poet, a dubbing director, an adapter-dialogue writer and an actor-rubber in different musical groups. Currently he ranks as the "three timer" Italian poetry slam champion. As a matter of fact he won the finals of the Italian championship organised by LIPS (Italian League Poetry Slam) for three consecutive years. He represented Italy both in the last three European Championships held in Estonia (Tartu 2015) and in Belgium (Lovanio 2016, Bruxelles in 2017), and at the World Cup of Poetry Slam in Paris (2017). In 2016 he represented Italy both in Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem. Always in the same year he won the second poetry slam broadcast by RAI (RAI 5 channel, Ritratti di Poesia [Portraits of poetry]). In the same year he was a guest taking part in "SLAM X", the most important Italian counterculture review combining Hip Hop and Poetry Slam. In December 2017 he won the international slam "Versus" held in Venice at Palazzo Grassi Museum.

<http://savohead.wordpress.com>

Dani Orviz - (Spanish Champion) Born in Sotrondio, Asturie, Spain in 1976. A poet, a director, a video-artist, an actor and a performer. In the last few years he has been focusing on live-poetry performances, through every kind of entertainment: slam poetry, comedies and street art. His poetry deals with ordinary trouble, people's identities and their opinion: everything often considered in an ironic way. He even uses music and videos, captivating the audience too.

He is one of the most well-known and appreciated slammers both in Spain and abroad: in 2012 he won an award as a European Slam Poetry Champion, after ranking 1st in the Spanish National Championship. Moreover, he introduced his poetry in several international festivals, as for instance Poesia en Voz alta (Mexico), Voix Vives (France), the International Poetry Award in Genoa (Italy), Felix Poetry (Belgium), el Festival de la Palabra de Puerto Rico and many more.

<http://daniorviz.blogspot.it/>

5.30 pm

Poetry Reading

Ion Deaconescu - A poet, a writer, a novelist, a literary critic and a translator. Born in 1947. Graduated at the Literature dept. - Bucarest University and at the Law one at Craiova college. Professor at the Social Science dept. in the same city. His poetry often faces love themes in lyrical tones. His glance often broadens and reflects both the sense of life and the existence of God. His poems have been translated into French, Italian, Portuguese, Serbian, Macedonian, English, Turkish and Hungarian. He has published over 50 volumes among which: poems, novels, literary critics and translations and received several national and international awards, as for instance the Racine one and Trieste Poesia. He is president of the International Academy "Mihai Eminescu" and director of its poetry award.

<http://europainversi.org/2017/04/ion-deacunescu-premiato-dalla-provincia-como/>

Metin Cengiz - Born in Gole/Kars (now called Ardahan) in Turkey, on 3rd May 1953. A poet, a publisher, a writer and last but not least a member belonging to the Turkish Writers' Union. After the military coup on 12th September 1980 he was sent

to prison for two years as a dissident. During his years spent on teaching French at schools in different Turkish cities he was exiled and dismissed because of his political ideas. His poetry proposes very topical issues, as for instance Middle East wars, ethnic and religious contradictions, the miserable existence of the poor inside society, injustice, sympathy and compassion, freedom and its relative loss. His verses are considered as a sign of peace along with an extraordinary power while defending freedom, justice and brotherhood. Apart from his books he is also very well-known for his articles about poetry. For all these reasons he became one of the pioneers of the post 1980 period in Turkey.

<http://tr.wikipedia.org/wiki/MetinCengiz>

Dmytro Tchystiak - Ukrainian, thirty years old. A poet, a short-story writer, a critic, a translator, an academic and a journalist. His poetry is characterised by a surrealist vein involving the reader in a fantastic dimension, in which the unconsciousness emerges with images full of strong emotional impacts. Professor at the National Taras Shevchenko Kyiv University, PhD, publisher at the Ukrainian publishing houses “Raduga” and “Summit-Knyga” and reader of some French and Belgian publishers. He has published 45 books which have brought him both some national and international awards in Ukraine, France, Belgium, Germany, Greece and Romania. He has translated plenty of Slavic and French-speaking writers into Ukrainian and around 50 writers in French. Member of the European Academy of Sciences, Arts and Literature in Paris and a corresponding one with the Academy of higher education science of Ukraine.

<http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/DmytroTchystiak>

Claudio Pozzani - born in Genoa in 1961. A poet, a narrator and a musician. Appreciated both in Italy and abroad for his poetical performances in the most important literary festivals and “Saloni del Libro”. His poetry is performative and theatrical, in which love themes and the search for our own identity emerge in a continuous flow between dreams and realities. In 1983 he founded the C.V.T.- Circolo dei Viaggiatori nel Tempo: a cultural association dealing with art, poetry and literature. Among their several initiatives it is worth quoting the International Poetry Award in Genoa “ Parole spalancate” (Wide open Words). In 2001 he founded la Casa Internazionale di Poesia at Palazzo Ducale in Genoa. His poetry and music CD “La marcia dell’ombra” (The shadow March) stayed in the Italian independent radio top 20 for over two months. Furthermore his volume “Spalancati Spazi- Poesie 1995-2016”

(Wide open Spaces-Poems 1995-2016) was published by Passigli editor. His poems have been translated and published in over 10 countries.

<https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/ClaudioPozzani>

Francoise Roy - born in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada in 1959. A poetess, a translator, a writer, a geographer and a photographer. Bilingual, "...grown up in French, but literally educated in Spanish", Francoise Roy, with her soft and accurate touch typical of those feeling the precariousness of survival, writes and observes the indiscernible changes of everyday life with active participation. She has won many international awards. She has translated more than sixty books, published three novels, two short-stories, three booklets and fourteen poetry books. She has been invited to several Poetry Awards all over the world.

www.francoiseroy.com/bio.html

Massimo Daviddi - born in Florence in 1954. He spends part of his life between Milan and Luino: he has been living in Mendrisio, Cantone Ticino for several years. According to Massimo Daviddi "poetry is one of the useless things existing, but a precious uselessness forcing human beings to endorse the world". The city with its itineraries and discoveries becomes a reason for comparison between people and their habits. His first collection published in 2000 was "Zoo Persone". Thanks to "L'oblio sotto la pianta" (The Oblivion under the Plant) - 2005- he reached the final in "Viareggio Repaci". Unrehearsed texts were published in the "Almanacco dello Specchio" (Almanac of the Mirror) -2007-. With "Il silenzio dei operai" (The silence of the Workers), "La Vita Felice" editions he was honoured with the Federal Literature Award. He participated in the "International Poetry Award" in San Benedetto del Tronto and in Genoa. He held readings in Milan, Rome, Heidelberg and Genoa. His latest work published in 2017 is "Madre Assenza" (Mother Absence).

<https://www.rsi.ch/rete-due/programmi/cultura/festiva-letterari/Massimo-Daviddi-330725.html>

Gian Mario Villalta - A high-school teacher, an essayist and a narrator. Gian Mario Villatta's poetry carefully investigates reality, as if something is about to fail, or as if it has just failed - but perhaps nobody has been noticing it. Time is mostly the great protagonist: a present moment suspended between an irrevocable past - even without melancholia - and an ambiguous future. His latest novel is called "Scuola di Felicità"

(“School of Happiness“) published by Mondadori in 2015. For many years he has been interested in the Italian poetic scene, particularly focusing on Andrea Zanutto’s works. He has also been cooperating at Meridiano Mondadori and managing the Oscar of literary writings. Furthermore he writes poems and wins Premio Viareggio 2011 (2011 Viareggio Award) with “Vanita’ della mente” (“Vanity of the Mind”) published by Mondadori. His latest book of poetry is “Telepatia“ (“Telepathy“) [Lietocolle 2016]. He is the artistic director of “Pordenone legge: festa del libro con gli autori “ (“Pordenone reads: a book kermesse with its relevant authors”)

<https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/GianMarioVillalta>

Muesser Yeniay - Born in Izmir in 1984. In Turkey she won many literary awards. Her researched and calibrated verses are overwhelmed with femininity and rebellion aiming at the will to reassert women’s biological and human nature, the rediscovery both of the authentic meaning and of the real diversity between men and women. Her poetry books have been translated and published in the United States, Hungary, France, India, Colombia, Spain and Vietnam. She used to live both in America and in Hong Kong. Muesser is also editor for “Siirde” magazine. Currently she is busy with a Phd in Turkish at Bilkent University in Ankara.

<http://www.turkishculture.org/whoiswho/literature/muesser-yeniay-3351.htm>

Luciano Monti- Born in Como in 1963. He works in Rome where he teaches at LUISS University. He writes articles for newspapers and scientific reviews either in Italy and abroad, and also essays, romance and poetry. In Italy he is the main supporter of the fight against generation gap that jeopardizes Millennials. In the last few years he has published his bestseller '*Ladri di futuro*' (Future crunch - the youth revolution against unfair economy) published in 2016 by LUISS University Press and the distopy H24-pressed by Amazon in 2018. The denounce of a defeated generation is also the main theme of his last poem *Lucifero* edited by Luoghi Interiori in 2018.

<http://docenti.luiss.it/monti/>

7 pm

Musical interlude by “Il Baule dei Suoni” Association

A journey inside music ranging from songs and popular rhythms from Italy to melodies broadcast throughout the rest of Europe, from Russia to the Balkans reaching Spain to finally arrive in other continents: Africa or South America.

Young poetry: from “Pordenone Legge” latest festival editions

Maddalena Lotter - born in Venice in 1990. In 2001 she published her short -story “5 metri in linea d’aria” (5m as the crow flies) for Terraferma publisher included in “Letteralmente: viaggiare” (Literally: travelling): an anthology by Ms Annalisa Bruni, Ms Anna Toscano and Ms Lucia de Michieli. Member of poetarumsilva.wordpress.com editor staff. Since December 2012 she has been editing the meeting review “La poesia del giovedì” (Thursday’s poetry) in Venice along with Ms Giulia Rusconi.

Kabir Yusuf Abakar - born in Modena in 1993. He studies Philosophy at university in Bologna and works as a tutor in high schools in Modena. His first publication is *Reflex*: finalist at Premio Rimini 2016. (Rimini Award 2016).

7.30 pm

Buffet at the Villa

8.30 pm

International Poetry and Narrative Award Europa in Versi 3rd edition winners’ prize giving.

During the Festival it will be possible to visit the exhibition of the works inspired by the participants' poems fulfilled by those students attending Accademia Aldo Galli.

Insubria University students and pupils from CSF Enaip Como cooperated in organising the event.

Poets' presentation by: Mr Andrea Tavernati, Ms Alessandra Corbetta, Mr Wolfango Testoni and Mrs Laura Garavaglia.

Sunday 20th May

from 2.30pm to 5.30pm

Creative stroll along Lake Como

Distance: 3km

Difficulty: levelled, suitable for everyone

An imaginative stroll "Di poeta in poeta" (From one Poet to another) in order to learn about Como and meanwhile about those contemporary authors participating in Europa in Versi 2018. Five great authors from the past (the Latin poet Cecilio, Alessandro Volta, Tommaso Marinetti, Pietro Bembo and Ugo Foscolo) linking their life and works to key places and characters typical of the area will chant the stages in which the poets' readings performing at the International Poetry Award will be praised.

Mr Pietro Berra: editor and responsible for the Imaginative Stroll project will explain the route.

(www.passeggiatecreative.it)

INFO AND CONTACTS:

www.lacasadellapoesiadicom.com

www.europainversi.org

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How to reach Villa Gallia

By car

From Milano

- A9 / E35 in direzione di Chiasso
- uscita Como Monte Olimpino in direzione Como

From Lugano

- A2 direzione Italia
- uscita Chiasso proseguire direzione Como

Parking

- Villa Olmo - Via per Cernobbio, 2 (a pagamento)
- Villa Olmo - Via Cantoni, 1 (a pagamento)

By bus

- linea 1 fermata Villa Olmo
- linea 6 fermata Villa Olmo lido
- linea 11 fermata Villa Olmo lido

By train

From Milano Ferrovie dello Stato

- Stazione Como San Giovanni

From Milano Ferrovie Nord