

Chiasmi

The 14th Annual Harvard-Brown Graduate Student Conference in Italian Studies

Harvard University, April 7 - 8, 2023

Call for Papers

Opera Pacis: Reflections on Peace

“Ring out the thousand wars of old, / Ring in the thousand
years of peace. / Ring in the valiant man and free, / The larger
heart, the kindlier hand. / Ring out the darkness of the land.”
- “Better is Peace,” T. Malory, A.L. Tennyson, Revelation

The Italian section of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at Harvard University and the Department of Italian Studies at Brown University are pleased to announce the fourteenth edition of *Chiasmi*, the Brown-Harvard Graduate Student Conference in Italian Studies.

Peace is a relative concept in our imperfect world, an idea put in constant dialogue with its antithesis. Peace also manifests itself in a wide variety of contexts and applications, allowing it to influence centuries of readings of history and literature.

Italy provides a geographical and political context rife with considerations and realizations of peace over the course of many years. These evaluations range from the Roman Empire’s quest for hegemony in the western world to modern questions of international relations and internal regional diversities. Italy provides the landscape for a thorough historical analysis of the ways in which peace can shape a country and dictate its place in the global economic and political sphere. Following the *white* thread through the country’s history facilitates not a rose-colored view of humankind, but a vision of the peace that the world is capable of cultivating. We encourage works that look at the concept of “peace” in the Italian context through a global perspective. Texts of all sorts enable us in this task, serving in both historical chronicle and

creative, fictional capacities to demonstrate evolving ideas of peace over time. How can we use literary, cinematic, historical, anthropological, and other sources to further the search for peace in our world and in our disciplines?

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Defining Peace
- Building and Maintaining Peace
- Peace in the Digital Age
- Allegories of Peace
- Political, Religious, Social Peace
- Regional and International Peace
- Ancient and Modern Conceptions of Peace
- Peace in Epic and Lyric Poetry
- Gendered Conceptions of Peace
- Pacifism as a Worldview
- Literary Explorations of Peace
- Peace Protest Movements

Presentations are restricted to 20 minutes (approximately 8-10 double-spaced pages) in length and may be given in either Italian or English. Abstracts of 300 words or fewer are to be submitted to rll.chiasmi@gmail.com. Please include your (tentative) paper title and affiliation in the subject line of the email.

Submission Deadline: January 15, 2023, 23:59 EST