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Foreword

In what may seem a contradiction, that which is written to introduce a journal such as this is usually written last. And so this foreword closes the seventh issue of *Carte Italiane* by marking its arrival at another stage of development. Our growth continues into greater circulation and readership, necessary elements for the establishment of a reputation. And, judging by the increased response to our call for papers, our reputation is indeed growing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the various literary journals and reviews that have eagerly continued the exchange program that was initiated at the beginning of issue six by Luisa Del Giudice. This is another measure of our having matured over the years, and an important behind-the-scenes aspect of our activity which has served well in keeping intellectual communication lines open with colleagues in the U.S. and abroad.

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The ways an author communicates with his audience vary greatly in keeping with each individual's relationship with his language and the reciprocal challenges that arise. The results of such challenges often manifest themselves in an ambivalent manner. Addressing the question of this type of conflict internal to a text is part of the duty of a critical paper. The contents of this issue reflect the struggle of the writer and, in one case, a film-maker, with his language.

The interview with poet Antonio Porta approaches many issues central to the spinning wheel game that is involved in communication; two

papers on Boccaccio testify to that author's total involvement in language's powers; a study of Bertolucci's *The Conformist* describes part of the challenging of "language" mentioned above.

In closing, we thank the UCLA Graduate Students Association for its unfailing support, and the authors of the articles for having given us the opportunity to publish them. I would personally like to thank those who helped in an editorial capacity wishing them the best with the journal in the future.

Pasquale Verdicchio
Editor in Chief