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Acknowledgments

We are pleased to present the current issue of *Carte Italiane*, the fruit of a collective labor over the past two years. Volume 11 could not have come about without the dedicated work of our many collaborators. We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to our Editorial Board: Nina Bjekovic, Federica Di Blasio, Adriana Guarro, Melissa Melpignano, Marianna Nespoli, and Rebecca Rosenberg for their devotion throughout the publication of this volume. Our gratitude also goes to the Faculty Advisory Board for their continued assistance with the blind review process. We would especially like to thank William Morosi, who went above and beyond the call of duty this year, not only in his hard work on our cover design and typesetting, but also for his work on our galleys and for providing general guidance throughout the editing process. Stacey Meeker, Director of GSA Publications, has also been an invaluable source of support for *Carte Italiane*. We are grateful to Juliana Peterson-More for the continued use of her original cover design. Finally, we would like to thank the UCLA Department of Italian for their continued support of *Carte Italiane*.

The topic of this volume, *La guerra e l'Italia: Italian Identities through War*, was inspired by our 2015 UCLA Italian graduate student conference of the same name. The idea for the conference, and subsequently for this issue of *Carte Italiane*, originated with the fact that 2015 was the 100th anniversary of Italy's participation in World War I. We saw this anniversary as an opportunity to reflect on how war has shaped Italian identity on both a national and an individual level. Conversations about and study of the implications of war, as considered through Italian literature, music, and film, can help us to piece together not only how Italians understand their identity but also the profound influence of conflict on all citizens of the world. Given the current global political climate, we consider peaceful discussions and studies of this nature to play a small but crucial part in the effort to resolve ongoing and future societal conflict. The more complete our understanding of past and present issues, the better equipped we are to effect change in the future.

Many of the articles featured in the volume were presented at our 2015 conference, while others were individual submissions or outstanding conference presentations that occurred elsewhere. We are pleased to provide our readers with articles on a wide range of topics: political geography and migratory concerns, Italian 20th-century poetry and prose with a focus on communal and personal conflict, history of Italian magazines, and unique archival research on the presence of military priests in German concentration camps. In addition, the volume includes book reviews on recent publications in Italian studies and an interview of the director of *Italy: notes on conflict*, the short film that opened the 2015 conference.

We hope you will find the scholarship in the following pages to be a thought-provoking and enduring example of the significance of academic research in Italian studies and beyond.

Viola Ardeni, Editor-in-Chief

Sarah S.V. Cantor, Managing Editor