2012 marks the hundredth anniversary of Italian writer Elsa Morante’s birth. Morante’s contribution connects the Italian novelistic tradition to international currents and trends far beyond modernism and the influence of American writers in postwar Italy. The Davy Carozza International Conference will address Morante’s prophetic and critical sides that still need to be fully acknowledged and explored.

This international conference — organized by the Italian Studies Program at CUA — has been made possible by the generous endowment of the Davy Carozza family,* the School of Arts and Sciences, the Embassy of Italy, and the Italian Cultural Institute in Washington, D.C.

Our deepest gratitude goes to those who helped with the organization of this event: Peter Gribbin, Flor Argueta, Christopher Brush, Claudia Bornholdt, and Lawrence Poos.

http://modernlanguages.cua.edu

*In order to preserve the legacy of famous and distinguished scholar Davy Carozza, professor of Italian and Romance languages at The Catholic University of America, his family has been very generous in setting up a fund to mentor the teaching and studying of Romance languages.
Elsa Morante and the Italian Arts

Thursday, October 25, 2012
Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center
Room 321-23

1 p.m. Coffee/Registration
2 p.m. Welcoming remarks
Lawrence R. Poos
Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences
Alberto Manai
Director of the Italian Cultural Institute
Washington, D.C.
Stefania Lucamante
Ordinary Professor
Italian and Comparative Literature

2:30 p.m. Elsa’s Places
Reading the Formal and Informal Urban Realms of Elsa Morante
R. Scott Carlson
University of New Mexico
In Marguerite Caetani’s Literary Salon: a Study of Elsa Morante’s Contributions to Botteghe Oscure
Lorenzo Salvagni
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Elsa Morante: Envisioning History
Sarah Carey
Stanford University

4:15 p.m. Aracoeli 1
When the Body Becomes a Prison: “Doing” and “Undoing” Gender in Elsa Morante’s Aracoeli
Maria Morelli
University of Leicester
“Tuo scandalo tuo splendore”: When the Body Becomes a Prison
Katrin Wehling-Giorgi
University of Warwick

5:45 p.m. A staged reading from History
Eleanor Holdridge, Director, Dept. of Drama in collaboration with the School of Music
Location: Ward Recital Hall

Friday, October 26, 2012
Monsignor Stephen P. Happel Room
Calldwell Hall

9:30 a.m. Coffee
10 a.m. Session Pro o contro la bomba atomica
Elsa Morante’s Essays between Perception and Prophecy: a Reflection for the Present
Flavia Cartoni
Università de Castilla-La Mancha, Madrid
Timely Anachronisms? A Reading of Elsa Morante’s Critical Texts
Claudia Karagóz
University of Saint Louis
The Flower or the Fruit: Morante and Pasolini on the Atomic Bomb and the Work of Art in the Age of Disintegration
Kenise Lyons
The Catholic University of America

11:30 a.m. Coffee break
11:45 a.m. Morante and Cinema
No Novel is an Island: Damiano Damiani’s Arturo’s Island
Thomas Harrison
UCLA
Arturo in the World of the ‘Pharisees Fathers’: Considerations on the Cinematic Adaptation of Arturo’s Island
Hanna Serkowska
University of Warsaw
Luigi Comencini’s Reading of Usepp: Representation of Childhood between Realism and Myth
Giovanna De Luca
The College of Charleston

1:15-2:15 p.m. Lunch break

2:30 p.m. Session Queering Morante
Differently Queer: Textuality in Pasolini’s Petrolio and Morante’s Aracoeli
Manuele Gragnolati
Oxford University
Androgynous, Hybrid or Queer? Gender Reveries in Morante’s Writing
Nadia Setti
Università de Paris – 8
Nunziatella and Aracoeli as Relational Fictional Characters in Morante’s Poetics
Francesca Cadel
University of Calgary
4 p.m. Coffee break
4:10 p.m.
Staging a Writer’s Journey: Elsa Morante by Francesca Comencini
Gaetana Marrone-Puglia
Princeton University

5 p.m. Final Round Table
Elsa Morante and the Italian Arts

Saturday, October 27, 2012
Monsignor Stephen P. Happel Room
Calldwell Hall

9:30 a.m. Coffee
10 a.m. Elsa Morante and Poetry
Elsa Morante, Antonia Pozzi: For a Phenomenology of Childhood
Matteo Mario Vecchio
University of Florence
Alberti, Pasolini, and Morante: the “Lost Paradise of Angels”
Francesca Falchi
Independent Scholar

11 a.m. Coffee break
11:30 a.m. Multiple Spaces
Dreams and Desire in Elsa Morante’s Diario 1938
Rebecca West
University of Chicago
Kafka and Morante: Animals, Family, and Guilt
Saska Zidiòowski
University of California—Berkeley
“TATR GLORIA”: Theatre and Theatricality in Elsa Morante’s Lo Scialle Andalsuso
Gabrielle Popoff
Colorado Mountain College

1–2 p.m. Lunch
2:15 p.m. Menzogna e sortilegio
In the Realm of Lie: The Implosion of Thought in Menzogna e sortilegio
Francesco Chillemi
Rutgers University
Between Orality and Textuality: Evasion in Elsa Morante’s Menzogna e sortilegio
Miriam Alósio
University of Chicago
The Spanish Language in Elsa Morante’s Narrative Works
Francisco Javier García Melenchón
University of Barcelona

4 p.m. Break
4:15 p.m. Morante and the Arts
Location and Locution: Narrative and Discursive Space in the Novels of Elsa Morante
Sharon Wood
University of Leicester
Senza i conforti della religione: an Interrupted Path between Cinema and Poetic Creation
Claude Cazalé-Béard
Université de Paris – 10

5 p.m. Final Round Table