

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## Between Immigration and Historical Amnesia

June 27 – 29, 2019

Galata Museo del Mare, Calata de Mari 1, 16136 Genova, Italy

Between Immigration and Historical Amnesia, the third session of the international conference *Diaspore Italiane—Italy in Movement*, is intended as a reflection on the role of migration today in contemporary Italian society and in the communities that Italians migrate to.

Italian migration is ongoing. The twenty-first century has witnessed a surge in numbers of Italians leaving their country; meanwhile, Italy, like other Western European countries, has become a regular migration destination, not only for people searching for work opportunities but also as a place to settle down and create a “destination community.” For this reason we can speak of a “new Italian” element.

At the same time, in Italian society and in Western society in general, a new negative meaning to the phenomenon of “migration” is on the rise, and along with it comes an amnesia, a loss of memory of belonging to a “community” of migrants.

Today the institutions that preserve memory—museums, archives, study centers, universities, and associations—are called upon to reflect on the ways in which to transmit and to create a consciousness of community that encompasses all aspects of migration: negatives like uprootedness, culture shock, exploitation, and discrimination; but also positive factors such as meritocracy, resilience, and the influence of Italians in the formation of contemporary society.

1. The role of migration in modern society: a curse or an opportunity?
2. Reasons for amnesia: Why have we forgotten what we used to be?
3. Conserving and promoting memories of migration as an antidote to racism and xenophobia: What is the role of memory institutions?
4. How to create a “migrant memory”? The role of institutions and that of associations in the case of the “new Italians.”
5. What does it mean today to be “Italian” and “an Italian community” abroad?
6. How can we combat the amnesia that leads to the loss of rootedness and identity?

DEADLINE for submitting papers: December 31, 2018.

FORMAT: Only electronic submissions accepted.

PANEL SESSIONS: Each session will last 60 minutes followed by a 15-minute question-and-answer period. The session may consist of a free discussion or else provide time for each panelist to speak in turn. Each panelist will have 15 minutes for their presentation.

TO APPLY: Send the following documents, in electronic form (.doc or .pdf), to [diasporeitaliane2019@gmail.com](mailto:diasporeitaliane2019@gmail.com) before December 31, 2018.

- Abstract (250 words)
- Brief biography (100 words)

Notification of accepted proposals will be announced no later than February 4, 2019.

DIASPORE ITALIANE IS SPONSORED BY

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