

Laura BANELLA

Short Curriculum Vitae – 10.2023

Current Position

- Assistant Professor of Italian, University of Notre Dame, US

Previous Positions

- Oct. 2020-June 2022: Marie Skłodowska Curie Research Fellow at the University of Oxford, Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages. Principal Investigator of the project *LyrA - Lyric Authority: Editing and Rewriting Dante's Lyric Poetry (14th – 16th c.)* (Horizon 2020 project n° 892804)
- Oct. 2021-June 2022: Research Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford
- 2021-2022 Tutor in Italian Literature at St Hugh's College, Oxford

- May 2018-April 2020: STARS Post-doctoral Researcher at the DiSLL- Department of Linguistic and Literary Studies, University of Padua, Italy. Principal Investigator of the project *MaTeLDa - Materiality and Textuality: Editing and Rewriting the Lyric Dante in History*.
- I Semester 2020/2021 and II Semester 2021/2022: Visiting Professor, University of Milan, Italy

- Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale a professore universitario di seconda fascia, MIUR - Italian Ministry of Education. Italian national assessment of candidates to professorships: I am granted the qualification for being hired as Associate Professor in Italian Literature and in Italian Linguistics and Philology (2018-2027).

Education

- PhD in Romance Studies, Duke University, US, 2018
Dissertation: *Rewriting Dante: the Creation of an Author from the Middle Ages to Modernity*. Supervisor: Prof. Martin Eisner.
- PhD in Italian Literature, University of Padua, Italy, 2014
Dissertation: *Fortuna e tradizione di un'edizione d'autore: Boccaccio e la 'Vita nuova' di Dante*. Supervisor: Prof. Guido Baldassarri.
- M.A. in Humanities, Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa, Italy, 2011
- M.A. in Italian Literature, University of Pisa, Italy, 2010
- B.A. in Humanities, University of Pisa, Italy, 2008

Main research lines

Medieval Italian literature, mainly with an interdisciplinary approach; lyric poetry; material philology; manuscript illustration and the relationship between text and image; Renaissance literature and artistic literature; the female *auctor*. In particular, my research has focused on Dante and Boccaccio, and on the ways in which the books transmitting their works construct 'authority' and 'canonicity' (13th-16th c.). I also work on text-to-text reception and on the history of literary criticism.

Publications

Research Monographs

- *Rewriting Dante's Authority: How Lyric Books Forged Their Author (1290-1550)*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, under peer review.
- *Rime e libri delle rime di Dante tra Medioevo e primo Rinascimento*. Rome: Edizioni di storia e letteratura, 2020.
- *La 'Vita nuova' del Boccaccio. Fortuna e tradizione*. Rome-Padua: Antenore, 2017.

Edited Volumes

- *Rethinking Lyric Communities in Premodern Worlds*, eds. Laura Banella, Francesco Giusti, and Nicolas Longinotti, Special Issue of the *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, Issue 56.1 (forthcoming in 2026).
- *Invention, Reenactment, Exchange: Lyric Communities in Medieval and Early Modern Italy*, eds. Laura Banella and Francesco Giusti, Special Issue of *Italian Studies*, Issue 80.2 (forthcoming in 2025).
- *Oltre la 'Commedia'. 'L'altro Dante' e il canone antico della lirica (1450-1600)*, eds. Laura Banella and Franco Tomasi. Rome: Carocci, 2020.

Critical Editions

- Siccio Polenton, *Vite dei moderni. Dante, Mussato, Petrarca, Boccaccio*, ed., trans. and comm. Laura Banella and Rino Modonutti. Padua: CLEUP, 2020.

Peer-reviewed Articles and Essays

- "Repurposing the Book as a Message: Italian Lyric Manuscripts in Prison." *Renaissance Studies*, forthcoming in 2024.
- "Dante in Prison: Copying, Illustrating, and Writing Lyric Poetry in Venice in 1400." *Dante Studies* 141 (2023): forthcoming.
- "Canto 20" and "Canto 21," in *Voci sul Purgatorio di Dante. Una nuova lettura della seconda cantica*, eds. Z.G. Barański and M.A. Terzoli. Rome: Carocci, forthcoming in 2024.
- with Francesco Giusti, "Material Philology and the Theory of the Lyric," in *Theory/Teoria. Perspectives on Literary Criticism and Comparative Literature*, ed. by E. Abignente, M. Cangiano, I. Fantappiè, G. M. Gallerani, M. Gatto, F. Giusti. *Status Questionis* (2024), forthcoming.
- "Leggere e (ri)scrivere Petrarca nel Quattrocento veneto: da Siccio Polenton a Bartolomeo Valdezoco," in *Nel dolce tempo della prima etade. Petrarchismo e affetti fra Quattro e Cinquecento*, eds. B. Huss, N. Longinotti. Florence: Cesati, 2023.
- "A New Spanish Translation of the *Commedia* and Dante's Renaissance Readers (1491-1550 ca)," *Bibliotheca Dantesca. Journal of Dante Studies* 5 (2022): Article 2 <https://repository.upenn.edu/bibdant/vol5/iss1/2>.
- "Boccaccio editore e teorico della letteratura. Le rime volgari nel sistema dei generi e la difesa della poesia," in *Ragionando dilettevoli cose. Studi di filologia e letteratura per Ginetta Auzzas*, eds. D. Cappi, R. Modonutti, E. Torchio, 155–68. Rome: Edizioni di Storia e Letteratura, 2022.
- "Le correzioni alla *Vita nuova* di un derivato della Raccolta Aragonese e il Toledano del Boccaccio nel primo Cinquecento," *Studi sul Boccaccio* 49 (2021): 227-83.
- "Come attualizzare un classico: le forme del 'canzoniere di Dante' tra XVI e XIX secolo," *Prassi ecdotiche della modernità letteraria* 6 (2021) DOI <https://doi.org/10.13130/2499-6637/16365>
- "Scrittura letteraria ed ermeneutica: le *Rime* di Dante negli anni '30 del Novecento," *Critica letteraria* 49/192-193 (2021): 1063-82.

- “Fiammetta and Héloïse: Boccaccio’s Female *Auctor* and Women Intellectuals,” *Mediaevalia* 42 (2021): 227-67.
- “The Lyric Dante in the Twentieth Century: Hermeneutics and Editorial Forms.” *Italian Studies* 75/3 (2020): 307-25.
- “La *Vita nuova* e la forma-canzoniere: libri di rime tra (auto) esegesi, macrotesto e materialità,” in *Oltre la ‘Commedia’. ‘L’altro Dante’ e il canone antico della lirica (1450-1600)*, eds. Laura Banella and Franco Tomasi, 77-97. Rome: Carocci, 2020.
- “Le Tre Corone negli *Scriptorum Illustrium Latinae Linguae Libri*,” in *L’Umanesimo di Siccio Polenton. Padova, la Catinia, i Santi, gli Antichi*, eds. G. Baldissin Molli et alii, Padua, Centro Studi Antoniani, 2020.
- “Autorità volgare e creazione del canone tra *Ai faus ris* e il *De vulgari eloquentia*,” *Medioevo Letterario d’Italia* 16 (2019): 21-44.
- “Materiality and Textuality: Editing and Rewriting the Lyric Dante in History.” *Bibliotheca Dantesca. Journal of Dante Studies* 2 (2019): 65-83.
- “Leggere Dante lirico nel primo Cinquecento: Jacopo Antonio Benalio da Treviso.” *Medioevo Letterario d’Italia* 16 (2019): 75-98.
- “Dioneo lettore di Dante: la tenzone con Forese, le ‘malmaritate’ e l’etica della letteratura,” in *Intorno a Boccaccio/Boccaccio e dintorni: atti del Seminario internazionale di studi (Certaldo Alta, Casa di Giovanni Boccaccio, 6-7 settembre 2018)*, 59-76. Florence: Firenze UP, 2019.
- “Boccaccio’s Anthologies and the Dawn of Editorial *Auctoritas*.” *Mediaevalia* 39 (2018) [special issue *Authority and Materiality in the Italian Songbook: From the Medieval Lyric to the Early-Modern Madrigal*, ed. by O. Holmes, P. Schleuse]: 273-96.
- “Dante, la nascita dell’Italia e della letteratura italiana: il racconto delle origini nelle storie della letteratura risorgimentali.” *Giornale Storico della Letteratura Italiana* 194 n° 647 (2017): 321-59.
- “The ‘Dante Canon’: Collecting Dante’s Lyric Poetry in the Fourteenth Century.” *Dante Studies* 134 (2016): 169-94.
- “Un esempio di canone dantesco nella tradizione quattrocentesca delle ‘Rime’.” In *Dante fra il settecentocinquantesimo della nascita (2015) e il settecentenario della morte (2021). Atti del Convegno internazionale di Roma (Centro Pio Rajna, 28/9-1/10 2015)*, 725-36. Rome: Salerno Editrice, 2016.
- “«Se Laurettam quandam ardentissime demonstrarit amasse...»: l’interpretazione della poesia nell’antologia Chigiana del Boccaccio.” In *Antologie d’autore. La tradizione dei florilegi nella letteratura italiana. Atti del Convegno di Roma (Centro Pio Rajna, 27-29/10/2014)*, eds. E. Malato, A. Mazzucchi, 441-52. Rome: Salerno Editrice, 2016.
- “The Fortunes of an ‘Authorial’ Edition: Boccaccio’s *Vita nuova* in Antonio Pucci and il Saviozzo.” In *Boccaccio 1313 – 2013*, eds. F. Ciabattini, E. Filosa, K. Olson, 237-48. Ravenna: Longo, 2015.
- “Per la *Vita nuova* del Boccaccio. Note sulle relazioni stemmatiche all’interno della famiglia b e sul Boccaccio dantista.” *Rivista di Studi Danteschi* 14 (2014): 350-73.
- “La ricezione dell’edizione della *Vita nuova* a opera del Boccaccio. Primi appunti.” In *Boccaccio editore e interprete di Dante. Atti del Convegno Internazionale di Roma (Casa di Dante in Roma–Centro Pio Rajna, 28-30/10/2013)*, eds. L. Azzetta, A. Mazzucchi, 391-401. Rome: Salerno, 2014.
- “«In persona d’alcuno passionato»: il ‘ritratto d’autore’ nei manoscritti del *Filostrato*.” *Studi sul Boccaccio* 41 (2013): 129-54.
- “La scrittura di Benvenuto Cellini: tra pluristilismo, espressivismo e realismo.” *Filologia e critica* 37 (2012): 169-211.
- “Su alcuni manoscritti illustrati del *Filostrato*.” *Studi sul Boccaccio* 39 (2011): 315-66.

Submitted and in Preparation

- “Between Books and Friends: Dante’s Real and Ideal Lyric Communities,” in preparation for *Invention, Reenactment, Exchange: Lyric Communities in Medieval and Early Modern Italy*, eds. Laura Banella and Francesco Giusti, Special Issue of *Italian Studies*, Issue 80.2 (2025).
- “Isotta Nogarola's Crusade: Pius II and the Turks,” in *The Latin Works of Piccolomini (Pope Pius II)*, eds. Tristan Franklins, Lachlan Hughes. London: Bloomsbury, expected in 2025.

Invited Presentations, Seminars, and Talks (most recent)

- “Rewriting Dante’s Authority: How Lyric Books Forged Their Author.” Invited talk, Oxford Dante Society. Brasenose College, Oxford. June 12, 2023.
- “Dante vs Dante: Material Traditions of the Lyric and the Construction of Poetic Authority.” Invited talk, Center for Italian Studies and Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, University of Pennsylvania. March 16, 2023.
- “Purgatorio, Canti 20 e 21.” *Voci sul Purgatorio di Dante. Una nuova lettura della seconda cantica*, University of Notre Dame/Universität Basel, 2022-2023. Third online workshop, March 10, 2023.
- “Dante’s Ideal Lyric Community between the *De Vulgari Eloquentia* and the *Commedia*.” International Seminar on Critical Approaches to Dante (ISCAD), University of Toronto, April 13, 2023.
- “Leggere e (ri)scrivere Petrarca nel Quattrocento veneto: da Sico Polenton a Bartolomeo Valdezocco.” International Workshop *Nel dolce tempo della prima etade. Petrarchismo e affetti fra Quattro e Cinquecento*, EXC 2020 “Temporal Communities,” Freie Universität Berlin. Sept. 15, 2022
- “Rime e libri delle Rime di Dante.” Research Seminar of the Graduate School in Linguistics and Italian Studies, Università per Stranieri di Siena. Apr. 6, 2022
- “L’altro Dante’ tra Otto e Novecento: filologia, ermeneutica e scrittura letteraria.” Research seminar *Come l’uom s’eterna: funzione e fortuna di Dante nella cultura italiana*. University of Venice. Dec. 7, 2021
- “Dante as Young Love Poet Between Self-Portrait and Early Reception.” International Conference «*Toward the Mountain*»: *New Perspectives On Dante’s Purgatory*, Utrecht University. Nov. 26, 2021
- “Materiality and Textuality of Medieval Italian Lyric Poetry.” Colloquium of the *Centre for Manuscript and Text Cultures*, The Queen’s College, Oxford. Oct. 19, 2021
- “Le rime di Dante in Veneto tra Trecento e Quattrocento.” International Conference *Dante e il Trecento*, University of Udine – Fondazione de Claricini Dornpacher. Oct. 1, 2021.
- “Sico Polenton’s *Scriptores illustres*: Biographies for the Education of the Youth.” Seminar *Literary Works of the Latin Humanists*, Corpus Christi College, Oxford. May 20, 2021

Papers Presented at Peer-reviewed Conferences (most recent)

- “Dante and Lyric Communities (1290-1550).” 4th International Network for the Study of the Lyric - INSL Conference «Poetry. Experience. Attention», University of Oslo, Oslo. Panel *Rethinking Lyric Communities*. June 8, 2023.
- “*Magistra Beatrice*: Constructing Female Cultural Authority Between the *Commedia* and Its Visualisations.” Renaissance Society of America Conference - San Juan 2023. March 11, 2023.
- Participation in the round table panel “The Future of Dante Studies.” MLA Convention 2023 – San Francisco, CA. Jan. 6, 2023.
- “Materiality and Textuality of Dante’s Lyric Poetry and the Authority of a *Rimatore*.” Society for Italian Studies 2022 Conference, University of Warwick. Panel *Dante and the Lyric Between Material Traditions and Theory*. Apr. 20, 2022.
- “Boccaccio as Linguistic and Poetic Model in Renaissance Italy: The Toledo Codex and the *Corbaccio*.” Renaissance Society of America 2022 Conference, Dublin. Apr. 1, 2022.

Digital Projects

- *Dante's Lyric Poetry in Oxford. A Digital Exhibition*. University of Oxford, Taylor Institution Library – The Bodleian Library (<https://www.cabinet.ox.ac.uk/dantes-lyric-poetry-oxford>).
- *Dante's Library: Rebuilding a Medieval Network of Knowledge*, Duke University - Humanities Writ Large Project, Emerging Networks (co-convener with M. Eisner). Sept. 2014-Sept. 2016.

Organization of Research Seminars, International Conferences, and Exhibitions

- June 20-21, 2023. With Dr. Francesco Giusti, Dr. Nicolas Longinotti, and Dr. Irene Fantappiè organization of the International Conference *Rethinking Lyric Communities in Premodern Worlds*, Christ Church Research Centre, Oxford. Organized within the Oxford-Berlin Research Partnership and sponsored by the Center for Italian Studies at the University of Notre Dame (25 invited speakers and discussants).
- May 16-June 8, 2022: with Prof. Rino Modonutti organization of the exhibition *Boccaccio a Padova. Libri di Boccaccio tra Medioevo e prima età moderna*. Biblioteca antica del Seminario vescovile, Padua, Italy.
- Trinity Term (Apr.-June) 2022: with Dr. Gabriele Rota organization of the seminar series *The Discovery of Ancient Greece and Rome in the Renaissance*, The Queen's College, Oxford in partnership with the *Centre for Manuscript and Text Cultures* (CMTC) at Queen's (8 speakers).
- Sept. 3-4, 2020 Organization of the International Conference within the project *MaTeLDa: Coloro che primi il sentiero mostrarono: 'l'altro Dante' e il 'canone antico' della lirica tra Quattro e Cinquecento*, University of Padova (15 invited speakers and discussants).
- May 20-21, 2019 Organization of the International Conference within the project *MaTeLDa: Scrivere e riscrivere Dante lirico: prospettive sul 'Dante minore' tra XIII e XIX secolo*, University of Padova (14 invited speakers and discussants).

Organization of Panels at Peer-Reviewed Conferences (most recent)

- March 14-17, 2024. Organization of the Panels *Literature as Knowledge: Building Communities in the Late Middle Ages - I and II (Dante)*, and *Earthly, Infernal, Heavenly: Dante's Bodies in Motion*, 2024 Medieval Academy of America Conference, University of Notre Dame (9 speakers).
- March 10, 2023. Organization of the Panel *Women, Authority, and Will: Dante's Multifaceted Beatrice and Her Legacy*, Renaissance Society of America Conference - San Juan 2023 (4 speakers). Panel sponsored by the *Dante Society of America*.
- Apr. 20-21, 2022. Organization of the Panels *Dante and the Lyric Between Material Traditions and Theory* and *The Double Face of the Lyric: Lyric Authority and Authors in Early Modern Commentaries to Petrarch*, Society for Italian Studies 2022 Conference, University of Warwick (6 speakers and respondents).
- Sept. 16, 2021. Organization of the Panel *Dante 'minore' come ispirazione e modello alternativo nella letteratura e nella trattatistica del Rinascimento (1450-1600)*, International Dante Conference ALMA Dante, Ravenna (4 speakers).
- April 20, 2021 Organization of the Panel *Narrating Ancient and Modern Authors: Biographies and the Literary Canon in the Age of Humanism*, Renaissance Society of America 2021 Virtual Conference (4 speakers).

Fellowships and Awards (most recent)

- 2022-2027 Honorary Research Fellow, Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, University of Oxford
- 2022-2023 Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies and Center for Italian Studies Fellow in Italian Manuscript Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.
- 2021-2023 Non-stipendiary Research Fellowship, Wolfson College, Oxford
- 2020-2022 Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellowship for the Project *LyrA* (213.000€)
- 2018-2020 Supporting TAlent in ReSearch Grant @ UniPd for the Project *MaTeLDa* (112.000€)

Teaching activities

University of Notre Dame

- Spring 2024:
 - Undergraduate advanced course *Dante II: Dante's Purgatory and Paradise*
 - Graduate course *Italian Lyric: from Frederick II to Marino*
- Fall 2023:
 - Undergraduate advanced course *Dante I: Dante's Hell*
 - Undergraduate course (College Seminar) *Out of this World: from Marco Polo to Dante (and beyond...)*
 - Directed readings *Major Topics in Italian Literature*
- Spring 2023:
 - Undergraduate advanced course (in Italian) *Boccaccio's 'Decameron': Tales from the Plagued City*
 - Graduate course *The Hermeneutics of the Book: Copying, Printing, Circulating Literature in Medieval and Renaissance Italy*
- Fall 2022: Undergraduate advanced course *Dante I: Dante's Hell*

Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, University of Oxford:

- Michaelmas Term 2021 (Oct.-Dec.): undergraduate session *Women Poets of the Italian Renaissance (1400-1650)*
- Trinity Term 2021 (Apr.-June): undergraduate session *Print Culture, Lyric Poetry, and the Three Crowns in Renaissance Italy*

St. Hugh's College, Oxford:

- Michaelmas Term 2021, Hilary Term and Trinity Term 2022: tutorial classes in Renaissance literature.

Dipartimento di Studi Filologici e Linguistici, University of Milan, Italy:

- II semester 2021/2022: Letteratura Italiana avanzato, moduli A, B e C (Advanced Italian Literature modules for undergraduates). Topic: Dante; 17th-century lyric poetry; G.B. Marino.
- I semester 2020/2021: Letteratura Italiana avanzato, moduli B e C (Advanced Italian Literature modules for undergraduates, online). Topic: 17th-century lyric poetry; G.B. Marino.

DiSLL-University of Padua, Italy:

- I semester 2019/2020: Letteratura italiana e analisi del testo letterario (Italian Literature and Analysis of the Literary Text, undergraduate class). Module covering prose (Boccaccio's *Decameron* and Pirandello's *Novelle per un anno*) and verses (Petrarch's *Rerum Vulgarium Fragmenta* and Saba's *Canzoniere*).
- II semester 2018/2019: Letteratura italiana e analisi del testo letterario (Italian Literature and Analysis of the Literary Text, undergraduate class).

Trinity College of Arts & Sciences, Duke University, US:

- Spring 2018: Italian section of the undergraduate and graduate course *Dante's Divine Comedy*
- Fall 2017: Medieval Italian Literature, advanced undergraduate course: *Out of This World: From Marco Polo to Dante (and Beyond...)*
- Spring 2015: Italian section of the undergraduate course *Dante's Divine Comedy*
- Fall 2014: Course of Italian Language (Elementary Level)

Outreach, Impact, and Knowledge Exchange

- Within The Oxford Dante Festival (Nov. 1, 2021), talk "Dante at Oxford: the Lyrics and *Convivio*." Taylor Institution Library (combined event with Professor Nick Havely).
- Jun. 2021: with A. Granacki, "Canto per Canto: Conversations with Dante in our time" collaborative initiative of the Department of Italian Studies and Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò at NYU, and the Dante Society of America: *Purgatorio 23: Revisiting Dante's Youth: A Literary and Historical Biography*

- Jan. 17, 2021: radio interview in the Italian public broadcasting company (RAI) program “La lingua batte:” episode “Tutti pazzi per Dante” (available as a podcast: <https://www.raiplayradio.it/programmi/lalinguabatte/archivio/puntate>).

Institutional Responsibilities

- 2023-2025 Elected to the University of Notre Dame College of Arts and Letters - College Council (At-Large Humanities)
- 2019-2020 Member of the DiSLL’s Commissione Ricerca (Department Committee on Research Affairs)
- 2017-2018 Member of the Duke University Graduate and Professional Student Library Advisory Board

Service to the Profession

- Associate Editor of the journal *Le Tre Corone. Rivista internazionale di studi su Dante, Petrarca, Boccaccio*
- Editor of the University of Notre Dame Press Devers series in Dante Studies
- Project peer reviewer for the Swiss National Science Foundation
- Peer reviewer for the University of Notre Dame Press Devers series in Dante Studies
- Peer reviewer for the journals *Italian Studies, Italica, Rivista di letteratura storiografica italiana, Per leggere, AOQU. Achilles Orlando Quixote Ulysses*