



**UNINT**  
Università  
degli Studi Internazionali di Roma

Bridges Across Cultures

**ROMA**  
**2026**



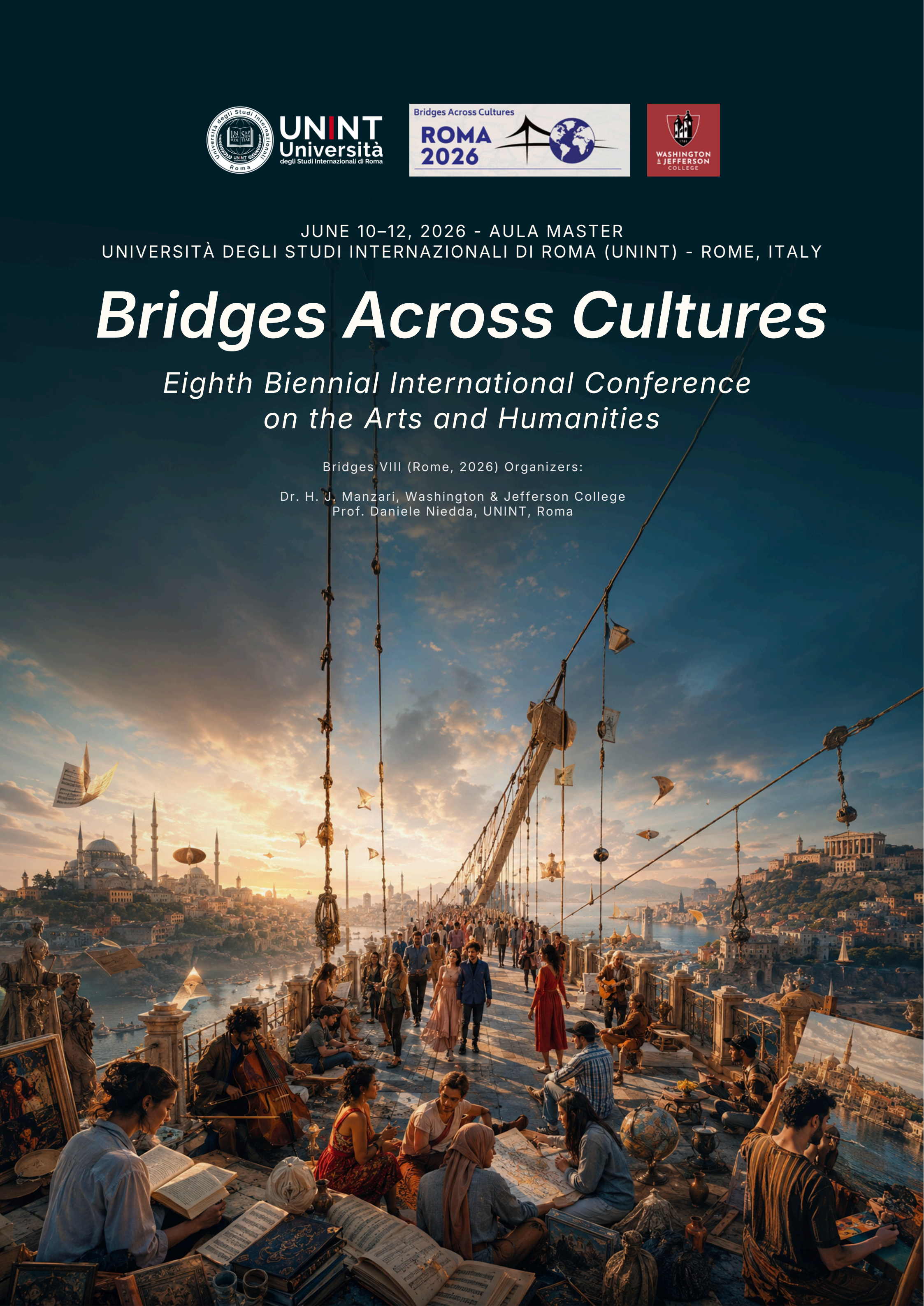
JUNE 10-12, 2026 - AULA MASTER  
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI INTERNAZIONALI DI ROMA (UNINT) - ROME, ITALY

# *Bridges Across Cultures*

*Eighth Biennial International Conference  
on the Arts and Humanities*

Bridges VIII (Rome, 2026) Organizers:

Dr. H. J. Manzari, Washington & Jefferson College  
Prof. Daniele Niedda, UNINT, Roma



# Programme

## Wednesday, June 10

13:30 – 14:30	Registration
14:30	Opening Remarks from the Hosts and Organizers
15:00 –17:00   <b>Session 1:</b> <i>Comparative Mythologies, Italian Thought and Technology</i> Chair: Daniele Niedda	
Paola Basile (Lake Erie College, Canada)	<i>The Concept of Time in Dante's Paradiso: The Tree of Time/Life</i>
Dionisius Psilopoulos (The American College of Greece, Athens)	<i>The Woman as Muse and Threat: Jung and Kazantzakis</i>
Corrado Claverini (University of Salento, Lecce, Italy)	<i>Hacking the Past: Italian Thought and Artificial Intelligence</i>
Michel Pharand (Independent Scholar)	<i>Robert Graves, R. Gordon Wasson, and Sacred Mushrooms</i>
17:30	Walking Tour of the Garbatella District
19:30	Dinner at "Ristorante Il Girasole dal 1981"

## Thursday, June 11

9:00 –10:30 | **Session 2:** *Language Variation in Media and Literature*  
Chair: Amparo Alpañés

James G. Mitchell (Salve Regina University, Rhode Island, USA)	<i>Linguistic Diversity on American Television: Shining a Light on Lesser-Known Regional Dialects</i>
Luca Iezzi (San Raffaele Open University, Rome, Italy)	<i>Analysis of Code-Switching Phenomena Online: The Case of Bahasa Gaul and English</i>
Maria Francesca Ponzi (San Raffaele Open University, Rome, Italy)	<i>Kanak Sprak as a Hybrid and Emotional Language: The Case of Feridun Zaimoglu</i>
10:30	Coffee Break (sponsored by UNINT)

11:00 - 13:00   <b>Session 3</b> : <i>Restoration Drama across Europe</i> Chair: Michel Pharand	
Valentina Rossi (eCampus University of Novedrate, Italy)	<i>Continental Drama on Restoration Stages: Shadwell's Reflections on Self and Society</i>
Alba Graziano (Tuscia University, Viterbo, Italy)	<i>From Page to Stage to Airwaves: Mediating Farquhar's The Beaux' Stratagem</i>
Pavel Drábek (University of Hradec Králové, Czech Rep.)	<i>Eighteenth-Century Dramaturgy as a System of Cultural and Historical Bridges</i>
Hana Pavelková (University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague, Czech Rep.)	<i>Presences and Absences: Stratagem Comedies in the 21st Century</i>
-	LUNCH BREAK (on your own)
15:00 – 16:00   <b>Session 4</b> : <i>Translating Trauma Through Language and Literature</i> Chair: Alba Graziano	
Angela Sileo (San Raffaele Open University, Rome, Italy)	<i>The AVT Bridge: Inclusive and Creative Applications for Foreign Language Learning</i>
Amparo Alpañés (Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, USA)	<i>Crossing the Boundaries of Time and Health in Contemporary Literature in Spain</i>
16:00	Coffee Break (offered by Prof. Daniele Niedda)
16:30 – 18:30   <b>Session 5</b> : <i>Music and Art between Memory and Activism</i> Chair: Paola Basile	
Katherine Ternes (Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, USA)	<i>When Art Hits the Streets: Artivism in the Protest Cultures of Puerto Rico and Chile</i>
Nino Jvania (Tbilisi Vano Sarajishvili State Conservatoire, Georgia)	<i>Bridging Folklore, Cinema, and Music: Cultural Memory and Fairy-Tale Adaptation in the Georgian Film Tsiskara (1955)</i>
H. J. Manzari (Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, USA)	<i>Performance as Resistance and Subalternity in a Latin American Context</i>
Rosetta Giuliani-Caponetto (Auburn University, USA)	<i>Edible Gardens and the Art of Still Life</i>
19:00	Aperitif and Pizza Dinner at "Il Secchio e l'Olivaro"

## Friday, June 12

9:00 –11:00 | **Session 6: Transnationalism and Migration**

Chair: H. J. Manzari

Lorella Di Gregorio (University of Miami, USA)	<i>Neapolitan Song as a Bridge Across Mobility and Marginality</i>
Stefano Luconi (University of Padua, Italy)	<i>The Whitening of Italian Americans in the United States</i>
Marie-Christine Michaud (Université de Bretagne-Sud, France)	<i>Italian and Mexican Migrants in the United States: When History Repeats Itself?</i>
Razvan Dumitru (Cornell University, Ithaca, USA)	<i>Global Textile Trade and Rural European Taste</i>

11:00	Coffee Break (sponsored by UNINT)
-------	-----------------------------------

11:30 – 13:30 | **Session 7: Mapping the Self: Diaspora, Myth, and Cultural Belonging in Literature**

Chair: Daniele Niedda

Carla Simonini (Independent Scholar)	<i>Italianità as a Gendered Ethnic Myth in Postwar Fiction</i>
Lilia Di Pierro (Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale, Italy)	<i>Threads Across Oceans: Mother-Daughter Bonds and the Struggle for Self-Definition in Miss Giardino</i>
Michele C. Deramo (Virginia Tech, USA)	<i>Reading Ferrante in Diaspora</i>
Thomas Halper (Baruch College / CUNY Graduate Center, New York, USA)	<i>Graham Greene and Bridges across Cultures</i>

-	Closing Remarks from the Hosts and Organizers
15:00	Visit to Domitilla Catacombs and/or Centrale Monte Martini

Bridges VIII (Rome, 2026) Organizers:

Dr. H. J. Manzari, Washington & Jefferson College  
Prof. Daniele Niedda, UNINT, Roma

Steering Committee:

Dr. Amparo Alpañés, Washington & Jefferson College  
Dr. Paola Basile, Lake Erie College  
Prof. Alba Graziano, Università degli Studi della Tuscia  
Dr. H. J. Manzari, Washington & Jefferson College  
Prof. Daniele Niedda, UNINT, Roma  
Dr. Michel W. Pharand, Independent Scholar  
Maribel Vázquez Manzari, Washington & Jefferson College