

Il Gazzettino

October 2016

Message from the Board

This summer you elected us to serve as the 2016-2017 Board. We are so excited for this upcoming year and have lots of ideas. We would love your input and feedback to make sure we organize the kind of events everyone will enjoy!

Abbracci,

Friends of Italy Society of Hawaii Board
info@friendsofitalyhawaii.org

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Upcoming Events

Holiday Party

Our annual Holiday Party will be held on the evening of

Saturday, December 18

Please save the date!

We are organizing fantastic music, food, and festivities. More event details will follow as we finalize plans.

Tickets will be \$45 for members and \$60 for non-members. Tickets for children will be available at a reduced price.

Meet the FOISOH Board

We are pleased to introduce you to the nine newly instated Friends of Italy Board Members!

President: Joe Magaldi

Vice-President: Anne Caputo

Treasurer: Andrea Zannoni

Secretary: Malia Zannoni

Programs and Events: Zach Dilonno

Membership: Gershon Bergeisen

Newsletter: Jo Andrea Napoli-Impastato and Mark Ethridge

Member at Large: Carlo Andrea Malanima



From left to right: Andrea, Mark, Zach, Jo Andrea, Malia, Gershon and Joe



Anne



Carlo Andrea

Please contact us with any ideas for events, newsletter articles, or any other ideas for our club!

Past Events

Annual Dinner 2016

On May 23, we held our Annual Dinner at the Outrigger Canoe Club. We had a beautiful ocean view as we ate, laughed and danced the night away!



Photo Credit: Jo Andrea Napoli-Impastato

Past Events

Holiday Party 2015

A big THANK YOU to Mr. and Mrs. DeLuca for opening their beautiful home to host our incredible holiday party!



With a special visit from la Befana and Santa, the Christmas Spirit was strong!



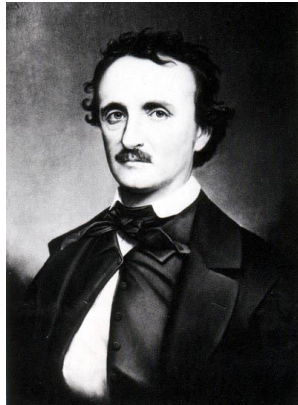
Photo Credit: Joe Magaldi

Feature Story

EDGAR ALLAN POE AND ALESSANDRO MANZONI: A CURIOUS CONNECTION

By Mark Ethridge

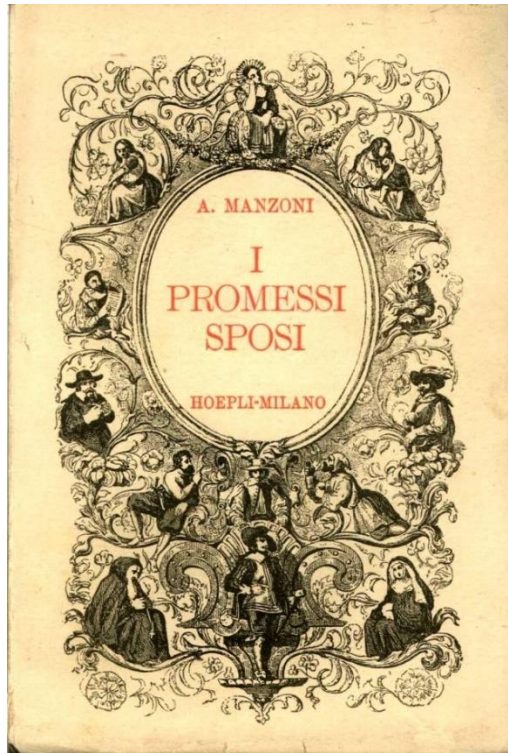
What do the famous 19th century writers Edgar Allan Poe and Alessandro Manzoni have in common?



Edgar Allan Poe is an important literary figure for several reasons. He perfected the “tale of the macabre,” or what we might call today the horror story. Poe is widely considered to have written the first detective story, “The Murders in the Rue Morgue” (1841), long before Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and his fictional creation, Sherlock Holmes (1887). Poe is also well-known for his poetry, such as “the Raven” and “Annabel Lee,” and was an important literary critic.

While Alessandro Manzoni is not well known outside of Italy, he is considered a towering figures in Italian literature and language, along with Dante Alighieri. Like Dante, Manzoni is known primarily for one literary masterpiece. While Dante’s masterpiece, “The Divine Comedy,” is credited with creating a unified Italian language in the 14th century, Manzoni’s masterpiece, “I Promessi Sposi” (“The Betrothed”), further defined contemporary standard Italian language in the 19th century.

Feature Story



The novel is an epic tale of two lovers, soon to be married, who are torn apart by the treachery of a Spanish baron in the Lake Como area of northern Italy.

Pope Francis recently praised the book in a pontifical message on marriage. On May 27, the Pope stated that “you Italians have in your literature a masterpiece on marriage and your children must know it – don’t set aside this masterpiece, go ahead and read it, and you will see its beauty.”

Well, what then is the connection between Poe and Manzoni?

There is no evidence they ever collaborated on any work, or even corresponded or knew each other. However, Poe reviewed Manzoni’s novel in May of 1835 as a literary critic working at the Richmond, Virginia-based-Southern Literary Messenger. Excerpts of his review on the next page.

Review of "The Betrothed Lovers" by E.A. Poe
The Southern Literary Messenger
Richmond, May 1835
Vol.1. N°9
T.W.White, Printer and Proprietor
Five Dollars per Annum
Literary Notices

I Promessi Sposi, or the Betrothed Lovers; a Milanese Story of the Seventeenth Century: as translated for the Metropolitan, from the Italian of Alessandro Manzoni, by G.W. Featherstonhaugh. Washington: stereotyped and published by Duff Green. 1834. 8vo. pp. 249.

Poe praised the novel and wished to “congratulate our readers on the appearance of a work, which promises to be the commencement of a new style in novel writing.” He also said: “It might be too much to say that this novel is, in every sense of the word, original. The writer is obviously familiar with English literature, and seems to have taken at least one hint from Sir Walter Scott. The use made by that writer of the records and traditions of times gone by, has suggested this hint. It naturally occurred to Manzoni, a native of Italy, that much of the same sort of material was to be found among the archives of the petty Italian states, now blotted from the map of Europe.”

Poe felt however, that the translator could have done a better job: “There is a power in this to which we do not scruple to give great praise. We regret to say that the translation has many faults. We lament it the more, because they are obviously faults of haste. **The translator, we fear, was hungry; a misfortune with which we know how to sympathize.** The style is, for the most part, Italian, in English words, but Italian still. This is a great fault. In some instances it would be unpardonable. In this instance, perhaps, it is more than compensated by a kindred excellence. In a work like this, abounding in the untranslatable phrases of popular dialogue, it gives a quaint raciness which is not unacceptable. It does more. Such translations of such works would soon make the English ear familiar with Italian idioms, which once naturalized, would enrich the language.”

And finally, Poe says: “This work comes to us as the harbinger of glad tidings to the reading world. Here is a book, equal in matter to any two of Cooper's novels, and executed at least as well, which we receive at the moderate price of forty-two cents! It forms one number of the Washington Library, published monthly, at five dollars per annum. At this rate, a literary gourmand, however greedy, may hope to satisfy his appetite for books, without starving his children. The author has our praise, and the translator and publisher have our thanks.”

(E.A. Poe)

The full review can be found courtesy of the Edgar Allen Poe Society of Baltimore at:
<http://www.eapoe.org/works/harrison/jaho8co5.htm>

Announcements

National Italian American Foundation Earthquake Relief

On August 24, 2016, a magnitude 6.2 earthquake hit central Italy. Nearly 4,000 people lost their homes, and 300 people died. Amatrice was among the worst hit cities. In the first week following the initial earthquake, 2500 aftershocks rocked the whole of central Italy.

The Friends of Italy Society of Hawaii is partnering with the National Italian American Foundation Italian American Relief Fund to aid and rebuild the communities that were affected by this natural disaster. This rebuilding and relief effort will continue for many months, if not years, so what you contribute today is still great appreciated.

Please consider giving back to the country that we love and hold so close to our hearts during this time of need by contributing to the NIAF Italian American Relief webpage:

<https://www.italianamericanrelief.org/>.



Announcements

Honolulu Amatrice Fundraiser

On September 10, Donato Loperfido, owner of the import company, Flavors of Italy, and Honolulu Chef Kevin Lee organized a fundraising dinner to benefit earthquake victims.

Held at a private residence in Kahala, the dinner featured the signature pasta dish, Spaghetti all'Amatriciana to honor the town, Amatrice, which is at the center of the disaster.

Several of our FOISOH members volunteered at this event. Many thanks to Hai Cha Lambert, Stefania Migani, and Connie Sutherland for helping out.

