

IVANO DAL PRETE

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CURRENT POSITION

Senior Lecturer, Yale University, History of Science and Medicine Program, (2021-)

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

- Lecturer, Yale University, History of Science and Medicine program 2017-2021
- Lecturer, Yale University, History of Science and Medicine program 2014-2015
- Adjunct Assistant Professor, Barnard College, Columbia University, Fall 2013
- Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota, Program in the History of Science and Technology, spring 2011 – spring 2012
- Lecturer, Yale University, History of Science and Medicine program, 2008-2010

EDUCATION

2005: Ph.D. in History of European Society, University of Verona (Italy)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2023: 2023 American Catholic Historical Association (ACHA) Helen & Howard R. Marraro Prize for most distinguished book in Italian History.
- 2022: The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation – Venetian Research Program fellow.
Ca' Foscari University (Venice), visiting researcher.
University of Bologna, visiting researcher.
- 2020: A. Whitney Griswold Faculty Research Fund.
Frederick W. Hilles Publication Fund.
- 2019: Rosenkranz Award for Pedagogical Advancement. Title of the project: “Ancient Earths, with Digital Eyes”.
- 2015-2016: Villa I Tatti – The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance, Hanna Kiel Fellow.
The Huntington Library - Dibner Program in the History of Science, long-term fellow (declined).

- The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation – Venetian Research Program fellow (declined).
- 2013: The Huntington Library, Research Fellow
- 2012-2013: The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America (Columbia University), Associate Research Scholar.
- 2007-2009: University of Eastern Piedmont, research fellow
- 2005-2007: CNR-ISPF (Milan) and University of Eastern Piedmont, Post-doctoral Fellow.
- 2003: Ecole Française de Rome (Rome), visiting student.
- 2001-2002: Centre Koyré for the History of Science (Paris) and Ecole Normale Supérieure (Paris), visiting student.
- 2001: Northwestern University (Chicago), visiting student.

BOOKS

- *On the Edge of Eternity. The Antiquity of the Earth in Medieval and Early Modern Europe* (Oxford University Press, 2022. ACHA Marraro Prize for best book in Italian History)
- *Scienza e Società nel Settecento Veneto* (“Science and Society in Eighteenth-century Republic of Venice”. Milan, FrancoAngeli, 2008. In Italian).
- *Antonio Vallisneri. Miglioramenti, e correzioni d'alcune esperienze, ed osservazioni del Signor Redi* (critical edition, introduction and notes. Florence, Olschki, 2005).

SELECTED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- “A Christian History of the Earth?”, in *Early Science and Medicine*, Special Issue: Natural History and the Question of Confessionalization (forthcoming 2024).
- “When the Ocean Towered above the Earth: Dante Alighieri's *Questio* in Context”, in *Dante and the Sciences of the Human* (Palgrave, forthcoming 2024).
- “Climate and Meteorology”. In Jalobeanu, Dana, Wolfe, Charles T. (Eds.) *Springer Encyclopedia of Early Modern Philosophy and the Sciences* (2019).
- “The Ruins of the Earth. Learned Meteorology and Artisan Expertise in Fifteenth-century Italian Landscapes”, *Nuncius* 33 (2018), 415-441.
- “‘Ingenuous Investigators’: Antonio Vallisneri’s Regional Network and the Making of Natural Knowledge in Eighteenth-century Italy”, in Paula Findlen (ed.), *Empires of Knowledge: Scientific Networks in the Early Modern World* (Routledge, 2018), 181-204.
- “Vernacular Meteorology and the Antiquity of the Earth in Medieval and Renaissance Italy”, *Vernacular Aristotelianism in Italy from the Fourteenth to the Seventeenth Century*, ed. by Luca Bianchi, Simon Gilson, and Jill Kraye (London: Warburg Institute, 2017), 139-160.

- “Cultures and Politics of Preformationism in Eighteenth-century Italy”, *The Secrets of Generation: Reproduction in the Long Eighteenth Century*, ed. by Ray Stephenson, Darren Wagner (Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 2015), pp. 59-78.
- “‘Being the World Eternal’. The Age of the Earth in Renaissance Italy”, *Isis*, vol. 105, n.2 (June 2014), pp. 292-317.
- “Brokering Instruments in Napoleon’s Europe. The Italian Journeys of Franz Xavier von Zach (1807- 1814)”, *Annals of Science*, vol. 71, n.1 (2014), pp.82-101.
- “The Gazola Family’s Scientific Cabinet. Politics, Society and Scientific Collecting in the Twilight of the Republic of Venice”, in Jim Bennett, Sofia Talas (eds.), *Making Science Public in 18th-Century Europe: the Role of Cabinets of Experimental Philosophy*, Brill, 2013, pp. 155- 172.
- “L’«Eroina» dei filosofi. Clelia Borromeo nel carteggio di Antonio Vallisneri”, in A. Spiriti, D. Generali, E. Vaccari, *Clelia Grillo Borromeo Arese. Un salotto letterario Settecentesco tra arte, scienza e politica*, Olschki, Firenze, 2011, vol. II, pp. 91-112.
- Entry “Geminiano Montanari”, in *Dizionario Biografico degli Italiani* (“Dictionary of Italian Biographies”), vol. 75, 2011.
- “Valerio Faenzi e l’origine dei monti nel Cinquecento veneto”, in Simona Boscani Leoni (ed.), *Wissenschaft- Berge – Ideologien. Johann Jakob Scheuchzer (1672-1733) und die Frühneuzeitliche Naturforschung*, Basel, Schwabe, 2010, pp. 199-214.
- “Francesco Bianchini e la cultura scientifica veronese”, in L. Ciancio, G.P. Romagnani (eds.), “Unità del sapere, molteplicità dei saperi. Francesco Bianchini (1662-1729) tra natura, storia e religione”, Verona, Quiedit, 2010, pp. 207-241.
- “Echi Fracastoriani nelle cosmologie e nella storia della Terra del Settecento”, in Enrico Peruzzi, Alessandro Pastore (eds.), *Girolamo Fracastoro fra medicina, filosofia e scienze della natura* (Florence: Olschki, 2005). 279-298.
- “Francesco Bianchini e il pianeta Venere. Astronomia, cronologia e storia della Terra tra Roma e Parigi all’inizio del XVIII secolo”, *Nuncius* 20n, n. 1 (2005), 95-152.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES

- 2019- : Production of digital animations and on-line learning tools on pre-modern theories of geological and climatic change (title of the project: *Ancient Earths, through Digital Eyes*).
- 2005-2008: Project manager for the online inventory and digital edition of Antonio Vallisneri’s (Italian naturalist, 1661- 1730) correspondence. Available at: <http://www.vallisneri.it/inventario.shtml>.

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES AND SESSIONS ORGANIZED

- “Reassessing Earth History, Deep Past and Questions of Origins in the Long Eighteenth Century”, Roundtable, *History of Science Society Meeting* (New Orleans, November 2020; canceled due to COVID)

- “The Renaissance and the History of the World”, workshop hosted by the Italian Academy, Columbia University, (New York, April 26, 2013).
- “Unità del sapere, molteplicità dei saperi: l'opera di Francesco Bianchini (1662-1729) tra natura, storia e religione”, three-day conference (Verona, Italy, October 28-30, 2004).

RECENT INVITED LECTURES

- “The Invention of the History of Deep Time. How to Erase the Past and Create Historical Common Sense”, Early Modern Workshop, Princeton University (Princeton NJ), Nov. 30, 2023.
- “The Moon Deluge and Other Otherworldly Catastrophes. Astronomy and Earth History at the turn of the Eighteenth Century”, Center for Astrophysics Colloquium series, Harvard & Smithsonian (Cambridge MA), Nov. 7, 2023.
- “Rising from the Bones of the Mighty Mother. Post-diluvial Fertility and the Spontaneous Generation of Human Beings in Medieval and Early Modern Europe”, (Keynote Address) *Fertile Furrows: Ruling and (Re-)Working Soil in Early Modern Period*, The Warburg Institute (London), June 27, 2023.
- Book talk: *On the Edge of Eternity*, Ca’ Foscari University (Venice), June 14, 2023.
- “Deep Time and Vernacular Science in Medieval and Renaissance Italy”, CSMBR, Pisa (Italy), Apr. 20, 2023
- “The History of the Earth and the History of Humankind”, *History in Science: Cases and Comparisons. A Workshop at Caltech and the Huntington Library*. Pasadena CA, March 24-25, 2023.
- Book talk: *On the Edge of Eternity*, Early Modern Studies, Faculty Book Talk Series, Dec. 13, 2022
- Book talk: *On the Edge of Eternity*, Yale Library Book Talk, Oct. 12, 2022; and The Yale-Beijing Book Talk, Oct. 28, 2022.
- “Before Diluvialism. The Origin of Fossils from Albertus Magnus to Scilla”, University of Bologna, June 14, 2022.
- “Rethinking the History of Deep Time”, Ca’ Foscari University, Venice, May 31, 2022.
- “The Naturalist and the Quarryman. Natural History, Labor, and the ‘European Indigenous’ in Eighteenth-century Italy”, University of Bologna, May 16, 2022.
- “The Deep Time of the Earth: Environmental Experiments with History”, *Scientiae Workshop*, August 6th, 2020.
- “The Enlightenment and the History of Deep Time. The Invention of a Historiographical Myth”, Wesleyan University, Middleton CT, Sep. 24, 2019.
- “The Controversy on the Age of the Earth in Early Eighteenth-century Italy”, *The Intersections of Discourses of Earth Sciences and Theology in the Long Eighteenth Century*, Lichtenberg-Kolleg, University of Göttingen, Germany, July 11-13, 2019.

- “On the Edge of Eternity: Thinking of an Ancient Earth in Pre-modern Europe”, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore MD, Sep. 28, 2017.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “Landscapes of Ruins. Geological and Human Past in Fifteenth-century Italian Art”, (Renaissance Society of America meeting, Dublin, Mar. 31, 2022).
- “Dante’s ‘Questio’ in Context”, *Dante and the Sciences of the Human. Medicine, Physics, Soul* (CSRBM – Center for the Study of Medicine and the Body in the Renaissance, Oct. 23rd, 2021).
- “Artisans of the Earth. Empirical Expertise and the Crafting of the Renaissance Earth”, *History of Science Society Meeting*, Utrecht (Jul. 26, 2019).
- “Painted Rocks. Ruins of an Ancient Earth from the Middle Ages to Leonardo’s Deluges”, *History of Science Society Meeting*, Atlanta (Nov. 4, 2016).
- “Ingenuous Investigators’: Antonio Vallisneri’s Regional Network and the making of Natural Knowledge in Eighteenth-century Italy”, *Empires of Knowledge: Scientific Networks in the Early Modern World*, Stanford University, Palo Alto (May 2-3, 2014).
- “Vernacular Science and the Antiquity of the World in Medieval and Renaissance Italy”, *Philosophy and Knowledge in the Renaissance. Interpreting Aristotle in the Vernacular*, The Warburg Institute, London (June 21-22, 2013).
- “Vernacular Meteorologies and the Antiquity of the World in Renaissance Italy”, *The Renaissance and the History of the World*, The Italian Academy (Columbia University), New York (April 26, 2013).
- “Vernacular Science and the Antiquity of the World in Renaissance Italy”, *History of Science Society Meeting*, San Diego (November 15-18, 2012).
- “Credibility and Trust in Natural History in Eighteenth- Century Italy”, Northeastern American Society for Eighteenth-century Studies, 2012 Meeting, Middletown (October 11- 14, 2012).
- “Political Fossils. Natural History, Collecting and Politics in Eighteenth-Century Republic of Venice”, American Society for Eighteenth-century Studies, 2012 Meeting, San Antonio, (March 22-24, 2012).
- “Antonio Vallisneri’s Network and the Structure of Naturalistic Knowledge in Early 18th-Century Europe”, 4th International Conference of the European Society for the History of Science, Barcelona (18-20 November, 2010).
- “The Gazola Family’s Scientific Cabinet. Politics, Society and Scientific Collecting in the Twilight of the Republic of Venice”, XXIX Symposium of the Scientific Instruments Committee, Florence (October 4-9, 2010).
- “Maurilia’s Sin. Debating Human Generation in Eighteenth-Century Republic of Venice”, American Society for Eighteenth-century Studies, 2010 Meeting, Albuquerque (March 18- 21, 2010).
- “Politics and Instruments in Napoleon’s Europe: The Italian Journeys of Franz Xaver von Zach” *Scientific Travels, Textbooks, Popularization and*

Controversies in the European Periphery, 6th STEP meeting, Istanbul (June 19-21, 2008).

OUTREACH

- Ca. 15 articles on the history of early modern science and culture published in the popular science magazines *L'Astronomia*, *Coelum* and *La Recherche*
- Recorded radio interview for WPKN on the history of extra-terrestrial life:
<http://rel5.wpkn.streamrewind.com/bookmarks/listen/47961>

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

- Italian (native speaker)
- English (full professional proficiency)
- French (fluent speaker)
- Latin (advanced linguistic skills)