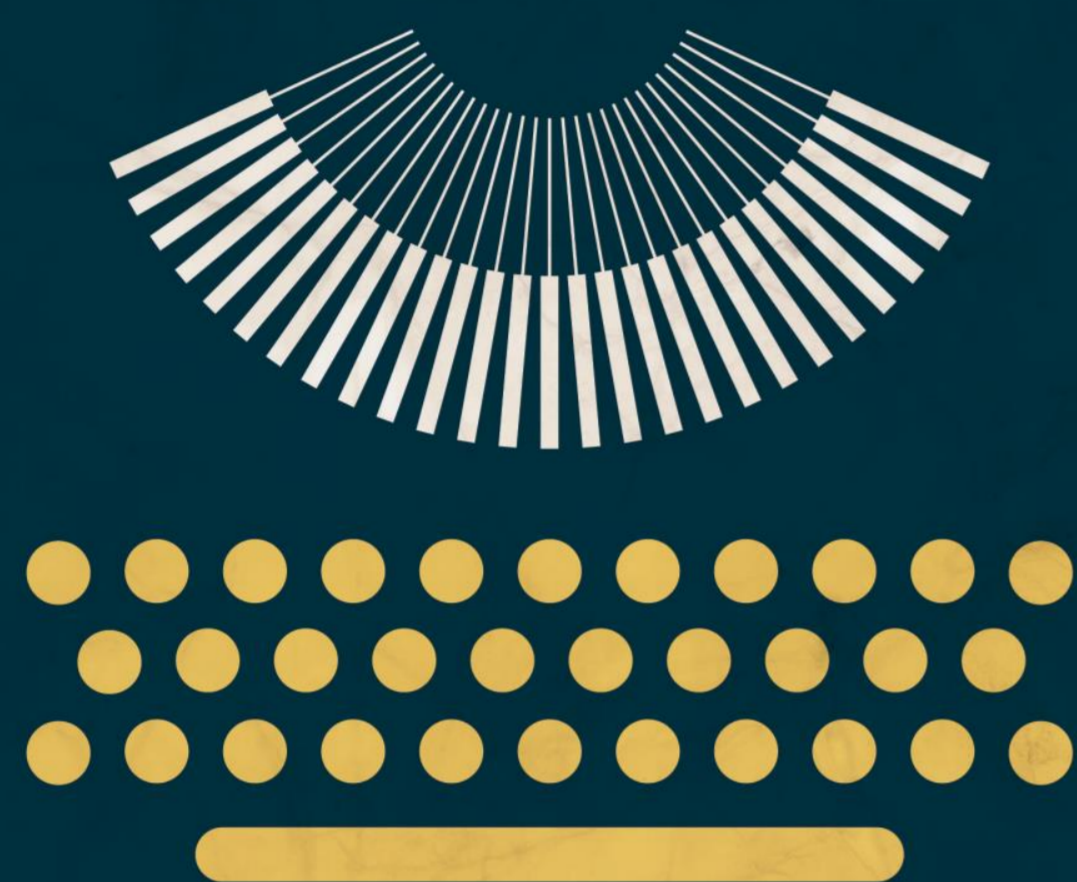


This exhibition is part of the
Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded
research project

Mapping Literary Space: Literary Journals, Publishing Firms and Intellectuals in Italy, 1940-1960



This three-year research project (2012-2015) investigates the patterns of organization and cultural activity of literary intellectual networks in a period of Italian history characterised by radical historical, political, social and cultural changes.

The project builds on the hypothesis that literary journals have always serviced new writing, introduced readers to new artistic movements across continents, engendered debate, disseminated ideas and more importantly sought to challenge settled aesthetic and cultural assumptions.

The project will chart the ways in which intellectuals and writers used literary journals (a) to create sites for discussion and dissemination of their aesthetic, literary and political concerns to national and transnational audiences; (b) to map their public identity and define their own space for public intervention.; (c) to disseminate ideas through strategic alliances with publishing houses.

Research Team

Principal Investigator: Dr Daniela La Penna (University of Reading)

Co-Investigator: Dr Francesca Billiani (The University of Manchester)

Research Assistant: Dr Mila Milani (University of Reading)



Right after WWII, Italian literary journals connected intellectuals across the world. *Il Politecnico*, *Lo Spettatore italiano*, *Nuovi Argomenti* and *Botteghe Oscure* are some of the many publishing initiatives which from 1940s to the early 1960s fostered intellectual debate beyond the Italian borders, received worldwide interest and recognition, and functioned as transnational springboards for contemporary Italian authors.

Follow the cultural and literary exchange between Italian editors and international writers and intellectuals through unpublished correspondence, now displayed for the first time in a public exhibition.

The letters come from the following Italian literary archives:

Fondazione Camillo Caetani (FCC, Rome) - *Botteghe Oscure*

Fondazione Benedetto Croce (FBC, Naples) — *Lo Spettatore italiano*

Archivio Storico Giulio Einaudi Editore (AE - Turin, State Archive) — *Il Politecnico*, *Nuovi Argomenti*

Archivio della Parola, dell'Immagine e della Comunicazione editoriale (APICE, Milan) — *Il Politecnico*

Fondazione Arnoldo e Alberto Mondadori (FAAM - Milan) — *Botteghe Oscure*

With the support of



Curators

Francesca Billiani; Krista Goodfellow; Michelle Kenner; Sonia Llewellyn; Mila Milani; Madeleine Witek; Chiara Zuanni