WAYNE STOREY
INDIANA UNIVERSITY

"THE REVISUALIZATION OF AN ICON OF EUROPEAN LITERATURE: PETRARCH'S Rerum vulgarium fragmenta"

talk
Monday
4:30pm
Alex. Library
Room 403

WAYNE STOREY AND ISABELLA MAGNI

SEPTEMBER
26-27
2016

digital workshop
tuesday 10am-12noon
the petrarchive project:
editing and digital realization
alexander library - room 413

SUPPORTED BY
ITALIAN DEPT.,
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RUTGERS
School of Arts and Sciences
The Revisualization of an Icon of European Literature: Petrarch’s Rerum vulgarium fragmenta

Since Giovanni Mestica’s 1896 critical edition until today, editions of Petrarch’s Rerum vulgarium fragmenta have relied heavily on features of Bembo’s two Aldine editions (1501 and 1514) while claiming adherence to the manuscript whose production the poet oversaw the last seven years of his life. Yet MS Vaticano Latino 3195 represents two very different kinds of document that require two unique orientations for its interpretation. The new “rich-text” edition I am constructing for the Petrarchive Project offers not only new readings but also new ways of visualizing and representing the diverse layers and genesis of Petrarch’s icon work. This new approach to Petrarch’s masterpiece would not be possible without its digital format and apparatus.

Talk given by H. Wayne Storey, Indiana University

The Petrarchive Project: Editing and Digital Realization

While the compositional and historical complexities of Petrarch’s collection of lyric poems, the Rerum vulgarium fragmenta (1362–1374), seem to recommend crowding the page with the latest digital bells and whistles, the Petrarchive’s operational philosophy for presenting the work’s intricate visual poetics is to keep the text clean and simple. Rather, behind each ‘page’ is a structural design that is carefully documented in the project’s wiki and implemented using the Text Encoding Initiative’s dialect of the eXtensible Markup Language (XML). This workshop examines the theoretical and practical design features and tools of our “rich-text” digital edition of one of the masterworks of Western literature.

Workshop Facilitators:
Wayne Storey and Isabella Magni

SPACE IS LIMITED. RSVP TO: FRANCESCA.GIANNETTI@RUTGERS.EDU
H. Wayne Storey is Professor of Italian and founding editor of the journal Textual Cultures. He writes about and edits literary works in the early Italian and Old Occitan traditions. Many of his studies have focused on the “visual poetics” instilled in ancient manuscripts, the cultural systems and dynamics of “mise en page” and the relationship of manuscript illumination to text. His volumes have included: Petrarch and the Textual Origins of Interpretation (Brill, 2007) and Dante for the New Millennium (Fordham, 2003), both with Teodolinda Barolini; the two-volume facsimile and Italian commentary of Petrarch’s personal copy of the Rerum vulgarium fragmenta (Vatican Library/Antenore, 2003 and 2004) with Gino Belloni, Furio Brugnolo and Stefano Zamponi; and La fama che la vostra casa onora (Fordham, 2006) with Michelangelo Zaccarello. Together with John Walsh and Isabella Magni, he is the editor of the Petarchive, an open-access “rich text” edition and electronic archive of Petrarch’s Rerum vulgarium fragmenta, http://petarchive.org, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities 2014–2017.

Isabella Magni earned her bachelor and master’s degrees in French and British literature at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milano, Italy, and a second master’s degree in Italian and Medieval studies from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. She is currently finishing her PhD dissertation on Petrarch and digital systems of representation of texts. For the past three years she has served as the principal digital humanities assistant on the Petarchive.org project, collaborating with Wayne Storey and John Walsh in the production of the new rich-text digital edition of the Rerum Vulgarium Fragmenta (a project funded by IU’s New Frontiers initiative [2013–14] and by the NEH for 2014–2017). Her essays on interactive timelines as a research tool and on how digital tools contribute to visualizing and investigating Petrarch’s Fragmenta appear in Digital Philology 5.2 (2016) and Medioevo letterario d’Italia 12 (2015).
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