



Features

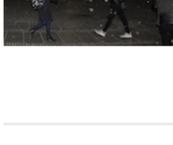


HOLIDAYS

The Importance of Community During the Pandemic

by Kyle McKinnon

Somehow 2020 is flying by, despite all of the waiting. Time feels broken. Long have we been twiddling our thumbs, and all the while our lives seem to be carrying on without us. Birthdays, weddings, convocations, exhibitions, all manner of ceremonies have been muted; they seem... [More...](#)



CULTURE

The Dim Light of This Christmas

by Maria Pia Spadafora

If I had to define Christmastime in one word it would be *light*. The light that illuminates the streets, that shines in the store windows, that decorates trees and balconies; the light in the cribs and in the heart of every child waiting for Santa Claus. [More...](#)



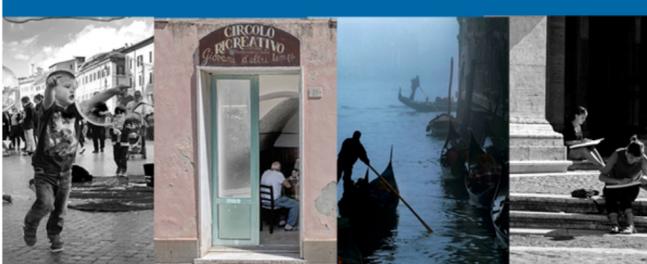
DANCE

Tanguendo in Covid Time

by Jane Callen & Antonio Iantorno

When Covid 19 struck Europe in 2020, Italy was blindsided first. Lombardia was hit the worst. Under lockdown, group activities like tango classes were cancelled. Like everyone else, Antonio hunkered down and waited. [More...](#)

11th Accenti Photo Contest



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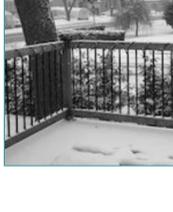
On./Hon. Francesca La Marca
Camera dei Deputati - Italian Chamber of Deputies
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AUGURI di serene festività!




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Writings



ESSAY

Power Failure

by Kyle McKinnon

When I arrived at university, the first thing I was asked to do was write an English Writing Proficiency Examination, a standard practice, regardless of what I was to major in. I was assured that only five percent of students fail the exam; the results had nothing to do with my grades, and... [More...](#)



FICTION

Rows and Rows

by VJ Hamilton

"Oh Lord, where did I go wrong?" I say. "You're stealing my line," Mom says, smiling. "You never lose count." At eighty, my mother works magic with a crochet hook. Her rows of stitches are more regular than the universal time signal. We're sitting in her living room, making striped blankets for my two nieces... [More...](#)

Accenti

"If I waited for perfection, I would never write a word."
Margaret Atwood

13th Writing Contest

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It's not too soon to submit your best prose work – fiction, non-fiction or creative non-fiction – for a chance to win \$1,000 and publication in Accenti! The topic is open. Multiple entries welcome. Click [here](#) for details.



HERITAGE

Antonietta's Garden

by Frances Garofalo

A soft, gentle breeze caressed the northern garden, causing the stalks of camomile to sway gracefully against the setting sun. The apples on the trees glistened, cherry-red orbs reflecting the sun's rays. A diminutive figure dressed in black carefully pulled the weeds winding around the mint plants. [More...](#)

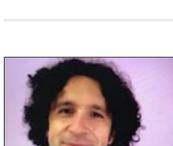
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Art Scene

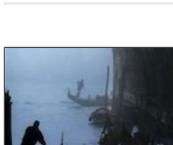


INTERVIEW

In Conversation with Author Marco Balzano

by Licia Canton

Award-winning Italian writer Marco Balzano's most recent novel is *Resto qui* (2018), translated into English as *I'm Staying Here* by Jill Foulston, and now available in North America. His other works include *Le parole sono importanti* (2019), *Il figlio del figlio* (2016), *L'ultimo arrivato* (2013), and *Pronti a tutte le partenze* (2013). [More...](#) **Watch the interview on YouTube.**



FEATURED PHOTO

Venice in the Fog

by Alain Schroeder

"Venice in the Fog" was a finalist in the 2020 Accenti "Capture an Italian Moment" Photo Contest. [More...](#)

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Care lettrici e cari lettori di Accenti,

La pandemia ci ha fatto riscoprire i valori alla base della nostra straordinaria collettività: solidarietà, ma anche rispetto verso il prossimo con il distanziamento sociale e le mascherine. Mi raccomando: non abbassiamo la guardia in questi giorni. Per parte nostra, al Consolato Generale siamo sempre a vostro servizio e vi rinnoviamo i migliori auguri per un 2021 prospero e sereno.

La vostra Console Generale (Montreal) e Rappresentante Permanente d'Italia presso l'ICAO, Silvia Costantini




Canada and Italy Sign New Youth Mobility Agreement

The agreement, signed on December 11, 2020, by Marco E. L. Mendicino, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, and Luigi Di Maio, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Italian Republic, will improve labour market access for Canadian and Italian youth between 18 and 35 years or age by allowing them to work and travel for 12 months. Candidates can participate twice for a total of 24 months. Participants will also be able to gain professional work experience with the addition of two streams: International Co-op and Young Professionals. The exchange will allow the next generation of Canadians and Italians alike to gain a better understanding of each other's culture, languages and history. For more information...

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