

Costellazioni n.12

Call for papers

Cultural Relations between Italy and China in the first decades of the XX century

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Italy and China, as is well known, can claim a history of cultural and commercial relationships that is unequalled by any other Western country. In fact, there were already indirect relations between the Qin Empire and the Roman Empire, thanks to the silk trade. Later, during the period of the *Pax mongolica* in the XIII century, it was missionaries and Italian travelers who visited the court of the Mongol Grand Khan, which had recently conquered the Chinese empire; the most famous among them was Marco Polo. Next came the Jesuit missionaries, mostly Italians, who brought back to Europe the first detailed information about the great Chinese Empire. In the following centuries the importance of Italy lessened in the relations between Europe and China, but it was towards the end of the Empire, during the last decades of the XIX century and the first decades of the XX century, that Italy captured the imagination of the Chinese, which in turn excited the cultural curiosity of the Italian literary world.

This issue of *Constellazioni* intends to collect contributions that analyze the cultural contacts between Italy and China during the mentioned historical period, describing not only which works and authors traveled from one continent to the other, but also seeking to identify which itineraries, both cultural and geographical, were traced in translation and literature journeys from one country to the other. Preference will be accorded to essays that aim to reconstruct the cultural processes that promoted and initiated the discovery of the culture / literature of the other country, and that describe the intellectual profiles of those Italian and Chinese protagonists who set in motion the circulation of works from the other country - publishers, editorial staff, writers, intellectuals - and who can shed light onto the encounters and cultural exchanges between Italy and China.

Possible themes and / or keywords:

reception, translation, China, Italy, poetry, fiction, theater, literary magazines, literature.

In detail:

- reception of Italian literature in China;
- reception of Chinese literature in Italy;
- translation activity;
- the training and work of translators;
- journalistic work and the dissemination of Italian / Chinese literature;
- vehicular languages;
- literary criticism in China and in Italy between the end of the XIX and the beginning of the XX century.

The proposals (*abstracts*) must be sent without exception by June 30, 2019 to the following address rivistacostellazioni@gmail.com, alessandra.brezzi@uniroma1.it, federico.masini@uniroma1.it

Maximum length of articles: 40,000 characters including spaces.

The editorial guidelines can be consulted at the following address:

<https://www.rivistacostellazioni.org/norme-redazionali>

Accepted languages: English, Italian.

Schedule of deadlines:

- 30/06/2019: deadline for sending the abstract (max 450 words, bibliography and brief biographical note)
- 10/07/2019: notification of proposal acceptance or rejection
- 15/12/2019: complete essays must be sent, in compliance with the editorial guidelines

Constellazioni abides by Anvur regulations and adopts a double blind peer review system.