

'Art is the ingenious creator of works so strange and witty' that they make 'Nature jealous', writes Emanuele Tesaurò in his *Il cannocchiale aristotelico* (1654): theatrical machines that reproduce on earth the thunderstorms 'that Nature makes in the inaccessible workshop of the clouds', as well as 'swaying seas and fleeting forests' or 'puzzling birds that are not alive and yet fly'. This conference, held in Italian and English, explores the wit underlying the recreation of natural environments and the simulation of elemental and vital forces in Baroque arts, engineering, and literature. These 'Metaforiche operationi', which 'make those who do not see incredulous, and make those who see believe the unbelievable', reflected changing attitudes towards nature and artifice, varied relationships between humans and the natural environment – contiguity, resistance, coalescence – and they had potential and value as ways of contesting and making sense of inchoately shifting scientific, epistemological, and artistic paradigms.

Scientific Committee: Sonia Cavicchioli (Università di Bologna), Loredana Chines (Università di Bologna), Elisa Antonietta Daniele (Università di Bologna), Franca Varallo (Università di Torino)

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ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

DIPARTIMENTO  
DI FILOLOGIA CLASSICA  
E ITALIANISTICA



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## *Arguzia/Natura/Artificio.*

# Contraptions and Ingenuity in Baroque Arts and Literature

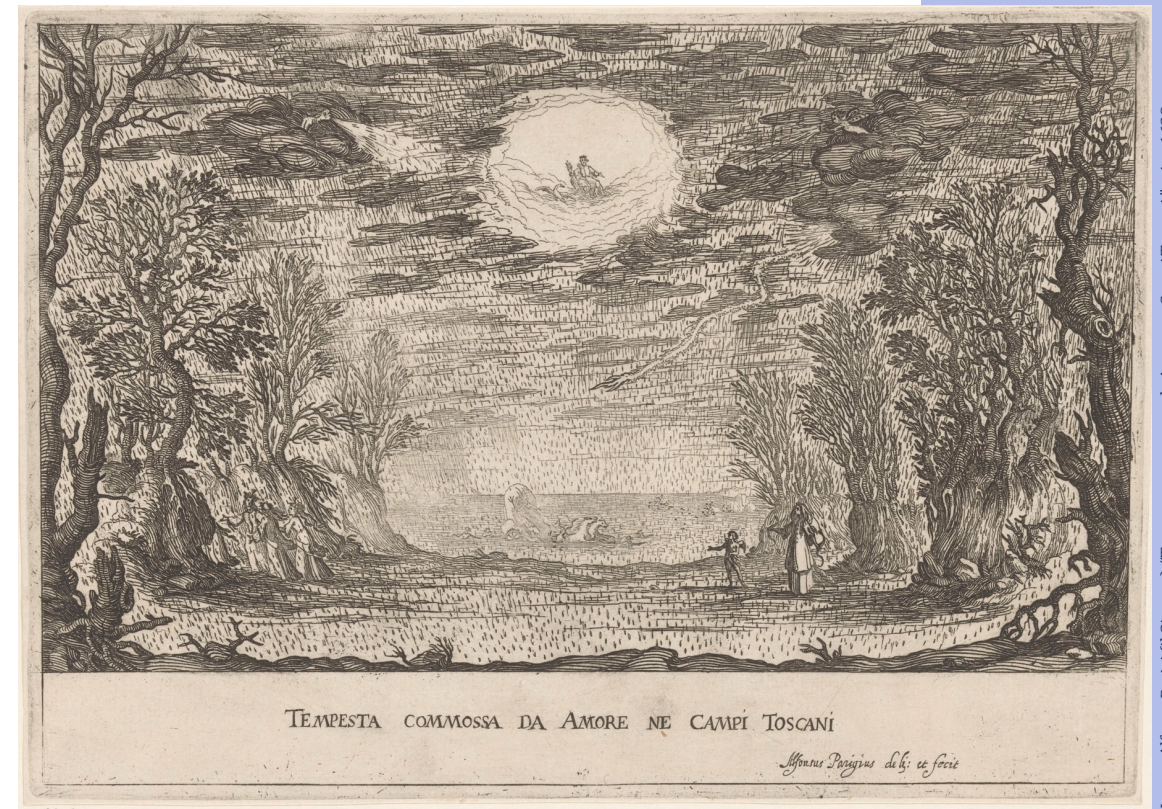
International Conference 5 - 6 December 2024

Organized by Sonia Cavicchioli (Università di Bologna) and Elisa Antonietta Daniele (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, Università di Bologna/UCLA)

Dipartimento di Filologia Classica e Italianistica

Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna

Palazzo Magnani, Bologna, via Zamboni 20, Sala Carracci





**5 December 2024**

**9.30**

**SALUTI ISTITUZIONALI**

**Nicola Grandi**, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna  
Direttore del Dipartimento di Filologia Classica e Italianistica

**INTRODUZIONE**

**I. INTERACTIONS / ARGUZIE**

**Marzia Faietti**, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna /  
Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut  
*“La pellegrina” (1588-1589). Antico e Natura con Artificio*

**Victoria Addona**, Université de Montréal  
*Early Modern Machine Theatre and the ‘Violent’ Conquest of Nature*

Q&A | Coffee Break

**Angela Vanhaelen**, McGill University, Montreal

*Automata and Transformation in 17<sup>th</sup>-Century Amsterdam*

**Elisa Antonietta Daniele**, Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di  
Bologna

*The Fumes of Wit. Two Ballets Performed at the Savoy Court:  
Il Tabacco and I Bacchanali (1650-55)*

Q&A

CHAIR: **Braden Lee Scott**, Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max-Planck-Institut  
für Kunstgeschichte

Lunch Time

**14.30**

**II. MIMESIS / NATURA**

**Lauro Magnani**, Università degli Studi di Genova

*“Stupore di sensi”: virtualità e realtà tra arte e letteratura a Genova nella  
prima metà del Seicento*

**Enrico Zucchi**, Università degli Studi di Padova

*The Representation of the Arcadian Landscape Between Nature and  
Literature: a Survey on the Early Modern Italian Pastoral Literature*

**Nicola Bonazzi**, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna *L’attività  
di un accademico Gelato: Ridolfo Campeggi tra teatro e poesia*

**Elisa Acanfora**, Università degli Studi della Basilicata

*Arguzia e inganno nell’arte barocca tra scenografia e quadratura*

Q&A

CHAIR: **Loredana Chines**, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna

Coffee Break

**17.30 | Guided Visit to Unicredit’s Art Collection, Palazzo Magnani for  
Speakers and Chairs**

**6 December 2024**

**9.30**

**III. DEVICES / ARTIFICI**

**Bronwen Wilson**, University of California, Los Angeles

*Mechanical Mountains, Pyrotechnics, and Prints*

**Elisa Spataro**, Sapienza Università di Roma

*Alberi sulla scena: tra mimesi e contraffazione dell’ordine naturale (XVI -  
XVII secolo)*

**James Clifton**, The Museum of Fine Arts Houston

*Fragments of the Sky: Early Prisms and Wonder*

Q&A | Coffee Break

**Franca Varallo**, Università di Torino

*Artificio e natura negli album di Giovanni Tommaso Borgonio. La  
strategia matrimoniale di Cristina duchessa di Savoia: alcuni casi studio*

**Federico Lanzellotti**, Universität Basel

*Artificio, ingegno e bizzarria nella musica strumentale del secondo  
Seicento*

Q&A

CHAIR: **Sonia Cavicchioli**, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna

