Contested Identities in Transnational, Migratory Wor(l)d(s).

by Dr. Lidia Radi

March 14, 2019 | 5 PM
Tufts University | 160 Packard Avenue
The Fletcher School-Cabot 206
Lecture will be in English with reception to follow.

The year 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the historical event that changed dramatically the political, social, and cultural face of Europe. Thousands of people from Eastern communist countries crossed into Western Europe by land and sea, transforming and reshaping the countries that offered them asylum or refuge.

In more recent years, political instability in some Middle-Eastern and sub-Saharan countries has increased the influx of migrants and refugees in the closest European ports of entry. The humanitarian crisis provoked by this influx has not only prompted empathetic responses, but also opened the way to aggressive reactions calling for the closing of the borders, economic protectionism, and the affirmation of nationalistic identity.

The lecture intends to focus on inter-disciplinary investigations of some of the contemporary issues related to migration, nationhood, political asylum, and identity as depicted by Italian transnational writers and artists.

Dr. Lidia Radi, Associate Professor of French and Italian Languages, Literatures and Cultures—University of Richmond, Virginia. Her research has embraced both Early Modern political thought, religion, and literature, and contemporary migration studies focused on Italy.

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