

IL VERO E IL FALSO IN CAMPAGNA ELETTORALE

Fabrizio Tonello

Why do false statements and long-disproven theories, flourish? Why a majority of Republican voters in the Us believe that Barack Obama was not born in Hawaii but abroad, probably in Kenya? Psychological and political reasons for believing obvious lies are interesting to explore and reveal much about the functioning of communication in an Information Society. The case of “birthers” shows the inner tensions and complex workings of American democracy.

Key words: Campaign; Blog; Truth; Barack Obama; American Democracy; “Birthers”.
Parole chiave: Campagna elettorale; Blog; Verità; Barack Obama; Democrazia americana; “birthers”.

IL TERZISMO, MALATTIA SENILE DEL MODERATISMO

Davide Miccione

The essay outlines the features of “thirdness”, which its interpretation always place in the middle between opposite and factious positions, considering it akin to the moderate thought. In this essay I stress the differences between thirdness and moderate thought which envisaged the possibility to line up, considering the equidistance impossible in certain historical phases (just think about Croce and Montanelli). The interpreter of thirdness (illustrated by Prezzolini and his “apoti” – those who don't swallow anything), instead identifies his political identity with the need to be always third. This behaviour removes a priori the tragic or simply risky dimension of history, and so the history itself, by forcing itself to a gnoseologic and ethical myopia, which is necessary to justify the perpetual neutrality.

Key words: Thirtness; Moderate Thought; End of History; Montanelli; Prezzolini; “Corriere della Sera”.
Parole chiave: Terzismo; Moderatismo; Fine della storia; Montanelli; Prezzolini; “Corriere della Sera”.

AUTOBIOGRAFIA DI PARTITO. IL PCI NELLE MEMORIE DEI SUOI EX DIRIGENTI

Franco Milanese

In the late decade a few former leaders of the Italian Communist Party have published texts interweaving personal memories and reflections on the history of the Party and of the international communist movement. These books can be used to recreate the concreteness of party life, the relations between grass roots membership and the leaders, the training of intermediate cadres, the ways in which the different political “lines” were experienced within the organization. The programmes and the strategies of the Italian Communist Party emerge as having been strongly conditioned by a few great personalities such as Togliatti and Berlinguer, who were able to establish an intense and symbolic political relationship with the “communist people”, those beaters of an original social, economic, and political conception. According to the author, the end of the Italian Communist Party has marked the scattering of the political and social force in directions which, twenty years since, are still struggling to find a precise definition.

Key words: Italian Communist Party; Togliatti; Berlinguer; Political Militants; “Third Way”.

Parole chiave: Partito Comunista Italiano; Togliatti; Berlinguer; Militanti politici; Terza via.

RICORDANDO LA «DISCESA IN CAMPO». CENNI SULL'USO PUBBLICO DELLA STORIA NELL'ITALIA DEL CAVALIERE (1994-1996)

Maria Serena Adesso e Vincenzo Neve

Italian historiography has been debating about the historians's task and about the public and political use of history in Italy for over twenty years. The emergence of political parties with no solid political tradition – such as Forza Italia – has made the manipulation of history necessary in order to reinvent a past and/or a cultural tradition. This study focuses on the years 1994-1996, a particularly eventful period: Silvio Berlusconi's “entering the field”, the creation of the new political party, Berlusconi's re-reading of the history of Italy before his political engagement as if it were the time of communist rule and cultural hegemony.

Key words: Berlusconi; “Enteting the Field”; First Republic; Communism; Anticommunism; 25th April.

Parole chiave: Berlusconi; “discesa in campo”; Prima Repubblica; Comunismo; Anticomunismo; 25 Aprile.

“UN'AVVENTURA MERAVIGLIOSA”. INFANZIA E ADOLESCENZA DI LEONE GINZBURG

Angelo d'Orsi

Leone Ginzburg (1909-1944) was born in Odessa, he spent the *most important part of his early formative years in Berlin and, in Italy, in Turin and Viareggio, showing a talent out of the ordinary. Keen observer of the world around him and attentive reader of the periodical press. Leone showed a great curiosity and interests in literature, music, history and politics, which he expressed in various forms and with different instruments. He soon became Italian in his feelings, while remaining deeply linked to the Russian world, which he studied. Very soon Leone showed a his dominant political passion, which, however, never excluded other interests.*

Key words: Leone Ginzburg; Marussia Ginzburg; Odessa; Russia; Berlin; Viareggio; Turin; Gymnasium – High School Gioberti (Turin).

Parole chiave: Leone Ginzburg; Marussia Ginzburg; Odessa; Russia; Berlino; Viareggio; Torino; Liceo D'Azelio.

TUNISIA: LA RIVOLUZIONE DEI GELSOMINI O LE GIORNATE DELLA COLLERA

Fulvio Massarelli

The extraordinary events following the sacrifice of the young unemployed Tunisian Mehamed Bouazizi that led to Ben Ali's flight and set off the political processes and movements of the “Arab spring”. Social networks, the trade union movement, lawyers, the working class youth and community groups have had a major role in structuring and organising the burst of anger of the Tunisian people. These elements will be analysed considering the genealogy of the battles and the organizational forms set up by the people against the regime. An analysis of the future of the movement that is shaking the world will follow.

Key words: Tunisia; Revolution; Insurrection; social networks; Cognitariat.

Parole chiave: Tunisia; Rivoluzione; Insurrezione; Sindacato; Social Netwoks; Cognitariato.

COME ORIENTARSI NEL LABIRINTO MEMORIALE DELLA REPUBBLICA? BREVI RIFLESSIONI A MARGINE DEL DIBATTITO SUGLI “ANNI DI PIOMBO”

Cristina Accornero

The article proposes some reflections on the work of the historian in the face of extensive memory on the so-called “years of lead” and the commemorations of the State, particularly on the “Day of memory” for the victims of terrorism and massacres”.

Celebrations established by law and the many individual stories that nourish the collective memory, recall tragic moments in the history of the Republic but are unable to provide an authentic historical knowledge free of prejudices and stereotypes that characterize the current political language.

The historian is called upon to perform the difficult work of interpretation and analysis of the sources and its role assumes an important meaning civil action against any manipulation and deception in the history of those years.

Key words: Years of Lead; Collective Memory; Memorials Laws; Political Use of History; Sources; Courts; Truth.

Parole chiave: Anni di piombo; Memoria collettiva; Leggi memoriali; Uso politico della storia; Magistratura; Verità.

FILOSOFI IN ARCHIVIO. APPUNTI DI LAVORO

Davide Grasso

The article highlights the deep connection, both ontological and epistemological, between culture and archive on one hand, and history and philosophy of the other. The relationship between history and philosophy is identified throughout the acknowledgement of the written nature of socio-cultural reality in the first place; such a reality is essentially documental, i.e. structured as an archive (the same archive historians make use of, aimed at reconstructing past events). A presentation of several case studies, analysed during five years of archival and theoretical research at the international level, follows. Attention is brought to the political nature of the institutional action of preservation of cultural heritage, as emphasized by critical remarks.

Key words: Documents; Archive; Cultural Heritage; Historical Research; Writing; Conflict.

Parole chiave: Documenti; Archivio; Eredità culturale ; Ricerca storica; Cultura; Conflitto.

LEGGENDE NERE E TAVOLE A COLORI: I BORGIA DI MANARA E JODOROWSKJ

Eleonora Belligni

In their recent tetralogy of comic books, Italian comic artist Milo Manara and Chilean scriptwriter Alejandro Jodorowskj told the story of the most famous Catalan family in the Early Modern Age and its most infamous members: pope Alexander VI, alias Roderic de Borja, and his children Cesar and Lucrezia. Set between cheesy cartoons and high comic art, these nicely written-nicely pictured books just replicate the black legend of the House of Borja, firstly drawn by the judgmental papal diarist Johannes Burkhard, by the acrimonious pen of Francesco Guicciardini and by that, much more flattering, of Niccolò Machiavelli. While a large space is left to morbid clichés and stereotypes, very little is dedicated to proper historical matters and to the many problems raised by Borjas power as Church and State leaders. This might seem a funny choice, as the so-called *graphic novel* is currently trying to carve up a historiographical reputation and to assert its right of making history through a narrative but sources-aware mode. Though, it's not up to narrative genres to tear

apart a bad historiographical interpretation; instead, historians ought to think how to transmit history to general public, to teach fiction authors how to tell and picture the past. And yet, very few of them are brave enough to face popularization, the way of easily communicating complex issues.

Key words: Borgia; Comics; Black Legend; Disclosure; Spiritual Power; Modern State.

Parole chiave: Borgia; Fumetti; Leggenda nera; Divulgazione; Potere spirituale; Stato moderno.