

NYU | SPRING 2019

MODERN ITALY

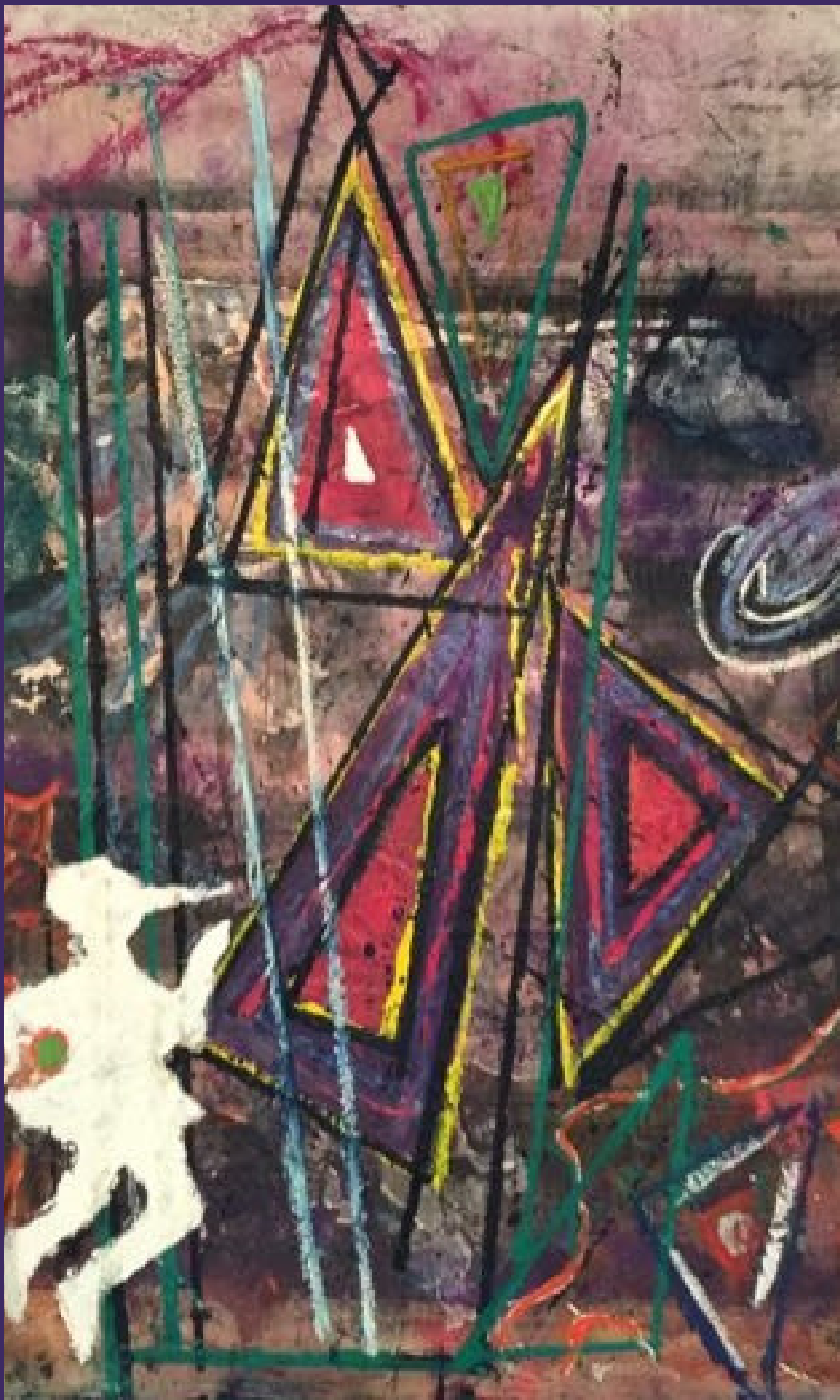
CORE-UA 554

Prof. Rebecca Falkoff

Mondays/Wenesdays 11:00-12:15

Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò

24 W 12th St, Auditorium



Sometime around 1866, the statesman Massimo d'Azeglio is said to have said, "Now that Italy is made, we have to make Italians." Whether or not he actually said these words, they seem to have struck a chord: It's hard to find a history of Italian Unification that does not cite them. But what did it mean to make Italians? When Italy became a constitutional monarchy in 1861, most people living in the peninsula and islands identified more strongly with their local communities than with the abstract idea of "Italy." This course examines the relationship between cultural production and national identity, asking how literary, visual, musical, and culinary forms contributed to the making of "Italy" and "Italians." Which elements of the diverse culture of the peninsula, diaspora, colonies, and islands were glorified and which were excluded in production of Italy as an imagined community?

This course can count toward the "Culture & Society" track for Italian majors/minor, Romance Languages majors, & Italian and Linguistics majors. Contact elisa.fox@nyu.edu for details.