

Eating in the Diaspora: Food in Italian American History, Identity, and Culture

A Lecture by Professor Simone Cinotto



Wednesday, October 21, 2015
6:00 – 8:00 PM
Cuneo Hall 002

As numberless movies, TV shows, novels, and memoirs suggest, food is a vital feature in Italian American life. Not only Italian immigrants shaped their place, or their "home," in America through food production, preparation, and consumption, but they also saw in food a means to maintain their relationship with their original "home" across the ocean--hence the continuing circulation of culinary patterns between Italy and the United States. The exceptional importance of food in the Italian American experience contributed to define not only Italian American cuisine, but the Italian American identity as a whole.

Dr. Simone Cinotto is Associate Professor of Modern History at the University of Gastronomic Sciences (Pollenzo, Italy). Among his publications are *The Italian American Table* (University of Illinois Press, 2013), and the edited collection *Making Italian America: Consumer Culture and the Production of Ethnic Identities* (Fordham University Press, 2014). His current book project is on the transnational history of Puerto Ricans and Italians in New York City.

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