



Welcoming Poet Ken DiMaggio and Producer Paul La Rosa

IAWA . (April 22, 2012)



The Italian American Writers Association (IAWA) presents Ken DiMaggio, a poet, short-story writer and scholar and Paul LaRosa, an Emmy-Award winning CBS News producer who will read from his recently published memoir on Saturday, May 12, 2012.



Ken DiMaggio's most recent chapbook, *American Gothics* won the 2011 [Darkling Publications Chapbook Competition](#) [2]. His poems have appeared in *Main Street Rag*, *Illuminations*, *Plainsongs*, *Floyd Country Moonshine*, and two will soon be published in *The New York Quarterly*, one of which is about the Boston Red Sox. Poems and Stories from the *Blue Collar Book of the Dead*, his first chapbook, was published by [Scars Publications](#). [3]

[Italian Americana](#) [4] has published his short story, *The Day Frank Sinatra Soothed the Savage Beast* while *Religious Cards*, will be published in a forthcoming issue. The same journal will publish his academic article, *Leave the Gun, Take the Cannolis: How Machiavelli's The Prince Has Influenced the Gangster in Modern Film and Literature*, a look at how the political theories of this Italian Renaissance text have helped influenced popular works such as Mario Puzo's *The Godfather*, and the film, *A Bronx Tale*.

He has a passion for travel, and recently visited Mongolia; he is a Professor of Humanities at Capital Community College in Hartford, Connecticut.

Of [Paul LaRosa's](#) [5] *Leaving Story Avenue, My journey from the projects to the front page*, Ken Auletta writes, "...in snappy prose, LaRosa sprinkles wisdom about New York, the pull of peers and of family, the ambition and pride that propels a working class kid to succeed, and a portrait of the zany New York Daily News newsroom that is one part exhilaration, and one part Front Page."

LaRosa is an award-winning journalist with more than 30 years experience in print and television. For nearly 20 years, he's been a successful producer for the CBS News magazine "48 Hours." He's written for *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times* and has authored four previous non-fiction books.

LaRosa got his start as a copyboy and newspaper reporter at *The New York Daily News*. At that time, *The News* was still the largest circulating newspaper in the country but it was in the last, outrageous and often hilarious, gasp of *The Front Page* era. Reporters wallowed in a swirl of alcohol, hookers and bad behavior but none of it stopped them from delivering an electric and engaging paper every day. LaRosa, a naïf from the public housing projects, trapped in a *Tabloid World*, quickly adapted. As a reporter, he had a front-row seat to one of the most harrowing five-year periods in New York City history: the city's brush with bankruptcy, the terror reign of Son of Sam, the blackout riots, and the murder of John Lennon. www.paullarosa.com [5]

The reading takes place Saturday, May 12, 2011, 5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., at the [Cornelia St. Café](#) [6], 29 Cornelia Street, NYC, (212-989-9319). The evening starts with Open Mic readings of five minutes each. Since 1991, the organization has given voice to writers through its Open Reading series at *Cornelia St. Café* every month.

For membership information, visit www.iawa.net [7]

Visit the Italian American Writers Cafe blog

<http://www.i-italy.org/bloggers/italian-american-writers-cafe>

<http://italianamericanwritersassoc.wordpress.com/2011/>

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Authors Available for Interviews



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