



## Italy Towards Europe Theater Culture, European Identity

i. l. (September 12, 2014)

Theatre Culture, European Identity

**ITALY TOWARDS EUROPE**

Readings by Laura Curino

**Speakers:**  
Christian Biet (Institut Universitaire de France)  
Annamaria Cascetta (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore)  
Stanley E. Gontarski (Florida State University)

*Italian Cultural Institute of New York*  
686 Park Avenue

Wednesday, September 24th 2014  
6 - 8 pm  
**RSVP** - [diana.delmonte@gmail.com](mailto:diana.delmonte@gmail.com)

Curator: Diana del Monte  
Supported by

  

Photo by Stefano Pivano

On the Occasion of the European Union Italian Semester Presidency Wednesday, September 24, 2014 - from 6 to 8pm at the Italian Cultural Institute of New York (686 Park Ave) Starting from the plays speakers will illustrate, briefly introduce some key points historically expressed by European culture

There couldn't have been a better coincidence than the European Union Italian semester presidency to speak about theatre and Europe.

The Italian contribution to the project of the European Union has been significant: Altiero Spinelli and Alcide De Gasperi were among the founders; in 1957 the treaty defining the European Economic Community, or the Common Market, was signed in Rome, while in 2004, 25 heads of state and government signed the treaty that establishes the European Constitution, the result of a long process of integration yearned so much by us all.

Undoubtedly, over the centuries culture has been Italy's major contribution to the melting pot that



today we call Europe, that feeds on traditions still thriving in our own country: the ancient Roman and Greek civilizations, Christianity, the Renaissance and the Age of Enlightenment. Ever since ancient Greece, at the Acropolis in Athens, or from Shakespeare's time at the Globe in London, a community of active spectators has been meeting up to think, to release the emotions, to mirror itself, to read the present in the light of its history and foundations and to get ready to change. Art becomes the sheltered place where to meet up, separated yet projected into reality.

In the course of this reading, through the analysis of selected texts and authors, speakers will lead the audience to a journey into the European theatrical heritage exploring the thread that has connected dramatic art across all Europe, and still does.

Speakers: Christian Biet (Institut Universitaire de France), Annamaria Cascetta (Centro di ricerca CIT "Mario Apollonio" - UCSC) Stanley E. Gontarski (Florida State University).

Readings by Laura Curino:

Happy Days by Samuel Beckett

Antigone by Sophocle

Maria alla Croce (passione popolare)

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