Il viaggio in Italia: l'incontro, la percezione, la costruzione dei luoghi e dell'altro
Elisabetta Marino
• “If some yet do not well understand, what is an English man Italianated, I will plainlie tell him. He, that by liuing, & traveling in Italie, bringeth home into England out of Italie, the Religion, the learning, the policie, the experience, the maners of Italie.”

Roger Ascham, *The Scholemaster*, Montague Road, Birmingham, 1870, p. 78

“I sawe in that lit[t]le tyme, in one Citie, more libertie to sinne than euer I he[a]rd tell of our noble Citie of London in ix yeare” (ibidem, p. 83)

• “There are *two* Italies - one composed of the green earth and transparent sea, and the mighty ruins of ancient time, and aerial mountains, and the warm and radiant atmosphere which is interfused through all things. The other consists of the Italians of the present day, their works and ways. The one is the most sublime and lovely contemplation that can be conceived by the imagination of man; the other is the most degraded, disgusting, and odious.”


• “‘Shall I tell you’, continued Malville, with a smile, ‘how you passed your time in Italy? You traversed the country in your travelling chariot, cursing the postillions and the bad inns. You arrived at a town and went to the best hotel, at which you found many of your countrymen, mere acquaintances in England, but hailed as bosom friends in that strange land. You walked about the streets of a morning expecting to find gorgeous temples and Cyclopean ruins in every street in Florence; you came to some broken pillar, wondered what it could be, and laughed at the idea of this being one of the relics which your wise countrymen came so far to see; you lounged into a coffee-house and read Galignani and then perhaps wandered with equal apathy into the gallery where, if you were not transported to the seventh heaven, I can undertake your defence no further’.

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