

## Women's Writings and national identity – Prof. Matteo Di Gesù

The research unit of Palermo intends to collaborate on the realization of this macro-objective, focusing on the study of the women literary production during the Nineteenth century, or in a central historical and cultural phase in the definition of the national identity canon.

The unit of research will therefore be dedicated to the study of civil and patriotic poetry, in order to contribute to the achievement of the general project's objectives, through the analysis of this literary genre, widely practiced by many poets who, around the mid-Nineteenth century, took an active part in the season of motions and riots.

The specific case study of the Unit will be Sicilian women poetry in the mid-Nineteenth century, investigated by critical studies and in some cases completely submerged. Instead, this production is full of significant insights, for the role played by Sicily in Italian national Unification and for the literary results achieved.

Many Sicilian women poets participated in the Risorgimento season, accompanying the unification process with patriotic and civil verses. However, this varied panorama is still not matched by a systematic critical survey and we have almost no modern edition. The team will sound out rhetorical and stylistic elements of this poetry and the remodelling process of Risorgimento's literary canon by women who lived in a peripheral area, such as Sicily.

The following authors will be object of investigation for the unit of research:

- Rosa Muzio Salvo (Termini Imerese, 1815-1866), especially the writings on magazines intended for a female audience and the production of patriotic inspiration (Poesie, Palermo, Tipografia Clamis e Roberti, 1845; Prose e Poesie, Palermo, Tip. Clamis e Roberti, 1852; Versi, Palermo, Tip. Giornale di Sicilia, 1869);
- Giuseppina Turrise Colonna (Palermo, 1822-1848), maybe the most known sicilian author of the Risorgimento; Liriche, Firenze, F. Le Monnier, 1846;
- Concetta Ramondetta Fileti (Palermo, 1829-1900): in addition to the unpublished writings, the unit will work on Poesie, Palermo, F.lli P. Lauriel, 1862; Nuove poesie, Palermo, Tip. del Giornale di Sicilia, 1870 e Tip. dello Statuto, 1887;
- Laura Li Greci (Palermo, 1833-1849), unpublished works and Carme, Palermo, Tip. Clamis e Roberti, 1849;
- Marianna Coffa Caruso (Noto, 1841-1878), Poesie in differenti metri, Siracusa, Stamperia A. Pulejo, 1855; Nuovi Canti, Noto, Stamperia dell'Intendenza G. Spagnoli, 1859; Torino, Stamp. Dell'Unione tip. editrice, nel 1863.