



# FUTURISM: RUPTURE AND TRADITION

THE FIFTH ANNUAL JOSEPH AND ELDA COCCIA CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 21 + 22, 2008

PRESENTED BY: THE CENTER FOR ITALIAN STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
WITH THE SUPPORT OF: THE ITALIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN PHILADELPHIA  
THE ITALIAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON

VENUE: SLOUGHT FOUNDATION • 4017 WALNUT STREET • PHILADELPHIA, PA  
ORGANIZED BY: CHRISTINE POGGI + FABIO FINOTTI

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

[italians@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:italians@sas.upenn.edu)  
[www.arthistory.upenn.edu/futurism](http://www.arthistory.upenn.edu/futurism)  
[www.slought.org](http://www.slought.org)

image credit: Luca Buvoli. *Instant Before Incident (Marinetti's Drive, 1908)*, 2008. Detail of sculptural and video installation at the Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, part of *Inner and Outer Space*. Reinforced UV stable polyester resin, pigment, steel, plexiglass. Photo by Tom Little. Image courtesy the artist and Susan Inglett Gallery.



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## PROGRAM

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## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

### 9:30 am Welcoming Remarks

**E. Ann Matter** Associate Dan for Arts and Letters, University of Pennsylvania  
**Fabio Finotti** Director, Center for Italian Studies, University of Pennsylvania  
**Christine Poggi** Department of the History of Art, University of Pennsylvania

**10:00 am Jeffrey T. Schnapp** Stanford University  
**Why Is Speed a Religion-Morality?**

**10:45 am Luca Somigli** University of Toronto  
**The Poet and the Vampire: Re Baldoria and the Crisis of Symbolist Values**

**11:15 am Ara H. Merjian** Harvard University  
**The Future by Design: Balla's *Reconstruction of the Universe and the Historical Avant-Gardes***

**11:45 am - 12:00 pm Discussion**

**12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Lunch Break**

**2:00 pm Jonathan Steinberg** University of Pennsylvania  
**Futurism and the European Revolt Against Reason: 1890-1915**

**2:30 pm Christine Poggi** University of Pennsylvania  
**The Futurist Noise Machine**

**3:00 pm Stefania Benini** University of Pennsylvania  
**Dynamisms, Colors and Dreams in the Writings of Benedetta Cappa Marinetti**

**3:30 pm - 4:00 pm Coffee Break**

**4:00 pm Marion Kant** University of Pennsylvania  
**The Fusion of the Mountain and the Shrapnel:  
The Manifesto of Futurist Dance**

**4:30 pm Dance Performance with Christina Catanese and Julia Cuccaro**  
**Dramaturgy: Mary Mitchell *The Fusion of the Mountain and the Shrapnel***

**5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Discussion**

**7:00 pm Dinner** (by invitation only)

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2008

**9:30 am Maria Elena Versari** Carnegie Mellon University  
**The Myth of the Temporal Fracture:  
Futurist Foundations and the Genealogy of the Historical Avant-Garde**

**10:00 am Paolo Valesio** Columbia University  
**The Soft Machine: F. T. Marinetti 'Against' Venice**

**10:30 am Fabio Finotti** University of Pennsylvania  
**Futurism. Words and Numbers**

**11:00 am - 11:15 am Coffee Break**

**11:15 am Kevin M. F. Platt** University of Pennsylvania  
**Futurist Temporality**

**11:45 am Guido Bartorelli** Università di Padova  
**The Futurist 'Advertising Painting'**

**12:15 pm Luca Buvoli** Artist, New York  
**Scenes from a Post-Utopian Futurism**

**12:45 pm Discussion and Closing Remarks**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
FREE ADMISSION