University of BRISTOL



KEYNOTE
DR NICOLÒ CRISAFI

University of Cambridge

The Cost of Making Dante: Bias, Shame, and the Futures of Dante Studies

Friday 20 November 2026
16.30

Organised by University of Bristol
& Centre for Dante Studies in Ireland (UCC)

Elizabeth Bratton (Bristol)
Aistė Kiltinavičiūtė (CDSI)
Enrica Leydi (Warwick)
Francesca Sartori (Bristol)
Chiara Valcelli (UCC)

Sponsored by the Society for Italian Studies, The Institute of Greece, Rome and the Classical Tradition, Bristol School of Modern Languages, Bristol Centre for Medieval Studies, Bristol Italian Department & Istituto Italiano di Cultura

Organised under the auspices of the Società Dantesca Italiana

DANTE FUTURES

New Voices in the UK and Ireland

20-21 November 2026
University of Bristol



Friday 20 November 2026

Humanities Research Space 1.H020, Arts Complex, 7 Woodland Road

11.00–12.00 Registration and opening remarks (Dr Tristan Kay)

12.00–13.00 Panel 1. Representation and Artistic Adaptation
Respondents: Dr Peter Dent, Katherine McKee

- Elizabeth Bratton (Bristol) – *From Watercolour to West End: The Representational Problem of the* Paradiso
- Jessica Gowers (Cambridge) – *Auguste Rodin's* Three Shades *and Disability in Dante's* Inferno

13.00–14.00 Lunch

14.00–15.00 Panel 2. Dante's Modern Afterlives
Respondents: Prof. Fabio Camilletti, Dr Kate Travers

- Elena Michelini (TCD) – *Dialogue with the Dead and Failed Embraces from Dante to Antonella Anedda*
- Francesca Luppino (Warwick) – *Dante's* Stilnovo *and the Mechanics of Distortion in Patrizia Valduga's 'Gravezza che al leggiadro cuore ratta'*

15.00–16.30 Coffee break + Bristol Common Press workshop
B14 (basement), Arts Complex, 7 Woodland Road

16.30–17.30 Keynote. Dr Nicolò Crisafi (Cambridge) – *The Cost of Making Dante: Bias, Shame, and the Futures of Dante Studies*
Chair: Dr Tristan Kay

17.30–18.20 Wine reception

19.30 Conference dinner (self-paid) – Zizzi Bristol Clifton Village (29 Princess Victoria St, Bristol BS8 4BX)

Saturday 21 November 2026

Humanities Research Space 1.H020, Arts Complex, 7 Woodland Road

9.30–10.30 Panel 3. Structures of Knowledge in the *Commedia*
Respondents: Dr Alessia Carrai, Dr Igor Candido

- Elisa Rosati (UCC) – *The Ladder in Dante's* Commedia*: Intratextual Connections between* Purgatorio *and* Paradiso
- Pietro Ruggeri (Bologna) – *When Science Speaks Poetry: Astronomy, Prophecy, and Truth in Dante's* Commedia

10.30–11.30 Coffee break + Bristol Common Press workshop
B14 (basement), Arts Complex, 7 Woodland Road

11.30–12.30 Panel 4. The Matter of Hell
Respondents: Dr Matt Lampitt, Dr Lucy Donkin

- Beatrice Rosso (Notre Dame) – *Before Satan: The Creation of Hell*
- Charis Horsley (UCL) – *Unearthing Dante's Rock:* Inferno *as a Geological Hellscape of the Anthropocene*



12.30–13.30 Lunch

13.30–14.30 *A History of Poetry in Italy 1200–1600* (CUP, 2026)
Book launch and conversation with the editors (Prof. Guyda Armstrong, Dr Rhiannon Daniels, Prof. Catherine Keen)

14.30–14.45 Coffee break

14.45–16.00 Panel 5. Knowledgeable Bodies, Bodies of Knowledge (online)
Respondents: Prof. Arielle Saiber, Dr Aistė Kiltinavičiūtė

- Maria Irene Fiducia (Brown) – *Dante's 'Great Chain of Knowledge': A Narratological Reading of the Third Cantica*
- Elettra Solignani (Brown) – *Remembering the Body: Corporeality and Affect in* Purgatorio *V*
- Chiara Caputi (CUNY) – *Dante Rewritten: Arcangela Tarabotti's Gendered Theology and the Fragmented Seicento Afterlife of the* Commedia

16.00–16.30 Final reflections and closing remarks (Dr Tristan Kay, Prof. Guyda Armstrong, Dr Rhiannon Daniels, Dr Igor Candido, Prof. Fabio Camilletti)

16.30 Wine reception

17.30 Dinner and drinks (self-paid) – The Robin Hood (56 St Michael's Hill, BS2 8DX)