

POSITION Associate Professor, Numismatics

WORK EXPERIENCE

From 1998 to present

Università degli Studi di Milano www.unimi.it

In 1998 I was appointed Associate Professor of Numismatics at Milan State University and have been teaching here since. My numismatic courses deal with coins and history in a broad chronological span, but mainly concentrate on medieval and modern coins. In Milan I have organized symposia and seminars: in 1999 an international symposium on *I luoghi della moneta* (location and buildings of mints from Antiquity to early modern Europe: published Milan 2001); in 2004 a seminar on coin iconography (*L'immaginario e il potere nell'iconografia monetale*, published in the same year); in 2005 and 2006, together with Church historian Grado G. Merlo, two symposia on non-economic use of coins (*Valori e disvalori simbolici delle monete*, published 2009); in 2019 the symposium *Le tracce materiali di gesti, riti ed emozioni tra medioevo e prima età moderna*). I obtained agreements with a number of Italian museums in order to catalogue parts of their coin collections with the help of my Milan students: Museo dell'Opera del Duomo di Orvieto; Museo Civico Ala Ponzone of Cremona; Naples, Museo Archeologico Nazionale; Siracusa, Museo Archeologico Regionale 'Paolo Orsi'). For my students I wrote the 'handbook' *Monete e storia nell'Italia medievale*, Roma 2007.

2002-2005 University of Rome La Sapienza: I taught medieval numismatics in the Faculty of Humanities for the art-history curriculum in the academic years 2002-3, 2003-4, 2004-5.

1992 to 1998

Cambridge University, Senior Research Associate

Philip Grierson had been a 'maestro' for me during many and in 1992 I moved to Cambridge to collaborate with him at the project Medieval European Coinage (British Academy-Cambridge University); I was appointed to work in the Fitzwilliam Museum-Department of Coins and Medals, to catalogue and publish the Italian medieval coins of the Grierson and Museum collections.

With Grierson I wrote *Medieval European Coinage volume 14: Italy III (South Italy, Sicily, Sardinia)* published in 1998. In my Cambridge period I also published articles in different journals and the book *La monetazione nell'Italia normanna* (Istituto Storico Italiano per il Medioevo, Rome 1995). In Cambridge I also organized two symposia: the first one on the coinage of Norman Italy (1996), and the second (1997) on Local Coins, Foreign Coins: Italy and Europe 11th-15th centuries (proceedings publ. Milan 1999).

1981-1992

Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma, Coin Cabinet of Museo Nazionale Romano, Terme di Diocleziano: here I catalogued hoards and coins from the collection of King Victor Emmanuel III; thanks to archival sources and letters I was able to write a numismatic biography of the king (*Storia di una passione. Vittorio Emanuele III e le monete*, 1st ed. Salerno 1991; 2nd ed. Rome 2005).

1981-1983

Ministero dei Beni Culturali, Segreteria Tecnica del Consiglio Nazionale per i Beni Culturali (Collegio Romano, Rome).

1979-1980

Soprintendenza Archeologica dell'Abruzzo, Chieti.

EDUCATION

1976-1982

I graduated with honors in 1976 at Rome University La Sapienza (dissertation in Medieval Archaeology). I became interested in coins, cataloguing coins from medieval excavations and hoards in the Rome National Museum. Medieval coins in Italy were still rather neglected compared to Greek and Roman ones when I began working on them: I started my researches corresponding with Philip Grierson (Cambridge) who became my ‘maestro’ in 1979 and followed my work constantly until his death (2006). Dr Paul Balog taught me how to read the Arabic legends on Norman Sicilian coins: in 1983 I was able to study a hoard of Sicilian Norman taris in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, thanks to a Colin Kraay travel grant (see Numismatic Chronicle 1985).

Languages Italian mother tongue; excellent English and fluent French.

Research

I have been working on many different topics related to medieval and early modern coins, trying to get a view as wide as possible of their production, circulation and use.

Norman Italy

The study of Norman coins in Arabic with Paul Balog in 1979-81 has been a crucial experience for my research, and thanks to it I have been able to study the entire coin production of the Norman rulers in Sicily and Southern Italy; the book *La monetazione nell'Italia normanna* (Rome 1995) is still a reference for such coinage, now in its 2nd edition (*La monetazione nell'Italia normanna. Seconda edizione con aggiornamento e ristampa anastatica. Con una appendice sui ritrovamenti a cura di Giuseppe Sarcinelli*, Zürich-London, 2016).

The Kingdom of Sicily and Naples are still important in my research (see the recent book *Il tesoro di Montella (Avellino). Fiorini e ducati d'oro occultati nella metà del Trecento*, ed. by me with M. Broggini, Rome 2016).

Mints

My interest in mints started in 1985 with the 8th Oxford symposium dedicated to *Mint organization in Late Medieval Europe*. Since then I wrote various articles on the topic, I organized the Milan symposium *I luoghi della moneta* (mint buildings from Antiquity to early modern Europe), I edited with Alessia Bolis a book on dies and minting scenes (*Conii e scene di coniazione*, Rome 2007). My main task in this field has been the production of a sort of encyclopedia of all Italian mints, from the 5th century to 1892: this is intended to offer in just one book all data available on every Italian mint, including mints outside today's Italy such as Caffa or Avignon, and many mints which never existed but had wrongly been considered active or had been invented by proud local historians (entries offer an updated historical outline, list of denominations struck by each authority, names of personnel, location of mint building, archival sources, full bibliography from Muratori 1739 to present); I started the ‘Zecche’ project in 2000 and after a long process of editing texts by nearly seventy authors the book *Le zecche italiane fino all'Unità* was finally published in May 2011 by the Libreria dello Stato (two volumes, for a total of 1600 pages; prix Duchalais in Paris, Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres 2014).

Medieval coins in written sources

Among various studies on medieval written sources (e.g. the book with Gabriella Piccinni, *Il libro del Pellegrino*, Naples 2003), the book *Monete mercanti e matematica. Le monete nei trattati di aritmetica e nei libri di mercatura*, Rome 2003 (reviewed by P. Spufford in ‘NC’ 2005) has proved to be useful to numismatists and also to historians of mathematics (see Jens Høyrup in ‘Revue d’histoire des mathématiques’ 2005, p. 27). The book out of print has now a 2nd augmented edition (Milan 2020).

Iconography

I have been working on medieval coin iconography since my collaboration with the *Enciclopedia dell'Arte Medievale* (1991-2000) and with the research project for Lexicon Iconographicum Numismaticae directed by M. Caccamo Caltabiano since 1999. The book *I capelli di Carlo il Calvo. Indagine sul ritratto monetale nell'Europa medievale* (Rome, 2013) is so far the first survey ever done on portrait coins in the long medieval period (c.500-1500).

Ritual uses of coins

Coins in medieval graves (including saints' graves), coins as icons and relics, coins on altars, coins of pilgrims, coins and saints: such have been some of the topics I explored recently, discovering some coin-relics in a number of Italian churches, and commenting a unique and almost ignored 'numismatic papal bull' (see the articles in NC 2004 and RN 2008, and the books *Valori e disvalori simbolici delle monete*, ed. Rome 2009, and *Il lato buono delle monete. Devozione, miracoli e insolite reliquie*, Bologna 2013). My Italian book on the thirty pieces of silver (Rome 2020) is translated in English: *The Thirty Pieces of Silver. Coin Relics in Medieval and Modern Europe*, Routledge, Abingdon, Oxon – New York (Religion and Money in the Middle Ages).

Collections

I studied the coin collections and correspondences of King Victor Emmanuel III and Cardinal Stefano Borgia. I edited the scientific catalogue of the coin collections of Banca Carige in Genoa (2010) and of Fondazione Banco di Sicilia in Palermo (2013). I am currently co-editor with Barrie Cook of the catalogue of the Italian coins in the British Museum London, a collaboration between the Museum and the Dipartimento di Studi Storici of Milan University.

Teaching

I have been teaching for many years and my method is based on the direct contact with the material thanks to my personal teaching collection : this is crucial for a better understanding of the subject, and is very popular with the students.

Organisational skills and projects

I have organized many symposia and seminars in Cambridge, Milan and other places. I took part in several research projects, including the National project (PRIN) for the study and realization of a Lexicon of coin iconography. In 1999 I conceived the project of an encyclopedia of all Italian mints from the fall of the Roman Empire to 1892, for which I obtained funds from the Banca d'Italia: I coordinated over 60 authors, editing and also translating some of the texts: the two volumes book *Le zecche Italiane fino all'Unità* was published in 2011 and received the prix Duchalais 2014 from the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, Paris.

I am responsible for the Dipartimento di Studi Storici of the co-financed project with the British Museum aimed at the publication of the *Catalogue of the Italian Coins in the British Museum*.

Publications:

Monographs

The Thirty Pieces of Silver. Coin Relics in Medieval and Modern Europe, Routledge, Abingdon, Oxon – New York, 2022 (Religion and Money in the Middle Ages).

Monete mercanti e matematica. Le monete medievali nei trattati di aritmetica e nei libri di mercatura. Seconda edizione ampliata con nuove liste inedite, Milano, Jouvence (Historica n. 50).

I Trenta denari di Giuda. Storia di reliquie impreviste nell'Europa medievale moderna, Viella, Roma, 2020 (sacro/santo 27).

La monetazione nell'Italia normanna. Seconda edizione con aggiornamento e ristampa anastatica. con una appendice sui ritrovamenti a cura di Giuseppe Sarcinelli,

Zürich-London, 2016.

I capelli di Carlo il Calvo. Indagine sul ritratto monetale nell'Europa medievale, Edizioni Quasar, Rome, 2013

Il lato buono delle monete: devozione, miracoli e insolite reliquie, Edizioni Dehoniane, Bologna 2013.

Monete e storia nell'Italia medievale, Roma 2007.

Storia di una passione. Vittorio Emanuele III e le monete. 2nd edition Rome 2005; 1st ed. Salerno 1991).

(with Federica Missere Fontana) *Monete medievali e materiali nella tomba di San Geminiano di Modena*, Centro Studi Storici Nonantolani, 2005

(with Gabriella Piccinni), *Il libro del pellegrino (Siena 1386-1442). Affari, uomini, monete nell'Ospedale di Santa Maria della Scala*, Napoli 2003, pp. 83-158.

Monete mercanti e matematica. Le monete medievali nei trattati di aritmetica e nei libri di mercatura, Roma 2003.

(with Philip Grierson), *Medieval European Coinage with a Catalogue of the Coins in the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge. 14,(Italy III) South Italy, Sicily, Sardinia*, Cambridge University Press 1988.

La monetazione nell'Italia normanna (Nuovi Studi Storici, 28. Istituto Storico Italiano per il Medio Evo), Roma 1995.

Storia di una passione: Vittorio Emanuele III e le monete, Salerno, 1991.

Due castelli medievali. Affile e Arcinazzo Romano, Roma, 1990.

Books edited by me

With B. Cook, S. Locatelli & G. Sarcinelli, *The Italian Coins in the British Museum, vol. 1, South Italy, Sicily, Sardinia*, Bari, Edizioni D'Andrea, 2020.

Il tesoro di Montella (Avellino). Fiorini e ducati d'oro occultati nella metà del Trecento, ed. with M. Broggini, Roma 2016.

Le collezioni della Fondazione Banco di Sicilia. Le monete. Le monete siciliane dal Vespro al 1836, ed. with Sarah Fontana, Cinisello Balsamo (Milano), 2013.

Polis, urbs, civitas: moneta e identità. Atti del convegno di studio del Lexicon Iconographicum Numismaticae (Milano 25 ottobre 2012), ed. with G. Arrigoni, Roma 2013

Philip Grierson, Irish Bulls, and Numismatics, Roma 2011.

Le zecche italiane fino all'Unità, Roma 2011.

Il patrimonio artistico di Banca Carige. Monete, pesi e bilance monetali, ed. with Monica Baldassarri, Cinisello Balsamo (Milano), 2010.

Valori e disvalori simbolici delle monete. I Trenta denari di Giuda, Roma, 2009.

Museo dell'Opera del Duomo di Orvieto. Le tessere mercantili medievali (Catalogo regionale dei beni culturali dell'Umbria), Perugia, 2007.

Conii e scene di coniazione, ed. with Alessia Bolis, Roma, 2007.

L'immaginario e il potere nell'iconografia monetale, Dossier di lavoro del seminario di studi, Milano 11 marzo 2004 ed. with Alessia Bolis, Società Numismatica Italiana, Collana di Numismatica e Scienze Affini 5, Milano 2004.

L'Agontano. Una moneta d'argento per l'Italia medievale. Convegno in ricordo di Angelo Finetti. Trevi (Perugia) 11-12 ottobre 2001, Perugia, 2003.

Pinacoteca Comunale "Orneore Metelli" di Terni. Medagliere, di Angelo Finetti e Fiorenzo Catalli, Milano 2001.

Moneta locale, moneta straniera: Italia ed Europa XI-XV secolo. The Second Cambridge Numismatic Symposium. Local Coins, Foreign coins: Italy and Europe 11th-15th centuries, Milano 1999.

Essays in volumes and journal articles

Full list in www.luciatravaini.it

Honours and awards

London 2020 – Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries
Bruxelles 2016 – Membre honoraire et médaille de la Société Royale de Numismatique de Belgique
Paris 2014 – Prix Duchalais de l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres per il libro *Le zecche italiane fino all'Unità*.
London 2012 – Annual medal 2012 of the Royal Numismatic Society
Bari 2010 – Premio ‘Maestri di Numismatica’ conferito dal Circolo Numismatico Pugliese, Società Pugliese di Storia Patria.
Genoa 2009 – Iscritta all’Albo d’Onore del Circolo Numismatico Corrado Astengo.
Göteborg 2008 – Medal at the Lödöse Museum, Gunnar Hosts Foundation.
Reggio Emilia 2005 – Oscar per la numismatica 2005, Circolo Filatelico Numismatico Reggiano ‘Città del Tricolore’.
Bruxelles 2004 – “lauréat du prix quinquennal de numismatique 2004” del Cercle d’Études Numismatiques
Mantua 2002 – Medaglia Premio Albino Bazzi per la Numismatica del Circolo Filatelico Numismatico Mantovano.
Paris 1999 – annual medal (‘jeton de vermeil’) Société Française de Numismatique (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale).

Memberships and responsibilities in scientific journals

Member of the Advisory Board of the Société Royale Numismatique de Belgique, from 2008.
Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society (London).
Membre de la Société Française de Numismatique (Paris).
Socio della Società Numismatica Italiana (Milano).
Member of the International Numismatic Council.
Member of the editorial board of Quaderni Ticinesi di Numismatica e Antichità Classiche.
Member of the editorial board of Società Svizzera di Numismatica (since 2004).
Member since 2009 of the scientific committee of the XV International Numismatic Congress, Taormina 2015.
Member of the editorial board of the Rivista Italiana di Numismatica (until 2009)
Member of the Accademia Italiana di Studi Numismatici (until 2009).

Lectures and Seminars

I read papers or lectured in Italy and abroad for many different institutions: universities in Italy (Padova, Roma Tor Vergata, Milano-Cattolica, Naples, Genova, Bologna, Messina, Lecce, Chieti, Potenza, Bari) and abroad (Cambridge, Oxford, London, Vienna, Lugano, Tübingen, Los Angeles (UCLA), Oslo) ; Centro Italiano di Studi sull’alto medioevo di Spoleto; Venice, Istituto Veneto di Scienze Lettere e Arti; Paris, CNRS; Bern, Inventario dei ritrovamenti monetari svizzeri; London, Royal Numismatic Society; Washington, Dumbarton Oaks Centre for Byzantine Studies; Rome, Deutsches Historisches Institut; Los Angeles, Getty Research Institute; Madrid, Museo Arqueológico Nacional; Barcellona, Asociacion Numismatica Española and Museu Nacional d’Art de Cataluna; Athens, Numismatic Museum; London, British Museum; Mirandola, Festival della Memoria; Rome, Escuela Española de Historia y Arqueología en Roma.

Personal information

I authorize the handling of personal information in this curriculum, according to D.Lgs n. 196/03 and following modifications and Regulations EU 679/2016 (General Regulations concerning Data Protection or GRDP) and art. 7 of University Regulations concerning protection of personal information

I authorize, according to D.lgs 14/03/2013 n. 33 concerning transparency, in case of

conferment of the position and of the fellowship, the publication of this curriculum in the web site of Università degli Studi di Milano in the section “Amministrazione trasparente”, “Consulenti e collaboratori”.

Date, 13.11.2018