CURRICULUM VITAE

ANDREA OPPO



Address

(University)

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Current position

Andrea Oppo (born 5 December 1970 in Sassari, Italy) is Associate Professor of Aesthetics and Philosophy of Religion at the Pontifical University of Sardinia (PFTS, Cagliari, Italy). In 2005 he completed a Ph.D. at the University College Dublin (Ireland). His areas of interests include philosophical aesthetics, philosophy of religion, nineteenth-century Russian philosophy and literature; history of modern and contemporary philosophy.

Education

BA in Philosophy, awarded 21 October 1997, University of Florence (Italy) (mark: 110/110 with honours). On this occasion, he discussed the research thesis entitled "Art and Truth in the Early Shestov" (Reviser: Prof. Sergio Givone – Aesthetics).

MA in Journalism, awarded 28 February 2001, University of Bologna (Italy) (mark: 70/70 with honours). He discussed the research thesis entitled "Buzzati as a Journalist. The News as a Fairy Tale" (Reviser: Prof. Angelo Varni – History of Journalism).

PhD in Philosophy, awarded 7 December 2005, University College Dublin (Ireland). He discussed his doctoral dissertation on the general philosophical implications of Samuel Beckett's works. Internal Revisers: Prof. Brian O'Connor (University College Dublin) and Prof. Richard Kearney (Boston College and University College Dublin). External Reviser: Prof. Simon Critchley (The New School for Social Research – New York).

Other Degrees and Memberships

Associate Professorship Qualification in Philosophy, 5 December 2013, Italian National Exam. [M-FIL/04 – Philosophical Aesthetics and Philosophy of Language].

Ordinary Membership in AATSEEL – American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages

Ordinary Membership in ASEES – The Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies

Areas and Themes of Competence

Contemporary Philosophy (esp. phenomenology, existential philosophy, and metaphilosophy), Philosophy of Russian Silver Age (esp. Shestov, Florensky, Berdyaev, Losev), Philosophy of Literature, Philosophy of Religion, Metaphysics, History of Western Philosophy (esp. Kant, Hegel, Nietzsche, Adorno, Heidegger).

"Truth", "Meaning", and "Identity" in arts, literature, and religion; Narrative as a philosophical paradigm (philosophy/literature borders); The meaning of a work of art; The "Religious Thought": Russia and the West.

Academic Publications

(Monographs, Edited Books, Book Chapters and Articles for Peer-reviewed Journals)

1) Books-Monographs:

Lev Shestov. Philosophy and Works of a Tragic Thinker, Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020

La prospettiva inversa. Il senso dell'icona russa (The Reverse Perspective. The Meaning of Russian Icon), Cagliari: PFTS University Press 2016, pp. 122.

La meraviglia e il fallimento. Un'introduzione ragionata alla filosofia (The Wonder and Failure. A Reasoned Introduction to Philosophy), Rome: Castelvecchi editore 2015, pp. 142.

Filosofia e salvezza (Philosophy and Salvation), Cagliari: PFTS University Press 2013, pp. 126.

Estetiche del negativo. Studi su Dostoevskij, Čechov e Beckett (Aesthetics of the Negative. Studies on Dostoevsky, Chekhov, and Beckett), series "Handbooks", Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, Cagliari: NGP 2009, pp. 64.

Philosophical Aesthetics and Samuel Beckett, Oxford-Bern: Peter Lang 2008, pp. 268.

2) Edited Books:

(ed.), *Shapes of Apocalypse. Arts and Philosophy in Slavic Thought*, series "Myths and Taboos in Russian Culture" (series editor: Alyssa Gillespie), Boston, Academic Studies Press, 2013.

(ed.), Il silenzio della pietra. Questioni sulla materia e la libertà (The Silence of the Stone. Questions on Matter and Freedom), series "Limine", Trapani, Il Pozzo di Giacobbe, 2011.

3) Book Chapters:

- «Anti-Socratic Attitudes in Russian "Nietzscheanism"», in *Socrates in Russia*, A. DeBlasio and V. Juharyan (eds.), Leiden-Boston: Brill, 2022, pp. 124-146

- «Platone e Kant nell'epistemologia di Florenskij» (Plato and Kant in Florensky's Epistemology), in *Il pensiero polifonico di Pavel Florenskij. Una risposta alle sfide del presente*, S. Tagliagambe - M. Spano - A. Oppo (eds.), Cagliari: PFTS University Press, 2018, pp. 383-413.

«Alice's Parallel Series. Carroll, Deleuze, and the "Stuttering" Sense of the World», in *Borderlands and Liminal Subjects. Transgressing the Limit in Philosophy and Literature* edited by J. Elbert Decker and D. Winchock, New York: Palgrave Macmillan 2017, pp. 215-233.

«Theatre at the Limit. Jerzy Grotowski's *Apocalypsis cum figuris*», in *Shapes of Apocalypse*. *Arts and Philosophy in Slavic Thought*, edited by Andrea Oppo, Boston, Academic Studies Press, 2013, pp. 225-243.

«*Black Holes*. A Philosophical Question on *Endgame*'s and *Bartleby*'s Stalemates», in "Samuel Beckett Today/Aujourd'hui" N° 23, edited by Y. Mével, D. Rabaté and S. Houppermans, New York/Amsterdam, Rodopi, 2011, pp. 307-317.

«La scultura interrotta. Michelangelo, Rodin e un'idea del limite» ("The Interrupted Sculpture. Michelangelo, Rodin, and an Idea of Limit"), in Andrea Oppo (ed.), *Il silenzio della pietra. Questioni sulla materia e la libertà (The Silence of the Stone. Questions on Matter and Freedom*), series "Limine", Trapani, Il Pozzo di Giacobbe, 2011, pp. 21-46.

«La filosofia come profezia. Gabriel Marcel lettore di Max Picard» ("Philosophy as a Prophecy. Gabriel Marcel: Reader of Max Picard"), in Daniele Vinci (ed.), *Come all'inizio del mono. Il pensiero di Max Picard (Like at the Beginning of the World. Max Picard's Thought*), collana "Limine", Trapani, Il Pozzo di Giacobbe, 2011, pp. 159-170.

«Volti nel tempo: da Bergman a Tarkovskij» ("Faces in Time: From Bergman to Tarkovsky"), in *Il volto nel pensiero contemporaneo (The Face in Contemporary Thought)*, edited by Daniele Vinci, series "Limine", Trapani, Il Pozzo di Giacobbe: 2010, pp. 459-473.

«A Loss of Truth. A Tragic Turning Point at the Beginning of Shestov's Philosophy», in Ramona Fotiade (ed.), *The Tragic Discourse: Shestov and Fondane's Existential Thought*, "European Connections", Oxford-Bern: Peter Lang, 2006, pp. 103-116.

4) Articles for Peer-Reviewed Journals:

- «Conceptualising Discontinuity. Pavel Florenskii's *Preryvnost'* as a Universal Paradigm of Knowledge», in "Russian Literature" 130 (2022), pp. 69-93

- «Does a "Russian Philosophy" Exist? The Boundaries and Nature of a Question», in "Solov'evskie issledovaniya" 70/2 (2021), pp. 47-67

- «Shestov i Solov'ev: antipody russkoi religioznoi filosofii» (Antipodes of Russian Religious Philosophy: Shestov and Solovyov), in "Solov'evskie issledovaniya" 65/1 (2020), pp. 79-90

- «Remnants of a "Mid-land". The Russian Concept of Faith and European Philosophy», in "Theologica et Historica" XXVII (2018), pp. 101-112

«Overturning Naturalism. Pavel Florenskii's Aesthetic Realism», in "The Slavic and East European Journal", 62/1 (2018), pp. 42-59

«Se la misura di un corpo è un numero immaginario. Florenskij e il concetto di spazio in Dante» ("When the Measure of a Body Is an Imaginary Number. Florensky and the Concept of Space in Dante"), in "Theologica & Historica" XXIV, 2015, pp. 171-183.

«A "Kantian" Shakespeare. The Defense of Morality in Shestov's First Work», in "The Slavic and East European Journal" (no. 58/4, 2014), pp. 573-589.

«La verità contro l'arte. Per una comprensione filosofica dell'icona russa» ("Truth vs. Art. Toward a Philosophical Understanding of Russian Icon"), in "Theologica & Historica" XXIII, 2014, pp. 131-160.

«Prove di verità. Note per un'ermeneutica della storia» ("Proofs of Truth. Towards a Hermeneutics of History"), in "Theologica & Historica" XXII, 2013, pp. 173-185.

«L'influenza di T. S. Eliot sul teatro di Jerzy Grotowski» ("T.S. Eliot's Influence on Grotowski's Theatre"), in "Theologica & Historica" XXI (2012), pp. 131-143.

«Fancy and *Imagination* in Coleridge. Una distinzione inattuale?» ("Coleridge's *Fancy* and *Imagination*: An Outdated Distinction?"), in "Theologica & Historica", XX, 2011, pp. 253-267.

«La vera inutilità dell'arte. Estetica ed estetizzazione della realtà» ("The 'True' Uselessness of Art. Aesthetics and Aesthetization of Reality"), in "Giornale critico di storia delle idee", n° II, July-December 2009. (International Review of Philosophy, electronic format).

«Le due anime dell'estetica russa. Solov'ëv e Šestov» ("The Two Souls of Russian Aesthetics. Solovyov and Shestov"), in "Theologica & Historica" XVII (December 2008), Annals of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, pp. 243-282. «Shestov and Berdyaev. A Comparison of Two Russian Philosophers», in "Toronto Slavic Quarterly", n° 25, Summer 2008. [University of Toronto (Ontario, Canada) - Academic Electronic Journal in Slavic Studies].

«La vera anima del genio crudele. Scavando al fondo dei *Karamazov*» ("The True Soul of the Cruel Genius. At the Bottom of *The Brothers Karamazov*"), in "Xáos. Giornale di Confine", Year II, N. 3 November-February 2003-2004 (Electronic Review of Arts, Philosophy, and Literature).

«L'idea di male assoluto nei *Demoni* di Dostoevskij» ("The Idea of Absolute Evil in Dostoevsky's *Devils*"), in "Xáos. Giornale di Confine", Year II, N. 2, July-October 2003 (Electronic Review of Arts, Philosophy, and Literature).

«Per via breve. Saggi di estetica» ("Shortcuts". Essays in Aesthetics), in "Estetica", N. 1/2003 (Genova, Il Nuovo Melangolo), pp. 103-112.

«Quale Bellezza salverà il mondo? L'*Idiota* di Dostoevskij e un difficile enigma» ("Which Beauty Will Save the World? Dostoevsky's *The Idiot* and a Difficult Enigma"), in "Xáos. Giornale di Confine", Year II, N. 1 March-June 2003 (Electronic Review of Arts, Philosophy, and Literature).

«Buzzati e il "giornalismo fantastico"» ("Buzzati and the 'Fantastic Journalism'"), in "Problemi dell'informazione. Trimestrale di Media e Comunicazione", N. 1, March 2002 (Bologna, Il Mulino), pp. 115-124.

«All'origine della filosofia di Šestòv» ("At the Beginning of Shestov's Philosophy"), in "Annali del Dipartimento di Filosofia di Firenze", 2001 (Led, Firenze), pp. 133-151.

5) Book Editions and Translations from Russian into Italian:

- (With Massimiliano Spano) Pavel Florensky, *Imaginaries in Geometry*. English Translation by Anna Maiorova and Karen Turnbull (Milan, Mimesis International, 2021)

Lev Shestov, *Dobro v uchenii gr. Tolstogo i Fr. Nitshe*, introduction, notes and Italian translation by Andrea Oppo ("L'idea di bene in Tolstoj e Nietzsche" [The Idea of Good in Tolstoy and Nietzsche], Roma, Castelvecchi 2014)

Lev Shestov, *Pamjati velikogo filosofa (Edmund Gusserl')*, Italian translation by Andrea Oppo ("Edmund Husserl. Ricordo di un filosofo" [In Memory of a Great Philosopher: Edmund Husserl], Roma, Castelvecchi 2014)

6) Book Reviews in English:

- Olga Tabachnikova, *Russian Irrationalism from Pushkin to Brodsky*, Bloomsbury 2015, in "The Russian Review" (2015)

- Maria Zalambani, L'istituzione del matrimonio in Tolstoj: Felicità familiare, Anna Karenina, La sonata a Kreutzer. Firenze University Press 2015, in "The Slavic and East European Journal" (2016)

Research and work in progress 2022-2024 (monographs, edited books and articles)

- Pavel Florensky's Philosophy of Discontinuity (Brill 2024)
- Aleksei Losev's Philosophy of Numbers
- Adorno with Heidegger: Aesthetics of Truth

Teaching courses

Academic courses and seminars 2021/2022

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Aesthetics: "The Reverse Perspective: Russian Icon and Avant-garde" (BA courses, 2nd semester)
- Moral Philosophy: "Job and the Question of Evil in Thomas Aquinas and Kant" (MA courses, 1st semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2020/2021

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Aesthetics: "The Identity of the Work of Art: Martin Heidegger" (2nd semester)
- Philosophy of Religion: "Leibniz's and Kant's Theodicy in comparison" (1st and 2nd semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2019/2020

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Aesthetics: "The Sense of Tragic and Christianity: F. Nietzsche" (2nd semester)
- Moral Philosophy: "Kant and the Problem of Evil" (2nd semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2018/2019

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- History of Philosophy: "The *Disputatio philosophica*: Examples in Thomas Aquinas" (2nd semester)
- Philosophy of Religion: "Values and Normativity in the Philosophy of Religion" (2nd semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2017/2018

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Aesthetics: "Introduction to Philosophical Aesthetics" (2nd semester)
- Philosophical Hermeneutics: "Kant and the Problem of Evil" (2nd semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2016/2017

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Philosophy of Religion: "The Religious Problem in Kant" (1st and 2nd semester)
- Aesthetics: "The Reverse Perspective. Russian Icon and the Meaning of Art" (2nd semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2015/2016

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Aesthetics: "Truth vs. Illusion: Towards a Definition of the Russian Icon" (1st semester)
- Seminar: "Film and Philosophy: Pasolini's Jesus"(1st semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2014/2015

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Philosophy of Religion: "Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion" (1st and 2nd semester)
- Philosophical Hermeneutics: "The Meaning of Poetry: Nietzsche and Heidegger" (2nd semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2013/2014

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Aesthetics: "The 'Reverse Perspective': Pavel Florensky and the Meaning of Icon" (1st semester)
- Metaphysics II: "God, Freedom, and the Evil" (1st semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2012/2013

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Philosophical Hermeneutics: "Hermeneutics and Sculpture: Georg Simmel" (1st semester)
- Seminar: "Faith and Reason: The Current Debate" (2nd semester)
- Seminar: "How Philosophy Works: A 'Practice' Demonstration" (2nd semester)
- Seminar: "Introduction to Hermeneutics" (2nd semester)

Institute of Religious Studies (Oristano)

– Philosophy of Religion: "Atheism and Faith: the Current Debate" (2nd semester)

Academic courses and seminars 2011/2012

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Philosophy of Knowledge: "Truth as a Philosophical Problem" (2nd semester)
- Aesthetics: "The Truth of Art. Theodor Adorno with Martin Heidegger" (1st semester)
- Seminar: "What Is Philosophy Today?" (1st semester)

Institute of Religious Studies (Oristano)

- Moral Philosophy: "What Shall I Do? Kant's Ethic Question"

Academic courses and seminars 2010/2011

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Philosophical Hermeneutics: "The Figure of Christ in Contemporary Fiction. Hermeneutics and Narrative" (2nd semester)
- Seminar of Hermeneutics: "Grammars of Creativity" (2nd semester)
- Aesthetics: "The Evil. Cinema and Philosophy" (1st semester)

Institute of Religious Studies (Oristano)

 History of Philosophy: "The Logos in Ancient Thought: The Origin of an Occidental Forma Mentis"

Academic courses and seminars 2009/2010

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Aesthetics: "Between Visible and Invisible: The Face of Icon" (2nd semester)
- Didactics of Cinema: "Using Cinema for Discussion Groups" (2nd semester)
- Philosophy of Language: "Analytic Philosophy and Religious Language" (1st semester)
- Seminar of Aesthetics: "The Meaning of Things. Cinema and Philosophy" (1st and 2nd semester)

Institute of Religious Studies (Oristano)

 Philosophy of Language: "Analytic Philosophy and Religious Language" (2nd semester)

Academic courses 2008/2009

Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia

- Aesthetics: "Art Copy of a Copy, or the Origin Itself? From Plato to Adorno: The History of an Idea" (1st semester)
- Philosophical Hermeneutics: "Dostoevsky and Philosophy" (2nd semester)

Academic activities (conferences and public lectures)

- Coordinator of the philosophical conference and research project "On Aristotle's God" (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, Cagliari, 5 May 2009). Speaker: prof. Enrico Berti (University of Padova), prof. Elisabetta Cattanei (University of Cagliari), prof. Kevin Flannery S.I. (Gregorian University Rome), prof. Stephen Brock (Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Rome).
- Chairman and Coordinator of the philosophical conference and research project "Sculpture and the Sacred" (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, Cagliari, 21 April 2010). Speakers: prof. Sergio Givone (University of Florence), prof. Ignazio Ferreli (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia), and dr. Roberto Sirigu (Institute of Religious Studies – Oristano).

- Speaker at the Lecture: "Shakespeare: The Sonnets of Lie" (University of Cagliari, 14 April 2010).
- Speaker at the Lecture: "When Art Goes In-Depth. Philosophies of Perspective (Rublev and Raffaello; Florensky and the Renaissance Painting; Kubrick and Tarkovsky)" (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, 31 May 2010).
- **Speaker** at the Lecture: "What the 'Aesthetic Evil' Is", opening lecture to the seminar "The Evil. Cinema and Philosophy" (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, 11 November 2010).
- Speaker at the Lecture: "The Two Ways of Creativity", opening lecture to the seminar "Grammars of Creativity" (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, 18 February 2011).
- **Speaker** at the Public Lecture: "What i.e. *Why* Is Philosophy?", (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, 24 November 2011).
- Speaker at the Public Lecture: "Apocalypse as a Philosophical Issue" (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, 8 November 2012).
- Coordinator of the 2-year International Research Project funded by the CEI (Italian Bishop Association): "Shapes of the Apocalypse. Arts and Philosophy in Slavic Thought" (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, Cagliari, 2012-2014).
- Coordinator of the 2-year Research Project funded by the European Union and the Sardinian Regional Government: "The Symbols and Identity of Sardinian People" (Pontifical Faculty of Theology of Sardinia, Cagliari, 2012-2014).
- Speaker at the international conference "The Reasons of Europe" (Rome, University La Sapienza, Dept. of Philosophy, 12-13 December 2013). Title of the paper:
 "Remnants of a Mid-land. The Russian Concept of Faith and European Philosophy".
- Speaker at the international seminar "Philosophies of Perspective. When Art Goes In-Depth" (Moscow, Higher School of Economics – Dept. of Philosophy) March 10-11 2014.
- Speaker at the international conference on Russian Studies "A Culture of Discontinuity? Russian Cultural Debates in Perspective" (Preston, UK, University of Central Lancashire – Dept. of Languages) May 2-6 2016. Title of the paper: "Pavel Florensky's Concept of Discontinuity"
- Speaker at the National Seminar "Ancient Philosophy Today" (University of Cagliari, Dept. of Philosophy) October 6 2016. Title of the paper: "The Idea of Truth in Russian Religious Thought. A Neo-Platonic Heritage".
- Speaker at the ASEES 48th annual convention "Global Conversations" (Washington DC, Marriott Wardman Park) November 17-20 2016. Title of the paper: "Time and Discontinuity: Pavel Florensky's Aesthetic Realism".
- Speaker at the international conference on Pavel Florensky "The Poliphonic Thought: On 80th Anniversary of the Death of Pavel Florensky" (University of Cagliari, Dept. of Philosophy) October 25-26 2017. Title of the paper: "Plato and Kant in Pavel Florensky's Epistemology"
- Speaker at the ASEES 49th annual convention "Transgressions" (Chicago, Marriott Hotel) November 9-12 2017. Title of the paper: "Shestov's Reading of Tolstoy: A Picture from *Fin-de-Siècle* Russia".

- Speaker at a Seminar on Ancient Philosophy (University of Cagliari, Dept. of Philosophy) December 11 2017. Title of the paper: "Plotinus' Theory of Numbers Between East and West".
- Speaker at the ASEES 50th annual convention "Performance" (Boston, Marriott hotel, December 6-9 2018). Titles of the papers: "A Pythagorean of Our Time: Aleksei Losev's *Philosophy of Numbers*" and "Russian Philosophy: The Quest for an 'Integral Phenomenology" (roundtable).
- Lecturer at the Higher School "IANUA" (University of Genoa, Italy "Cultures and Religions: The Challenge of Dialogue"), May 11 2021. Title of Lecture: "Lev Shestov: Logic and the Thunder".
- Speaker at the ASEES 53rd annual convention "The Reception of Ancient Philosophy in Early Twentieth-Century Russia" (Virtual conference, December 2 2021). Title of the paper: "Truth as a 'Self-Contradiction'. Plato and Platonism in Pavel Florensky's Thought".
- Speaker at the International seminar on Russian studies (University of Lancashire, Preston, UK, February 9 2022). Title of the Seminar: "Earth as the Centre of the Universe? Pavel Florensky's 'Scientific' Middle Ages".
- Speaker at the international symposium on Dostoevsky: "The Gambling Phenomenon" organized by Brown University (Providence, US) (Bogliasco Study Center, Genoa, June 20-24 2022). Title of the paper: "The Philosophy of Play and Dostoevsky's *The Gambler*. An Original Suspension between Slavery and Freedom".

Languages

Italian:	Native
English:	Fluent
Russian:	Excellent knowledge of the written and spoken language
French:	Excellent
Portuguese:	Good
Ancient Greek and Latin:	Excellent knowledge due to 8 years of classes in high school a university

Prizes and awards

 Journalistic 1st Prize "Anguillara Sabazia Città d'Arte" (Journalistic section) for a literary feature about Dostoevsky's "Brothers Karamazov"(July 2003)

and

 Award from the Italian National Television (RAI) for a radio documentary on the Bologna bomb murder of 1980 (May 2000, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary) Cagliari, 5 September 2022

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