




Teaching Italian Culture Conference
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Teaching Italian
language and culture:
going beyond stereotypes

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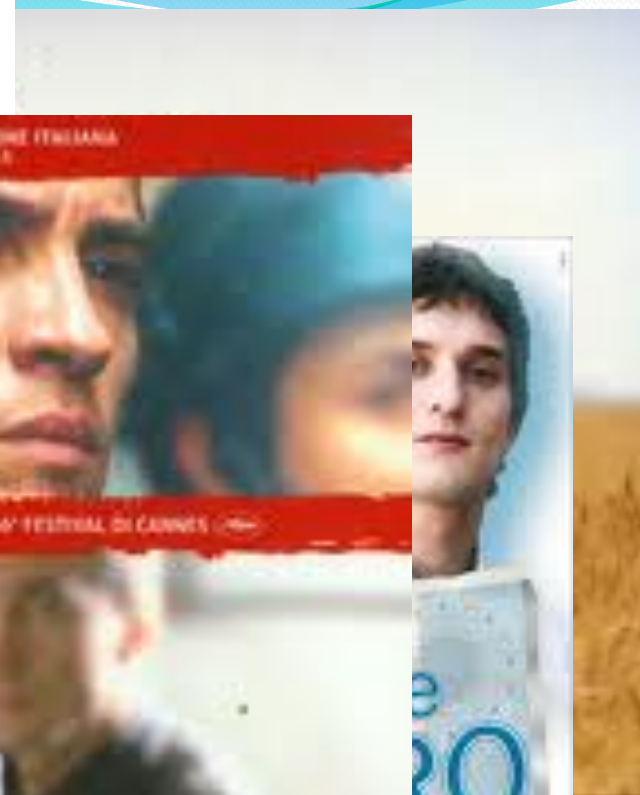
What are the first three Italian
movies you can think of?

1....

2....

3....





Outline

- *Terraferma*, by Giuseppe Crialesi, 2011
- Teaching materials about the movie
- Response of students and teachers of a Secondary School, (Melbourne)
- What is the Italian culture?
- Conclusions



Terraferma

- Director: Giuseppe Crialesi, 2011
- <http://www.terrafermailfilm.it/>

Teaching Materials

- To be used for a Year 12 detailed study-
Topic «Immigration in Italy»
(tested on a Year 11: 12 students)
- 20 periods allocated
- Sessions: Before the movie, During the movie and
After the movie
- Skills: listening, reading, speaking, writing,
- Language analysis + «content» analysis

Response to the movie (students' opinions)

- «Boring»
- «Too serious»
- «Too cruel»
- «Too boring – not fun»
- «I didn't understand it»
- «Not interesting»

«I like it, because it was interesting.

- Why?

-Not sure...»

Response to the movie (teachers' opinions)

- «Not adapted to our Australian students..»
- «Too difficult for them, they are not used to think...»
- «It's boring. It's not related to them. They want to talk about fashion, made in Italy, handsome men and gorgeous girls.. I don't use movies in general with them because they are too difficult and too boring. And if they are not boring, all the scenes are with sex and terrible language, that I can't show them»

Just something to think about...

- What do we want to teach to our students?
- What kind of culture?
- What resources do we want to use?
- Who are the actors that are playing a role in shaping the Italian culture nowadays?
- What is the «Italian culture»?

What is the Italian culture?

- <http://www.italianculture.net/home.html>
- Piccola Università Italiana - Tropea
- Piccola Università Italiana Le Venezie - Trieste



But Italian culture is also..



Concluding remarks

- Migrants: active actors in shaping Italian language and culture
- Italian as a contact language
- Intercultural education



- Awareness of the Italian teachers of going beyond stereotypes for a more meaningful educational process.

To ponder over...

Delirio del Mare (Delirium of the sea)

*On the rocks of obesity the dream dies
In the world's most beautiful cuisine
hunger meets its death.
No Emergency.*

*Mohammed Lamsuni,
2005*

Thank you for your
attention!

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