according to the journal, to an Italian paradigm of “ethnic studies” in the United States. [I have dealt with this in my *Una semiotica dell’etnicità* (Franco Cesati Editore, 2010) 23 sgg.]

We would not err, therefore, to state the same for *Oltreoceano* and the organization of which it is the official publication. The “Centro Internazionale Letterature Migranti” (CILM), we read, “accoglie studi di carattere letterario, linguistico e culturale sulle comunità migranti d’oltreoceano — friulane in particolari...” and while it may parenthetically state “friulane in particolari,” we might indeed note that (a) there are indeed Friulians in the United States, and (b) not everyone in this issue is Friulian. Furthermore, of the sixteen people on the Comitato Scientifico (Editorial Board), who represent a broad spectrum of European and “American” scholars, not one is from the United States. Namely, the country to which the largest number of Italians migrated, especially during the high wave of emigration, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, is not at all recognized by the Centro Internazionale Letterature Migranti. Such a blatant breach of exclusion only brings to the surface the problematic *lacunae* that still undergird what we can only assume is an Italian dominant cultural mode of thinking rooted still in a mindset coincidental to the likes of Giuseppe Prezzolini and Mario Soldati. As in the case of *Àcoma*’s special issue of “letterature degli Stati Uniti,” *Oltreoceano*, or, better still, CILM, suffers from a similar glaring blind spot that only devalues the otherwise valuable contributions to this special issue.

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Ottorino Burelli; Ido Cibischino; Javier P. Grossutti. *Buine fortune: L’emigrazione friulana nel secondo dopoguerra*. Udine: Associazione Culturale Oltramar, Galeati-Imola, 2011. Pp 222. Cost N/A. ISBN N/A. (Paperback)

This book provides an interesting, well researched account about the emigration of the people of Friuli. The reading was both informative and enjoyable. It focuses mainly on the post Second World War mass emigration, from Friuli, but also gives a good back drop of migration prior Second World War. As a whole this emigration saw the Friulani leave Italy in large numbers and settle in Europe, North America, Australia, South America, Africa, and Russia. This diaspora is well discussed throughout the book. The authors present data and historical analysis about the cause and effect of this mass migration. In addition the book has a good sampling of specific emigration stories of individuals.

The writers inform the reader about the different levels (local, regional and national) of government policy, which encouraged and influenced this mass migration. They discuss the various mutual agreements to deploy unskilled and skilled workers to other countries as a way to deal with the chronic mass unemployment in Italy and to supply needed workers to the receiving country.

The authors describe and give weight, not only to the historical context of the time, but also to the character traits of the people of Friuli. Throughout the book

there are numerous examples describing the traits of hard work, tenacity, skill, creative talent and resourcefulness. These are convincingly linked to the how and why so many were able to overcome hardships and obstacles, and often achieve significant success.

The preface and last section, by Ido Cibischino, describes the emigration experience by the people of Friuli going back to the 1800's. He creates an introductory visual of the emigration experience by comparing the experience and dynamics faced by the first pioneers to the movies "Dancing with the Wolves" and "Indiana Jones".(p.11) He refers to them as people who were heroes, adapted remarkably well to the conditions found, made the most of their situations, assisted in the growth and development of the places into which they immigrated, were frugal, people of great strength of character and profound depth of values of family and hard work. Cibischini points out that the stories of these humble, yet in many ways, heroic figures are not known and very little has been written to document this emigration history. He also provides a rationale as to why so little attention has been devoted to this type of work. (p.11-16)

Although the account focuses mainly on the post Second World War emigration of the Friuli population, the authors provide informative context about the economic, social, geographic and political conditions both during and prior to that period. Through the well presented explanations of these multitudes of circumstances behind the vast emigration from Friuli, the reader is provided with more complete understanding of the subject matter. Each page continually peels off the many complex layers of this emigration phenomenon.

In summary, the first section deals with the dramatic change or transformation of Friuli from 1940 to 1950. The second section describes dynamics of domestic economic, social and unemployment conditions after the Second World War and how in fact emigration was in part Italy's solution to its postwar social and domestic upheavals. This section also portrays the international need for labour and its influence on the selection of the type of Italian workers to immigrate. The Third section documents the individual stories and testimonies of Friulani immigrant experiences around the globe. In part four is the story of Valente Boem, a person who facilitated and assisted thousands of individuals and families to immigrate and travel to their destinations around the world. The fifth section explores emigration from Friuli, prior to Fascism.

The authors, Ottorino Burelli, Javier P Grossutti and Ido Cibischino, have provided a well researched and a well articulated account of the experiences and dynamics of emigration pertaining to the Friulani. This was an enjoyable and informative read and in my view of special interest to the descendants of Friulani and Italian immigrants living around the world. I hope the authors will consider translations of this book so it can be enjoyed by these descendants whose first language is no longer Italian.

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