guage in strengthening one’s identity and in making someone part of a wider social group. Her contribution is not focused only on Italian-Canadians, but also on Italian-Americans as she proposes two pivotal hypotheses. First, language is an important expression of a culture’s identity, but not the only one. Second, ethnic identification can also occur when people have no knowledge of their heritage. Paul Colilli briefly discusses the concept of identity, its articulated aspects and its slippery logic to conclude that Italian-Canadian identity is based on an aggregation of “seemingly disjointed fragments” (153).

The third section, “Writing the Experience”, presents a few short stories by two Italian-Canadian writers: Nic Battigelli and Rosanna Battigelli. These pages offer a small, but representative sample of Italian-Canadian writings. Most of the main features emphasized and discussed in the previous articles can be identified and observed here; Italian-Canadians will be able to recognize memories from their upbringering and from their families and will appreciate the highly self-reflexiveness of these texts. As Pivato sharply synthesizes, Italian-Canadian literature is “a literature with the shock of recognition” (114) and an attentive reader will certainly experience this shock.

The fourth section, “Community Leadership”, concludes the collection by linking identity to leadership. As Paul Colilli keenly points out, the nature of this session encourages the speakers to provide an “autobiographical dimension to their presentation” (201). Rick Bartolucci, Sonia Del Misser, Peter DiPietrantonio and Paul Colilli share their personal stories as Italian-Canadians and reveal their active and tireless role within the Italian community in Sudbury. All the speakers amply communicate their genuine pride in being Italian-Canadians and in being part of a nurturing community of Italian immigrants.

This volume achieves what the editor, Diana Iuele-Colilli, promises in her introduction; all contributors link the idea of hard work to that of “a gift that renews a community” (viii). Their contributions to the volume demonstrate how Italians and their descendants managed to flourish in their new country thanks to their hard work and their determination. Italians integrated themselves well in Canada without forgetting their past, their culture, traditions and values. Not only did they adapt to a new culture and to a new country, but they also contributed in the material and moral growth of Canada, a welcoming land.

ANNA CHIAFELE
University of Toronto


Christopher Columbus could have never guessed that by the fourth centenary of his arrival in the Americas, an era characterized by economic distress and lack of opportunity, would eventually force over twelve million Italians to retrace his westward journey. Oftentimes when considering the Italian Diaspora, the statistics are
of such an overwhelming nature that they overshadow the fact that behind the political and social upheavals of post-Unification Italy, there were real people, *in carne ed ossa*, who set out to "fare la Merica." *Italian Faces* quite literally puts a face to these men, women, and children. Designed as a companion volume to the permanent photographic exhibition unveiled in November 2000 at the Società Caruso, Diana Iuele-Colilli's work provides the first book-length testimony of the Italian contingent in Sudbury, Ontario.

This volume is less a critical study of immigration than it is a thorough visual representation of the growth of the Italian community in Sudbury. The text is secondary to the myriad of photographs and documents that invite the reader to relive the immigrant experience from the initial *atto di richiamo* to the transatlantic voyage and the train ride across the vast Canadian terrain. *Italian Faces* does not offer an investigative historical analysis in the traditional sense; rather, it follows the maxim that a picture is worth a thousand words. An array of archival evidence and interviews support the visuals.

The book is divided into six sections. The first considers the voyage from Italy to Canada, as well as phenomena such as chain migration and labour agents. The two subsequent chapters discuss the birth and development of the Italian community in the Sudbury area and the Italian associations that immediately sprang forth. Essentially a catalogue of mini-biographies, this section pays homage to the adventurous and entrepreneurial spirit of the first Italians who transformed Sudbury from a desolate mining town into a modern Canadian city. The associations, many of which still exist today, began as institutions that provided immediate assistance and material succour to newly arrived residents, but then they evolved into organizations that provide less material and more cultural support, such as Italian heritage and language preservation.

The fourth chapter is dedicated to the "unsung heroes of the Italian experience," (105) and examines women's contribution to the cultural and economic production of the emergent city. While the early wave of immigration witnessed a generation of women whose role was relegated to the domestic sphere, subsequent generations of Italian-Canadian women had to strike that rather difficult balance between private and public space, between the traditional and the modern—in short, their remarkable resilience and determination to incorporate their new experiences as Canadian working-class women into their traditional identity as Italian Mother and Wife. While an intricate system of family ties helped a young woman procure employment outside the home, that very system also doubled as checks on female behaviour beyond the customary confines of the home. An intense female network also served to assist the immigrant woman in everything ranging from questions of childbirth to home economics.

The final two sections deal with the Italian traditions cultivated in these immigrant communities, as well as the contribution of Italian-Canadians to the realm of sports.

In tracing the cultural, economic, and linguistic progress made by each generation, the reader inadvertently receives a lesson on the evolution of Canadian policy on multiculturalism. The first wave of immigrants (pre-World War II) had
no choice but to assimilate; their survival depended on it. The second wave brought a flood of immigrants that well surpassed the first, and greater numbers equalled greater support systems. The need for cheap and readily available labour, combined with the introduction of laws on multiculturalism, created an environment much more tolerant of the maintenance of italic tradition and community integration. The link with the native country (exemplified through the retention of the heritage and the dialect of one’s paese) is thus much stronger among immigrants of the second half of the twentieth century. The effects of local media coverage (newspapers/radio) were twofold: on the one hand, it helped provide a new homeland for persons who had been obliged, by economic need, to abandon their native homeland; on the other hand, it encouraged these men and women to maintain their sense of identity and to construct, on this, a viable concept of the Italian-Canadian Self.

The narratives concerning Italian-Canadians are plentiful, and the most cherished is certainly that of the poor, hard-working immigrant who, through toil and dedication, makes his fortune in the Canadian land of milk and honey. But luele-Colilli also sheds light on some of the darker periods of modern Canadian history, most notably the internment camps and the marginalization to which some Italian-Canadians were subjected during the course of the Second World War as the fear of Fascism led the Canadian government to take severe measures against immigrants from Italy.

*Italian Faces* is a photo album of an extended family bound not by blood, but by the stronger bond of common experience. It is also an original work of scholarship in the sense that luele-Colilli has ambitiously reconstructed, on a very local and intimate level, the influence of the Italian community on the development of the Canadian city of Sudbury. This book is also stylistically very interesting as it is bilingual; the English text alongside the Italian text can be interpreted as yet another manner in which the two cultures co-exist. While of importance to all scholars interested in the Italian presence in Canada, *Italian Faces* will obviously prove to be of greatest significance to the people of Sudbury to whom this volume is dedicated.

**Cynthia De Luca**

*University of Toronto*


Integral to the study of human history is that of human tragedy. This is especially true when chronicling the carving out of territory and determining under what circumstances a people now finds itself in a particular land. Often hidden amid treaties and concessions are entire communities and civilizations whose displacement became their only means of survival. *Parole lontane* examines just such a case,