

Dante Alighieri Society in Hong Kong

VOL. 4

JANUARY 2013



THIS IS A
MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
FROM DANTE
ALIGHIERI
SOCIETY IN HONG
KONG

DANTE ALIGHIERI
SOCIETY IN
HONG KONG IS
AN ITALIAN
CULTURAL
SOCIETY THAT
PROMOTES THE
ITALIAN
LANGUAGE
STUDIES AND
CULTURE
THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD.
WE PROVIDE
ITALIAN COURSES
FROM BEGINNER
TO ADVANCED
LEVELS TO ADULTS
AND CHILDREN.
TO SUIT YOUR
EXACT NEEDS,
WE CAN ORGANIZE
PRIVATE
ONE-ON-ONE OR
SMALL GROUP
LESSONS AND OUR
TEACHERS CAN
ALSO TEACH IN
YOUR COMPANY
AND TAILOR-MAKE
A COURSE TO SUIT
YOUR NEEDS.

Dear valued students, friends and members of Dante Alighieri,

Buon 2013!

It is my pleasure to invite you **to join Dante Alighieri Society**, the only official Dante Alighieri Society Hong Kong branch authorized by *Società Dante Alighieri* in Rome.

As you know, we organize a wide and interesting range of Italian language courses, unique cultural activities and events.

Year 2012 has been a remarkable year for the Dante Alighieri Society in Hong Kong. Thanks to the support from the Consulate General of Italy and the Italian Cultural Institute in Hong Kong, our devoted Board members, donors and supporters, we were able to bring many acclaimed cultural events to this dynamic, energetic and diverse city. And with a strong team of professional and experienced teachers, we have offered a wide variety of Italian courses and workshops to suit specific needs of our students and of Hong Kong-based Italian companies.

With the great support from all our members, we have concluded a successful 2012. We wish to thank all the supporters who made this happen.

We are delighted to announce you the launch of our **2013 Membership Campaign**.

The Annual Dante Alighieri Membership scheme gives the school a tremendous vital support to all its activities.

Membership at Dante Alighieri Society helps you learn more about the Italian culture and traditions. For example, you will discover the secrets of Italian cooking with famous Italian Chefs and learn how to appreciate the Italian wines with well-experienced sommeliers. You can also enjoy special offers on Italian food, wines and household products throughout the year.

In return to your precious support, you will be entitled to a variety of exciting privileges and offers, which have been especially formulated for you. Please see page 7 for more details.

We wish you health, happiness & a prosperous 2013!

Grazie e arrivederci!

Bruno Feltracco
President



Year End Lunch at Giando

Dante Alighieri Society's *Year End Lunch* was successfully held on 9th December 2012 at Giando restaurant, a newly opened Italian restaurant with an amazing harbour view. The event has been organized to celebrate a remarkable and significant year for Dante Alighieri.

During 2012, in fact, we offered a wide variety of Italian courses, workshops and acclaimed cultural events, accomplishing a challenging mission: promoting and introducing the beautiful and rich Italian language and culture to Hong Kong, a dynamic and energetic city.

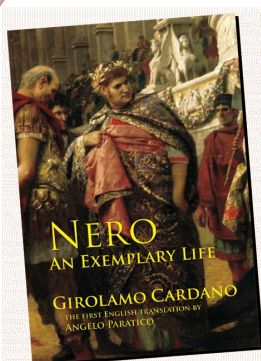


A total of 50 participants, including DA members, students, Dante friends and DA staff enjoyed all together a delicious Christmas menu. During the lunch Mr. Bruno Feltracco, Dante Alighieri Society's President, welcomed the participants and updated them about the numerous achievements of our Society in 2012, illustrating also new initiatives, courses and cultural events for 2013. In addition, Mr. Feltracco announced the launch of Dante Alighieri's 2013 Membership program and underlined the numerous benefits and discounts carefully selected for our supporters.



Furthermore, our Vice President Angelo Paratico presented his new and recently published book, "NERO: An Exemplary Life".

The event, sponsored by Libra Ltd and Castello del Vino, included also a lucky draw (with presents offered by Libra) and small *panettoncini* and *pandorini* (sponsored by Castello del Vino) as Christmas gifts for all the participants.



HK\$150 only

Our Vice President, Mr Angelo Paratico, has recently published a limited edition (200 copies) of the book 'Nero: An Exemplary life' Inkstone books, Hong Kong 2012. This is the first English translation of *Neronis Encomium* by Girolamo Cardano (1501 -1576?).

The Foreword is written by Mr. Alex Lo, leading columnist at the *South China Morning Post*.

Dante Alighieri Society has a number of signed copies of this book. Certainly appreciated by all lovers of emperor Nero and Roman history.

Please contact us by email at dantealighieri@ladante.cc.

Book Presentation by Angelo Paratico

Date: Wednesday, 30 January 2013

Time : 19:00 - 20:30

Venue: Dante Alighieri Society in Hong Kong

"An Italian Night with...."

Dante Alighieri Society in Hong Kong started offering a great series of events called "An Italian Night With...", held once a month from December 2012 as a free admission event. This represents a great opportunity for members, students and all interested friends to meet famous and fascinating Italians from different walks of life, to listen and speak in Italian and to meet other students or members of our ever expanding Society.

The Consul General of Italy in Hong Kong and Macau

Ms. Alessandra Schiavo



Our very first night, sponsored by *Buonissimo* and *Castello Banfi*, was successfully held on 14 December 2012, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, in the beautifully revamped terrace of our Centre, although the night went on longer with chats, delicious Italian food and wines!

Our guest for this event was Ms Alessandra Schiavo, the Consul General of Italy in Hong Kong and Macau, who spoke about several poignant topics related to Italy and Hong Kong, about her life experiences as an Italian abroad first and then and as Consul General of Italy in Hong Kong. She was open to all questions from the audience and also held a brief interview with a member of our staff. She then met everybody in person in the relaxed and pleasant atmosphere of our terrace in the beating heart of the city, with lights, music, videos related to Italian culture and lifestyle and, last but not least, great Italian food and wines.



Thank you all for taking part in this great night!

Grazie mille!

Our second guest of "An Italian Night with..." is



Mr. Claudio De Bedin

Date: Friday, 18 January 2013

Time: 19:00 - 20:30

Free Admission

For registration, please go to http://www.ladante.cc/event_registration.html

Born in Hong Kong in 1955, Mr. Claudio De Bedin came from a native Friulian family. His father, Umberto Maria Gaetano de Bedin, born in Milan in 1921, moved to China at the age of two. Since his grandfather moved to China at the end of XIX Century, the De Bedin Family is in China for three generations.

De Bedin started his studies at the Kowloon Junior School, and then studied at the King George V School. He graduated in Law from the University of Newcastle, England. In 1983 he started collaborating with an English firm. One year later his son, Gaetano, was born. Following in his father's footsteps, Gaetano studied law in Newcastle.

They both love Italy and they believe Italy is the most beautiful country in the world. On 1 January 2010 he started the de Bedin & Lee law firm, specialized in the assistance to European clients who wish to invest in the Chinese market.

Festa di Natale 2012

Cari studenti, care studentesse,

come promesso ecco alcune foto della nostra festa di Natale!

Il 18 dicembre molti di voi sono venuti alla Dante Alighieri per scambiarsi gli auguri, conoscere altri studenti, parlare un po' in italiano, capire come si trascorre il Natale in Italia e fare un brindisi tutti insieme.

Quel giorno pioveva così abbiamo iniziato la festa all'interno.

Più tardi è tornato il bel tempo e la festa è continuata nella nostra bella terrazza addobbata con luci colorate.

Elisa ha raccontato che in Italia, durante le feste di Natale, molte famiglie giocano a carte, Giovanna ha spiegato la tombola napoletana ed Emma ha parlato (in italiano) della magica notte di Santa Lucia.

Come da tradizione anche noi abbiamo giocato a tombola!! 34, 18, 25... ambo! 3, 70, 84... terno! 10, 45, 7... quaterna!! 26, 56, 90... abbiamo estratto molti numeri e ... cinquina!! 1, 82, 69.... continuavamo a leggere nuovi numeri, ma nessuno vinceva. Poi finalmente... TOMBOLA!!! Tutti hanno applaudito!

E per finire non potevano mancare i regali! Il tema era "l'Italia" e quasi tutti hanno ricevuto qualcosa di buono da mangiare.

Grazie a tutti di aver partecipato e BUON 2013!!



Cultural Events and Workshops in January

Opera
L'elisir D'amore
Prima la musica, e poi le parole

Date: Wednesday
9 January 2013
Time: 19:00 - 21:00
Fee: \$200
(\$180 for DA Current Students
and Members)

Prendiamo un Caffè
To boost your speaking abilities
in Italian!

A1: 2 January 2013
A2: 16 January 2013
B1: 23 January 2013
B2 or above: 30 January 2013
Time: 19:00 - 21:00
Fee: \$180 (\$150 for
DA Current Students)

Una Serata Italiana con...
(An Italian Night with...)

Mr. Claudio De Bedin

Date: Friday, 18th January 2013
Time: 19:00 - 20:30

Free Admission !!

Book Presentation by Angelo Paratico

Date: Wednesday, 30 January 2013
Time : 19:00 - 20:30
Venue: Dante Alighieri Society in Hong Kong
Fee: Free Admission

Italian Language Courses in 2013

A1 Level : Beginner I and II Courses

<u>Beginner I</u>	<u>Beginner I</u>	<u>Beginner II</u>	<u>Beginner II</u>
Monday 19:00 - 21:00	Saturday 14:00 - 17:00 (3 hours)	Wednesday 19:00 - 21:00	Saturday 14:00 - 17:00 (3 hours)
From 14 January to 6 May (No lessons on 11 February and 1 April)	From 26 January to 13 April (No lessons on 16 February and 30 March)	From 23 January to 15 May (No lessons on 13 February and 1 May)	From 20 April to 22 June

A2 Level : Beginner III and IV Courses

<u>Intensive A2</u>	<u>Beginner III</u>	<u>Beginner III</u>	<u>Beginner IV</u>
Tuesday and Thursday 15:00 - 17:00 From 12 December 2012 to 9 April 2013 (No lessons on 20, 25, 27 December 2012, 12, 14 February and 4 April 2013)	Saturday 10:00 - 13:00 (3 hours) From 26 January to 13 April (No lessons on 16 February and 30 March)	Wednesday 19:00 - 21:00 From 2 February to 29 May (No lessons on 13 February and 1 May)	Saturday 10:00 - 13:00 (3 hours) From 20 April to 22 June

B1 Level : Intermediate I and II Courses

<u>Intensive B1</u>	<u>Intermediate I</u>	<u>Intermediate I</u>	<u>Intermediate II</u>
Wednesday and Friday 10:00 - 12:00 From 4 January to 17 April (No lessons on 13 and 15 Feb- ruary and 29 March)	Saturday 14:00 - 17:00 (3 hours) From 26 January to 13 April (No lessons on 16 February and 30 March)	Thursday 19:00 - 21:00 From 10 January to 2 May (No lessons on 14 February and 4 April)	Saturday 14:00 - 17:00 (3 hours) From 20 April to 22 June

B2 and Above Level : Intermediate III and IV Courses and Advanced Courses

<u>Intermediate III</u> Tuesday 19:00 - 21:00 From 22 January to 7 May (No lessons on 12 February)	<u>Intermediate III</u> Saturday 10:00 - 13:00 (3 hours) From 2 February to 20 April (No lessons on 16 February and 30 March)	<u>Intensive B2</u> Tuesday and Friday 10:00 - 12:00 From 5 February to 21 May (No lessons on 12 and 15 Feb- ruary, 29 March and 17 May)	<u>Intermediate IV</u> Saturday 10:00 - 13:00 (3 hours) From 4 May to 6 July
<u>Intermediate IV</u> Thursday 15:00 - 17:00 From 13 November 2012 to 11 April 2013 (No lessons on 25 December 2012, 17 January, 7 & 14 February and 4 April 2013)		<u>Advanced II</u> Thursday 19:00 - 21:00 From 17 January to 9 May (No lessons on 14 February and 4 April)	<u>Advanced III</u> Monday 19:00 - 21:00 From 25 February to 10 June (No lessons on 1 April)

Photo Contest 2013

Italian my own way!

PHOTO CONTEST

Everyone who loves Italy, Italian language and culture is warmly welcome to take part in the photo contest. Each participant could send maximum 3 pictures related to Italy and taken in Hong Kong. The contest purpose is to show the presence of Italian language and culture in Hong Kong in different contexts (Advertising, shop signs, name of commercial products, etc.)



FIRST PRIZE

Limited Edition Italian History Book + Silver La Dante Membership for one year (Value 3,000 HKD)

SECOND PRIZE

HKD 1,500 Voucher at *Domani Restaurant* + Silver La Dante Membership for one year

domani
RISTORANTE

THIRD PRIZE

Three hours workshop at *Bibini Gelateria* to learn how to prepare original italian Gelato + Silver La Dante Membership for one year



Please send the pictures (jpg format with a file size no larger than 1 MB) by email to event@ladante.cc before 28 February 2013

DA

SOCIETÀ DANTE ALIGHIERI
IL MONDO IN ITALIANO

 <http://www.facebook.com/societadante.alighierihongkong>

Dante Alighieri Membership Cards 2013

Dear valued students, members and friends of Dante Alighieri,

We are delighted to announce that starting from now it will be possible to subscribe or renew your annual Dante Alighieri Membership in order to support our mission of promoting the Italian language studies and culture in Hong Kong.

In return to your precious support, you are entitled to a variety of exciting privileges, which have been especially formulated for you.

Thanks to our sponsoring companies, this year twelve more restaurants, shops and schools have joined our membership program, showing our commitment in offering a valued Membership scheme!

And of course more will follow!

Now it is time for you to take action. Please don't miss our extraordinary privileges.

¹DA Student HK\$350/-

²Silver Member HK\$750/-

⁴Gold Member HK\$3,500/-

⁵Diamond Member HK\$10,000/-

³Renewed Silver Member HK\$500/-

Note (1) DA Student Membership can be subscribed by any students who registered in our centre for the period between Dec 2012 and Dec 2013. The membership fee is fixed regardless of the time of subscription.

(2) Silver membership (previously called Individual Membership)

(3) Renewed Silver Membership can be subscribed by any individual members who renew for successive one-year terms.

(4) Gold Membership (previously called as Corporate Membership)

(5) Diamond Membership (previously called as Supporting Membership)

We are very grateful for your support and we wish you a Happy 2013 with Dante Alighieri Society!

Membership Program is sponsored by

Domani Ristorante, Messina Ristorante, Pizzeria Jacomax, I-Scream, Buonissimo, I Food, Bibini Gelateria, à ce soir, Il Caffè, I Wine, Castello del Vino, Valdivia, Wino Cantina, Amorosso Fine Wines Ltd, Anima Wines, Artemide, i.d., Dance Trinity, Excellent English, Assaggio Trattoria, Pizza Hut





L'ESPERIENZA IN ITALIA



*Ms. Ellen Chan used to be our student.
She is now studying the Italian
Language in Siena, Italy. She has just
completed the first semester and
enjoyed staying in Italy
during Christmas!*



“...Tutte le lezioni nella scuola vanno abbastanza bene. Le professoressse e i compagni della mia classe sono molti gentili. Quando avevo qualsiasi problema o dubbio, volevano volentieri aiutarmi. Perciò potevo adattarmi qui fra poco tempo. Però la lingua italiana non è la mia lingua



materna, ho avuto una grande difficoltà per capire bene. Quindi, discutevo questa problema con i miei amici e facevo molti esercizi per cambiare la situazione. Certamente, non potevo cambiarla subito. Dopo oggi esame (scritto e orale) che era stato fatto alla fine del mese, ho avuto l'idea nuova che come miglioravo la mia presentazione. Con i aiuti e i incoraggiamenti dei compagni, ho avuto il coraggio per fare un po' meglio. Ho finito la prima parte dello studio già e continuerò la seconda parte in gennaio.

Ci sono qualche photo che erano stati fatti con le professoressse e i miei compagni. Anche la residenza che abito a Siena. Spero che possa incontrarci presto. Buone Feste!”

Ellen
24/12/2012

PLEASE TELL US YOUR EXPERIENCE IN ITALY
BY EMAIL OR SEND US PICTURES AS WELL.
WE WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE THEM IN THE NEXT
ISSUE OF THE DANTE ALIGHIERI NEWSLETTER.



Dante Alighieri Society in Hong Kong

Address: 4/F,
Kiu Yin Commercial Building
361-363 Lockhart Road,
Wanchai, Hong Kong

TEL: +852 2832 9799
FAX: +852 2831 9082
EMAIL: dantealighieri@ladante.cc
WEBSITE: www.ladante.cc

