Persistence of iterative personal names in Italian: Medieval to early modern vs. the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

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Abstract: In Italian (and not as frequently, in some other languages as well) there exists a pattern of *iterative names.* These, which in Italian are called *nomi iterati,* are such personal names, that the first name is a singular form of the family name. In the Middle Ages up to the early modern period, and much more rarely later on, in iterative names the first name is formed as the singular of the family name, even though the family name is not itself readily identifiable as being formed out of a first name in the contemporary onomasticon. In contrast, in the 19th and 20th century, one not infrequently comes across such Italian iterative names that the family name is clearly related to a first name, and the given person's first name is that first name in the singular. I have currently a book in preparation about this topic.

Sections in this article include: Iterative names as translated character names in Italy; Medieval Italian iterative names; Italian iterative names from the Quattrocento to the Seicento; Eighteenth-century Italian iterative names; Some nineteenth-century Italian iterative names; The case of Sismondo Sismondi; Considerations concerning iterative names borne by people in twentieth-century Italy; Some twentieth-century Italian iterative names: Some examples from just the first few letters of the alphabet; Female Italian iterative names; Italian iterative names borne by Jews; An Italian iterative name given to a child converted from Judaism; Concluding remarks: The historical trend privileging a less picturesque subpattern of iterative names in the last two centuries, and notable exceptions.

Keywords: iterative names, prosopography, Italian, diachronic anthroponomastics, Italian history.

1. Introduction

In Italian (and not as frequently, in some other languages as well) there exists a pattern of *iterative names.* These, which in Italian are called *nomi iterati,* are are such personal names, that the first name is a singular form of the family name. In the Middle Ages up to the early modern period, and much more rarely later on, in iterative names the first name is formed as the singular of the family name, even though the family name is not itself readily identifiable as being formed out of a first name in the contemporary onomasticon.

In contrast, in the 19th and 20th century, one not infrequently comes across such Italian iterative names that the family name is clearly related to a first name, and the given person's first name is that first name in the singular. I have currently a book in preparation about this topic.

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2. Iterative names as translated character names in Italy

Scrooge McDuck is one of Walt Disney's characters. In Italy, he is known as *Paperon de' Paperoni*. In Italian, *pàpero* means 'young duck', but in Disney's Italian terminology, just 'any of the Ducks', and some of the names of Disney's Ducks were patterned after *papero* indeed. The choice of the name *Paperon de' Paperoni* reflected the fact that iterative names exist in Italian culture.

As it eventually turned out, *Paperon de' Paperoni,* a name which – as Oreste Del Buono pointed out once, based on a signalation by a member of the public – was actually borne during the Middle Ages by the first archbishop of Spoleto (his many predecessors were bishops) in the form *Paperone de Paperoni* or *Paperone delli Paperoni,* a fact that either was unknown when the Disney character was given his Italian name, or was forgotten within corporate memory, until it was rediscovered when the onomastic precedent was signalled to Oreste Del Buono.

There exists a portrait of archbishop Paperone De Paperoni, conserved at the Archbishopric of Spoleto. A ribbon which appears beneath, in the painting, names him as *Paparonus de Paparonis.* This Latinised form of the personal name considers the first name to be from the Latin second noun declension (nominative *Paparonus,* genitive *Paparoni* 'of Paperone', dative *Paparono* 'to Paperone', accusative *Paparonum,* vocative *Paparone!,* ablative *Paparono*); therefore the ablative plural is *Paparonis* (and *de Paparonis* means "from the Paperoni", "one of the Paperoni"). An alternative which was not taken would have been to consider the first name, Italian *Paperone,* as being amenable to the Latin third noun

declension, thus *Papero in the singular nominative case, *Paperonis in the singular genitive, *Paperonem in the accusative, *Paperone in the singular ablative case, and *Paperonibus in the plural ablative case (this would have resulted in a Latinised name of the form *Papero de Paperonibus).

Another instance of this onomastic pattern of *nomi iterati* as occurring in the cartoons is the name *Lupo de Lupis*, with a Latinate family name. This is the Italian name of a Hanna-Barbera character from the cartoons, one who was originally called (in an English-language context) *Loopy de Loop*.

In an American context, having *de* in the family names of this character points to Europe, or (which is the case indeed) to the Canadian French; more generally, *de* comes with a hint that this character has his quarters of nobility.

The Wikipedia entry for *Loopy de Loop* explains this French connection as follows: "Loopy was a gentleman wolf who mangled the English language in his bid to converse in a bad French accent. A self-appointed good Samaritan, he dauntlessly fought to clear the bad name of wolves [...] Though he was always kind and helpful, his exploits would normally get him chased out of town by the very people he had helped, all for no other reason than his being a wolf."

Don Markstein, in his online *Don Markstein's Toonopedia™*, maintains: "Loopy was a French-Canadian wolf, hence the name (*loup* being the French word for "wolf"). [...] Loopy tried to do good, but nobody would believe good of him because he was, after all, a sneaky, no-good predator. This was exacerbated by a communication gap, caused by the francophonic broken English he spoke."

In Italy instead, translating that character's name as *Lupo de Lupis* reflects two local onomastic patterns:

    a) Iterative names;
    b) Latinate family names which are formed with *de* ('from', cf. Latin *ex*) and a Latin plural in the ablative, thus ending in *-is*. The connotation is bourgeois, rather than aristocratic, which is the case of the American original name for the given character.

A reinforcement arguably came from the Italian *de'* = *dei* 'of the + [plural]', cf. Hebrew *min* 'from' in premodern Italian Jewish family names, e.g. *min ha'adummim* = *de' Rossi* 'of the Red Ones'.

3. Medieval Italian iterative names

In a receipt for the purchase of fields in Dello (Lombardy), dated May 1171, Alberico and Richelbono, sons of the late Michele, along with Imelda (their mother) and Flos (Alberico's wife), declare they received payment from Giovanni, Anselmo and Oberto, sons of the late Beato from Ello. A man whose name is *Alberico Alberici Oberti* becomes a guarantor of Alberico vis-à-vis the buyers.[1]

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[1]   Described at the website of the University of Pavia (it can be accessed at http://cdlm.unipv.it/edizioni/bs/brescia-sscosmadamiano/carte/cosma1171-05-00). The webpage is in Italian, and the names are given there in their Italian rather than Latin form.

Buondelmonte de' Buondelmonti was a nobleman from Florence. He was murdered. According to Dante (*Inferno,* Canto 28, vv. 103–111), his murder was on the initiative of Mosca de' Lamberti (d. 1243), also a Florentine nobleman. The murder started the struggle between the Guelph and Ghibelline factions in Florence.

Ferreto Ferreti, or Ferreto de' Ferreti, or Ferreto of Vicenza (1294–1337), was a Latin poet and chronicler, as well as a notary. A book by Max Laue (1884) remains the most comprehensive treatment of Ferreto.

Folcacchiero dei Folcacchieri was a poet from Siena, who lived in the 13th century.

Brandolino Brandolini, from the town of Forlí, was a strong but cruel military commander, active from the late 1370s to the late 1390s. A 20th-century namesake was a poet.

Livio Livi, from Pistoia in Tuscany, was a prior; he was hired (Giani 1934) by the medieval Common of Prato, also in Tuscany.

Cennino Cennini was a painter, born in Colle Val d'Elsa in the 14th century. He left a book, the *Libro dell'Arte* (1398), which is deemed to have been the earliest Italian book on painting technique.

Boccaccino di Chelino Boccacci was the father of the famous writer Giovanni Boccaccio (1313–1375). Boccaccino Boccacci, whose family house was in the town of Certaldo in Tuscany, was active in Florence, and from 1327 in Naples, being the agent of the Bardi bank of Florence. Chelino Boccacci was his father.

Lambertesco de' Lamberteschi, originally from Tuscany, was the mayor (*podestà*) of Reggio [in Emilia], and in 1242 ratified there a legal code consisting of 62 chapters in Latin (Gatta 1960, Vol. 3, pp. 241–272), and which is considered to have been progressive for its times.

Lovato de' Lovati was especially prominent among those who inaugurated in Italian literature the medieval humanistic tradition, based on Latin writers from antiquity, and resulting in literary emulation, philological work, and a value system. It eventually had in Petrarch a stepstone towards the humanism of the Renaissance. Ronald Witt (2003) is concerned with the early stages of humanism, starting with Lovato de' Lovati.

Braccio Bracci, from Arezzo, lived in the second half of the 14th century. A poet, his income was from the Visconti court of Milan. In contrast, Braccio Fortebraccio (1368–1424) was a famous soldier of fortune, born into a noble family of the town of Perugia.

Baldo degli Ubaldi (1327–1400), known in Latin (and now in English) as Baldus de Ubaldis, and in French as Balde de Ubaldi, was an important jurist, both a civilist and a canonist. He was a disciple of Bartolus (Bàrtolo) of Sassoferrato, and his epithets were "Lucerna juris" (i.e., the Lamp of Law) and "Doctor omniscious" (i.e., Dr. Know-It-All).

There is a mention of an Ubaldo Ubaldi of Lucca (1313) in a text by Bernardino Garbesi, who died in 1770, but Garbesi reference to a person by that name, *Ubaldo Ubaldi,* was shown to be an error arising from confusion: about this, Emilio Panella (1994)[2] cites Verde and Corsi (1990: 123, 624b).

Petruccio Petrucci was the father of the jurist Federico di Petruccio Petrucci, a doctor in decrees, teaching that subject. In the 1330s, he used a seal depicting the chair holder, i.e.,

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2   Panella is a Dominican friar. His articles have been republished on the Web (http://www. geocities.com/emilioweb/).

himself. For that reason, he stands out with a few others in that category, in the thematics of academic seals.[3]

A document from 1345 mentions a "Maffeo Maffei, chiavaio", i.e., a key-maker.[4]

4. Italian iterative names from the Quattrocento to the Seicento

Maffeo Maffei, an abbott from Verona, between 1424 and 1435 built the abbey of Badia Calavena (in the present province of Verona). A man of considerable private means, he was young when he undertook that initiative.

Niccolò Niccoli was an Italian humanist from the early 15th century, a friend of the manuscript hunter Poggio Bracciolini. It was to Niccoli that Bracciolini announced, in a letter, his discovery of a manuscript of Tacitus' *Germania.*

The painter Santi di Tito Titi (Tito Titi was his father), from Borgo S. Sepolcro, painted one of the altars in the Church of St. Francis (S. Francesco) in the Terziere di S. Francesco in Pisa. He is also the author of a painting at the Church of S. Sepolcro in Pisa.

Bonsignore Bonsignori travelled in the Levant in 1497–1498. His travelogue and related letters have been discussed by Eve Borsook (1973).

Mino Mini, also known as *Mino da Poppi,* was a sculptor. He was born in 1429 in Papiano, and died in 1484 in Florence.

Guidarello Guidarelli, who died in Ímola in 1501, was a military commander in the service of Cesare Borgia. He was from Ravenna.

Alessandro Alessandri (in Latin: Alexander de Alexandris) is mentioned in documents from Florence, from the early 15th century.[5]

Giglio Gigli was the father of a man mentioned in a document from Florence, from the early 15th century. The Latin text includes the name in the genitive case (*Gilii Gilii,* i.e., '[the son] of Giglio Gigli').[6] Also in the 20th century, one finds a Giglio Gigli.

Naldo Naldi (1436-ca. 1513), a humanist and poet from Florence, was a friend of Marsilio Ficino, and member of the Neo-Platonist academy of Florence.

Sasso de' Sassi, known especially as Panfilo Sasso (b. Modena, ca. 1455, d. Longiano, in the present province of Forlí, 1527), was a humanist as well as a poet who authored verse both in Italian and in Latin.

Ferruccio Ferrucci was a Renaissance painter, a fairly obscure one. Better known, popularly, is the *condottiere* Ferruccio Ferrucci, or Francesco Ferrucci, not so much for his military deeds (even though he was valiant in his defence of Florence), as because his death became legendary. He was born in Florence in 1489. Severely wounded at the battle of

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[3]   This information about the jurist Petruccio Petrucci appears in an article by Alessandro Leoncini (2000).

[4]   The quotation about "Maffeo Maffei, chiavaio" appears s.v. *chiavaio* in the online dictionary of Old Italian, the *Tesoro della Lingua Italiana delle Origini* (http://tlio.ovi.cnr.it/vox/008392.htm).

[5]   http://www.operaduomo.firenze.it/cupola/ITA/HTML/S007/C021/T003/TBLOCK00. HTM (a webpage dated 2004), within the website of the Opera di Santa Maria del Fiore.

[6]   http://www.operaduomo.firenze.it/cupola/ITA/HTML/S003/C036/T004/TBLOCK00. HTM), dated 2004, within the website of the Opera di Santa Maria del Fiore. http://www. operaduomo.firenze.it/cupola/ITA/IN/INlist1871S0.HTM corresponds to Jacopo di Giglio Gigli, with a pointer to only one document.

Gavinana in 1530, he was notoriously killed by one of Charles V's commanders, Fabrizio Maramaldo, who stabbed him to death. For that reason, there is hardly a worse or more definitive insult in Italian than *maramaldo,* for one behaving treacherously and inflicting himself ignominiously. Actually during the Renaissance there used to be a special kind of dagger, called *misericordia* in Italian (i.e., 'pity' of all things) and *misericord* in English. It was primarily intended for finishing off the wounded.

Vitello Vitelli (b. 1480, d. May 1528) was a *condottiere,* a militia commander. He was from Città di Castello, and was Count of Montone. He was a nephew of the *condottiere* Vitellozzo Vitelli, who was born in ca. 1458, and killed treacherously in December 1502.

Dosso Dossi is "[t]he popular name of Giovanni Luteri, the principal painter at the court of Alfonso d'Este in Ferrara" (Braham 1981). Dosso Dossi was active as early as 1512, and died in 1542. His year of birth is possibly 1479. He is the subject of Gibbons (1968), Mezzenti (1965), and Ballarin (1994–1995).

Leone Leoni (ca. 1509–1590), from Arezzo in Tuscany, "was a goldsmith, medallist and bronze sculptor of great brilliance, whose career ran parallel with those of Cellini and Michelangelo" (Avery 1981). He also was an architect. His son, also a sculptor, was Pompeo Leoni (Plon 1887; Gatti Perer 1995). There also was a different Leone Leoni (ca. 1560–1627), who was a musician (Bolcato 1995).

Sperone Speroni (Padua, 1500–1588) was a writer.

Francesco Franceschi, of Siena, was a printer in Venice, in the second half of the 16th century.

Urbano Urbani was an artist, in the second half of the 16th century. Another Urbano Urbani was secretary to Francesco Maria della Rovere, in the early years of the 16th century.

Galvano Galvani, from Orciano, lived in the 16th century. He was a military commander, in the service of the Della Rovere family. He was lord of the castle, at the fortress of Sinigaglia.

In the second half of the 16th century, the Capitano Alberico Alberici displayed military prowess in Cyprus.

Arnolfo Arnolfi was a patrician in Fano, in the early 16th century.[7] His grandson, Gentilomo Torelli, married Francesca Francescucci.

Petruccio Petrucci was part in a trial by the Inquisition. In fact, in 1559 there was a trial at the Sant'Uffizio, of Petruccio Petrucci from Bergamo against Mariano Savini from Camerino.[8]

Luzzasco Luzzaschi (ca. 1545–1607) was an organist and composer, a competent madrigalist, who was active mostly in Ferrara in the service of the House of Este.

Concino Concini was the Florentine adviser of Queen Marie de Médicis at the court of France, until in 1617 Louis XIII had him arrested and he was killed while resisting this.

The physicist and astronomer Galileo Galilei (1564–1642) was born into a Florentine patrician family, the son of musician Vincenzo Galilei.

Guarino Guarini (b. Modena, 1624, d. Milan, 1683), was an architect, a philosopher, a mathematician, as well as a clergyman. But Guarino de' Guarini, also called *Guarino*

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7   These data are taken from a website of Davide Shamà (n.d., accessed in 2006).

8   This is mentioned at http://archivi.beniculturali.it/ASAN/SantUffizio.htm

Veronese, or *Guarino Guarini of Verona* (b. Verona, 1374, d. Ferrara, 1460), was a humanist. His main contribution was to pedagogy. He established an important boarding school in Ferrara. See, e.g., Diller (1961), Hochschild (1955).

Romolo Romoli was the name of at least two men from the same family, from the 15th and 16th century, the first one being the son of Andrea Romoli Bellevanti, and the other one being the son of Girolamo Romoli. Moreover, in the private archives of Florentine patrician families,[9] the act of purchase of a house, in 1662, by Caterina Altoviti, the widow of another Romolo Romoli, still exists as part of the archives of the Niccolini family from Camugliano.

The 17th-century Chiaro Chiari (by now obscure, other than in his native town of Sorana, in Tuscany) was a military commander who died fighting the Turks (Biagi 1909, s.v. *Sorana*). Chiaro Chiari's first name literally means both 'clear', and 'of clear fame', 'illustrious'.

Pandolfo Pandolfi was a Venetian who lived in the early decades of the 17th century. Among 1626 and 1627, he purchased a still extant pharmacist shop, whose name is *Alle tre colombine* (a name the shop got when Pandolfi acquired it). It is located in Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, 20. The name of the shop means means "at the three columbines"; there used to be a Venetian coin whose name was *colombina.*[10]

In the 17th century, ser Baldassarre Baldassarri, of Moimacco (in the present-day province of Údine, in northeastern Italy), was a landowner, in whose lands shepherdry was the main source of income.[11]

Martino Martini (Trento, 1614 – Hangzhou, China, 1661) was a Jesuit who worked especially in China. He was a cartographer and historian.

Rinaldo Rinaldi is the fictional character opf a noble robber, like in the German-speaking countries the noble robber Schinderhannes. Sometimes a story is related about Rinaldo Rinaldi, that was told elsewhere about Schinderhannes, or about the prankster Eulenspiegel. This is the case of the version, documented from the 17th century, of the international tale type 1525B (Uther 2004, Vol. 2, pp. 244–245).

5. Eighteenth-century Italian iterative names

Bellino Bellini (1741–1799), of Verona, was a painter, a disciple of Marco Marcola.

Leonardo Leo (b. San Vito dei Normanni, 1694, d. Naples, 1744) was a composer. He set to music over 70 operas.

Giacomo Giacomi was mayor (*podestà*) in Ceneda, and in 1766 he wrote the rules of administration of the Scuole del SS. Sacramento in Fregona, a parish in the bishopric of Ceneda. Ceneda is now the town of Vittorio Veneto, in the province of Treviso in the Veneto region.

Valerio de Valeri was a printer in Gorizia, who in 1780 published various poems by Lorenzo da Ponte, Mozart's future librettist, who for a while was hosted at Valerio de Valeri's home (Holden 2007: 50).

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[9]   The catalogue can be accessed on the Web (http://www.archivistorici.com).

[10]   This information is taken from www.farmaciatrecolombine.it (the website of that pharmacist).

[11]   This information is found in the history pages of the website of the municipality of Remanzacco (http://www.comune.remanzacco.ud.it).

Gaetano Urbano Urbani (1751–1829) was a politician in the Montefeltro region (and in Rimini) during the Jacobin period. See on him two articles by Giulio Cesare Mengozzi (1970, 1973).

Counts Arnaldo Arnaldi I Tornieri and Arnaldo II Giacomo Tornieri (the latter, also known as Giacomo Tornieri) were noblemen in Vicenza. They wrote poetry: three anachreontic poems of theirs were published in 1799. A tragedy in verse by Arnaldo Arnaldi Tornieri was published in 1789. Those works are listed in the Catalogo Palatino[12] of the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale in Florence.

At the Fondo Francesco Carlini in the archives of the Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera, in Milan, there is a petition (*supplica*), dated 1 February 1773, by Carlo Carlini to the Archbishop of Milan, to allow the petitioner to read forbidden books. The permission was granted. The same Carlo Carlini and his wife Rosa Minola were the parents of Francesco Carlini. The same Carlo Carlini also authored a short play (*intermezzo*), with characters from classical mythology, which is conserved in the same library collection at the Observatory of Brera.

6. Some Nineteenth-century Italian iterative names

Aleardo Aleardi (1812–1878) was a famous poet; actually, his first name was *Gaetano,* and he took *Aleardo Aleardi* as a pen-name.

Prof. Amato Amati authored a geographical lexicon, the *Dizionario corografico dell'Italia,* published in Milan by Vallardi in 1867.

Bellino Bellini (1819–1878), from Verona, belonging to an ancient family of that town, was a physician and surgeon. He was a knight of St. Maurice (*cavaliere mauriziano*). Moreover, with a diploma dated 18 November 1864, he was granted hereditary patrician status (the *patriziato ereditario di S. Martino*), and he was authorised to accept it by a Royal decree of 23 August 1868.

Nicola Niccolini (1772–1857) was a famous jurist in Naples.

Dr. Guelfo Guelfi was the general practitioner (*medico condotto*) of the village of Lajatico, in the present-day province of Pisa, in Tuscany. On 14 September 1884, the Banca Popolare di Lajatico (which still exists) was established by a few partners, coordinated by this same Guelfo Guelfi. He had previously established as well an educational organization for fighting illiteracy, the Società per l'Educazione del Popolo.

There also was a somewhat better known Guelfo Guelfi, with an added family name. His interests were at the other end of the social spectrum: with the nobility. In 1877, Count Cavalier Guelfo Guelfi Camaiani established the Istituto Araldico Italiano. Four generations afterwards, the archives of the Studio Araldico Genealogico Guelfi Camaiani[13] in Florence comprise six million records with bibliographical entries associated with Italian family names. A heraldry dictionary was published by Piero Guelfi Camaiani (reprinted: 1940). Guelfo Guelfi Camaiani is the author of a book

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12 See http://ferrovia.bncf.firenze.sbn.it/palatino (indicating in which drawers the given works can be found).

13 The Studio Araldico Genealogico Guelfi Camaiani in Florence has a website (accessible at http://www.araldicaguelficamaiani.com).

on manuscript sources for heraldry and genealogy from Italy's libraries and archives (Guelfi Camaiani 1964, reprinted).[14]

Prof. Mariano Mariani was born in Motta Visconti (in the province of Milan) in 1838, and died in Pavia in 1914. He was managing vice-chancellor (*facente funzioni di Rettore*) at the University of Pavia at least in 1890/91, at which time he was Dean of the School of Law (*Preside della Facoltà di Giurisprudenza*). Another Mariano Mariani[15] was born in 1846 in Mondolfo (in the present province of Pesaro and Urbino, in the Marche region), and died there in 1917.

Pietro Pietri was the editor of *La scienza e le arti sotto il pontificato di Pio IX,* published in Rome in 1860 (then ruled by Pope Pius IX indeed). Moreover a lawyer, Pietro Pietri, was counsel to the town council of Vallermosa (in Sardinia) against the town council of Villasor, at a trial at the Cassations Court in Rome. His defence of Vallermosa was published in Rome (Pietri 1898).

Ambrogio Ambrosoli was a clergyman. A Milanese liberal, he was born in 1800, and ordained a priest in 1824. Italian *Ambrogio* corresponds to *Latin Ambrosius,* and *Ambrosoli* is equivalent to **Ambrogioli.* Ambrogio Ambrosoli entertained correspondence with other intellectuals in Italy, e.g., with Antonio Ranieri in Naples.[16] His attitude towards the Jews was benevolent, and Jewish memory showed him gratitude for this: the German and

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[14] Another Guelfo Guelfi, from Pisa, who in the early 1970s had been a militant of Lotta Continua, an important extraparlamentarian group of the far left, testified about the group leader, Adriano Sofri, giving him an alibi, but was not believed, in relation to the charges against Sofri in connection with the murder, on 17 May 1972, of Commissario (Inspector) Luigi Calabresi.

Guelfo Guelfo, in Tuscany, has co-produced films. SantaMariaVideo was founded by an GiPi (Gianni Pacinotti), a visual artist (a draughtsman), and, working with a limited budget, initially only made short films. In the summer of 2002, SantaMariaVideo co-produced with Guelfo Guelfi its first feature film, *Pace e Lavoro.* In the winter of 2003, it made another (short) feature film, entitled *I 400 Pinocchi,* scripted and directed by GiPi. It was produced by the Teatro Studio of Scandicci (in the province of Florence), and co-produced by Guelfo Guelfi.

Note that Pinocchio Pinocchi is a marginal character, only mentioned once, at the start of Carlo Collodi's famous *Le avventure di Pinocchio,* in order to provide Mastro Geppetto with the motive for calling his own wooden creature *Pinocchio.* When Geppetto chooses that name, he says: "I knew an entire family of Pinocchi: Pinocchio the father, Pinocchia the mother, and Pinocchi the children, and all of them were doing well. The richest among them was a beggar".

[15] On the evidence of a genealogical list posted on the Web.

[16] Shortly after Italy's unification, Ambrosoli sent to Ranieri from Milan a letter dated 18 March 1861, in which he ascribed his not writing previously, to the "vigilanza penetrante di due governi" ("the penetrating vigilance of [the censors] of two governments", i.e., the Bourbon regime in Naples, and the Austrian regime in Lombardy), so that silence was preferable to the risk of unwittingly being incautious: "una sola parola venuta da un'animo pieno poteva inutilmente compromettere" ("even just word coming from a spirit that could not help talking, may have been uselessly incriminating"). In fn. 392 to her PhD dissertation in history, Tonia Romano (2004–2005) remarks on that letter: "Per tutto il periodo che va dal 1855 fino alla data della lettera in questione, l'Ambrosoli aveva interrotto la sua corrispondenza con Ranieri, dimostrando che la contrazione della corrispondenza negli anni immediatamente precedenti all'unità era dovuta a motivi di censura politica." ("During the entire period from 1855 to the date of the letter we are considering, Ambrosoli had discontinued his correspondence with Ranieri, which [or rather: Ambrosoli's explicit reference in his letter] shows that the contraction of the correspondence in the few years leading to Italy's unification was motivated by reasons of political cersorship").

English Jewish encyclopaedias from the early 20th century each devoted to Ambrogio Ambrosoli an appreciative entry, the German one, an entry by Umberto Cassuto, and the English-language *Jewish Encyclopaedia*,[17] an entry by H.G. Enelow. Enelow wrote as follows, s.v. *Ambrosoli* (the first name was omitted):

> An ecclesiastic dignitary of Rome, the events of whose life touched the history of the Jews of that city in 1848. He distinguished himself through his eloquent sermons on tolerance toward the Jews, and preached in Santa Maria di Trastevere during the agitation for the abolition of the Roman Ghetto. His eloquence was so effective that his audiences were said to have been anxious to tear down the walls of the Ghetto whenever he spoke on the subject. His influence, therefore, was quite marked in the movement which culminated in the edict signed by Pius IX on April 17, 1848, to remove the walls and gates of the Roman Ghetto. Berliner[18] relates that he heard from a prominent Roman Jew, Samuele Alatri, that on the eventful night when the Ghetto walls were torn down and the enthusiastic crowd cheered the torch-lit laborers, the pious and learned Ambrosoli was present. Under his coat he had concealed a crucifix, ready to draw it forth at any moment, and in the name of the Christian religion resist any possible interference.

7. The case of Sismondo Sismondi

Sismondo Sismondi, or *Sismondo de* [or *de'*] *Sismondi* (1773–1842), are variants of a once current form, in Italy,[19] of the name of an economist and historian (de Salis 1932; Waeber 1991; Aftalion 1970; Halévy 1933; Tuan Mao Lan 1927; Stelling-Michaud 1970, 1976), from Geneva, who was (or so he believed) of Italian origin, resided for a long time in Tuscany, Italy, and authored (among his other works) a *Histoire des républiques italiennes*. This history of Italy's medieval republics is of standing value and was influential, in particular, on Giuseppe Mazzini (Ferretti 1945) and the Italian national movement, the Risorgimento. Besides (Perrochon 1945) it was relevant to modern Switzerland, because of her organization in autonomous cantons. It was published in 16 volumes in 1807–1817, after which he also wrote a less well-regarded history of France, of which 29 volumes appeared during his lifetime, starting from 1818. His privileging the national over the dynastic side of French history, a merit he is recognised, was against the grain of the Restauration climate. Yet his constitutional theories, while liberal, were elitist and conservative.

In his own French-speaking environment his full name was *Jean-Charles-Léonard Simonde* [sic] *de Sismondi*. In its encyclopaedic part, *Petit Larousse Illustré* has an entry for **SISMONDI** *(Léonard SIMONDE DE)*. Italy's foremost desk encyclopaedia, the *Enciclopedia Universale Garzanti,* has had an entry for **Sismondi** *Jean-Charles Léonard Simonde de.* (One need also consider subsets of the full name,[20] and misspellings[21] as well.)

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[17] It was published published in New York between 1901 and 1906 by Funk and Wagnalls.

[18] Enelow's citation is as follows: "Berliner, *Letzte Tage ous dem Römischen Ghetto*, pp. 6 et seq.".

[19] Or in Italian, even if published outside Italy. Consider the publication, in Paris in 1846, of *Opinioni di Melchiore Gioja e Sismondo Sismondi sulle cose italiane.*

[20] For example, in Geneva in 1857, J.-J. Chenevière published a selection from Sismondi's diaries and correspondence, preceded by a biographical study by Adélaïde de Montgolfier which was itself entitled *Vie et travaux de Charles de Sismondi.* In Geneva in 1894, John Kaufmann published a biography entitled *Charles de Sismondi.*

[21] In Milan in 1848, an essay by Sismondi was published, which was translated (from both French

8. Considerations concerning iterative names borne
by people in twentieth-century Italy

Arguably, it is the names of the comedian Franco Franchi, the sculptor Marino Marini, and the 19th-century poet Aleardo Aleardi (the latter was a pen-name) which are likely to be, owing to their fame, those modern iterative names which would most promptly spring to Italians' mind.

One comes across iterative names in fiction, too: Adalberto Adalberti is a character from fiction, namely, from Salvatore Magno's play *Piacere, Adalberto Adalberti... scrittore* (i.e., 'My Pleasure, My Name is Adalberto Adalberti. I am a Writer'.)[22] Moreover, Alberico Alberici, a prominent physician, is the protagonist of the comedy *Il luminare della medicina* by Fabio Bertarelli. Some of Bertarelli's plays have been performed, and even won awards. Bertarelli used to be a teacher of accountancy in Jesi. The fictional name of the protagonist of the comedy sounds quite august. The plot has the physician court a nurse unsuccessfully. A little devil informs his wife, who eventually betrays him, and in the end poor Alberico Alberici remains alone.

That choosing an iterative name is an available option for Italian fiction depends on its being an available option in real life, in Italy. In real life, there has been an Alberico Alberici: Alberico Alberici used to work at the town council of Pomezia, in the province of Rome. On 7 September 1963, Alberico Alberici – who was at the time the council's head of the technical office (*capo dell'ufficio tecnico comunale*) – as well as the mayor (Nicola Bernabei), and the owner of a real estate firm, were arrested and indicted with extortion (*concussione*), in relation to a police investigation concerning *lottizzazione* (the apportionment of landed property).

Sometimes the public at large is unlikely to learn the iterative form of a person in the news. Pino Pinelli (as he was known to friends, and this is also the form which in recent years has appeared at some websites), officially Giuseppe Pinelli (and this is how the media named him after his violent death while in police custody), was an anarchist in Milan. On 12 December 1969, there was a carnage following a bombing at the Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura at Piazza Fontana (the archbishopric square) in Milan. Eventually, the neo-Nazis Freda and Ventura were convicted for that bombing, but initially, the anarchist Valpreda was the suspect retained by the police. On 15 December 1969, Pinelli fell to his death while under interrogation at the police headquarters. It was claimed by the police that he committed suicide, but many in the left remained convinced that he was pushed from the window. Police chief inspector Luigi Calabresi, who had directed the inquiry and Pinelli's interrogation, became a hate figure, and on 17 May 1972 he was murdered. What is of interest here is that the public learned the name *Giuseppe Pinelli,* rather than *Pino Pinelli.*

Also note the not infrequent occurrence, in 20th-century Italy, of such iterative names that one of their component is some derivative of the other of some form of the other; e.g., Rossano Rossi is a computational linguist. Salvatore Salvato (literally: 'saviour

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and English), prefaced, and with an appendix by Filippo Ugoni. In its title, Sismondi's original family name was misspelled: *Articolo di Simond* [sic] *de' Sismondi.*

22   The script of that play can be downloaded from the website of the Gruppo Teatro Tempo of Carugate, in the province of Milan (accessible online at http://www.gttempo.it/Copioni_M.htm).

saved') is one of the winners of a competition, listed on p. 2 in *La Settimana Enigmistica,* year 46, no. 2381 (12 November 1977). Cf. Francisco Franco for Spain.[23] Besides, note such iterative names with a preposition beginning the family name; e.g., Libero de Libero (b. Fondi, in Latium, 1906, d. Rome, 1981) was a poet of the Hermetic school. His best known collection is *Eclisse,* of 1940.

9. Some twentieth-century Italian iterative names:
Some examples from just the first few letters of the alphabet

Alberto Alberti's name is connected with car racing. A racing car team in Italy is called the *Scuderia Alberto Alberti.* It is based near Stradella, in the province of Pavia, in Lombardy.

Arnaldo Arnaldi was an actor. He was active as early as the 1930s. One of his films was *Maciste alla corte dello zar,* of 1964, distributed in the U.S. under the title *Atlas Against the Czar* and *Samson vs. the Giant King,* and in Britain under the title *Giant of the Lost Tomb.*

Another Arnaldo Arnaldi is a local politician in Vicenza, of the Socialisti Democratici Italiani. There also is an Arnaldo Arnaldi who is an architect, active in the Marche region (on the evidence of the list of participants in a contest for the building of a school in Fano).

Baccio Maria Bacci was a painter (Florence, 1888–1974).

Baldassarre Baldassarri, from Italy, is senior captain at Iberia airlines.

Bernardo Bernardi is a scholar in the humanities.

Bernardo De Bernardinis, deputy head of Italy's Civil Protection Department, mistakenly told the media that the small shocks (actually foreshocks) which hit the town of L'Aquila were reducing the seismic stresses, lowering the chances of a major quake, but an earthquake killed more than 300 people one week later. In the autumn 2012, that official was sentenced to six years in prison for manslaughter, along with six seismologists.

Bino Bini was a famous sportsman, whose specialty within fencing was the sabre; he won medals during the Olympic Games of the 1920s. Another Bino Bini, born in 1916, Moreover, Bino Bini, a medallist, has had medals of his struck by the Italian mint (*Zecca dello Stato*), and is also a well-known goldsmith and sculptor in metal (*orafo–scultore*) in Florence. There also is a Bino Bini who is managing director (*amministratore delegato*) of Servindustria Pistoia, a garbage collection firm in Pistoia, Tuscany, being the contractor of industrial garbage collection in town.

There used to be a Carlo Carli who was a comedian in Trieste. There also is a Carlo Carli who has been an Australian Member of Parliament, of the Labour Party (Australian spelling: *Labor*), and represents Brunswick, Victoria. He has been Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier of Victoria.

Another Carlo Carli has been a Member of Parliament in Italy, for the Partito Democratico della Sinistra, and has been member of a commission on the recording of Nazi and Fascist crimes. Yet another Carlo Carli, an industrialist, born in Imperia (in Liguria) in 1918, was honoured in 1981 with the title of Cavaliere del Lavoro.

Carol De Carolis appears in the list of fifty winners of books in a contest, on p. 2 of a very popular weekly of crosswords, puzzles and trivia, *La Settimana Enigmistica,* year 75, no. 3855 (11 February 2006). The name of Carol De Carolis (which given the uniqueness

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23   Francisco Franco Bahamonde (1892–1975) ruled Spain as a dictator from 1938 to his death.

of the name, was arguably the same person) also appears among the winners of a weekly competition, listed on p. 16 of *La Settimana Enigmistica,* year 75, no. 3852 (21 January 2006), as well as among those listed on p. 16 in issue no. 3866 (29 April 2006).

Whereas *Carol* – either as a name for a man, or as a name for a woman – is not a name-form one would expect in the Italian onomasticon, *De Carolis* is a fairly common family name. Quite possibly, this *Carol* is equivalent to the Italian native first name *Carolina.* Arguably, if this *Carol* is a man's name instead, *Carol* was preferred to the usual Italian first name, *Carlo,* because *Carol* retains a closer resemblance to Latin *Carolus,* from which the family name *De Carolis* is formed according to Latin nominal declension.

Dino Dini (1921–2003) was full professor of Macchine (Machines) at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Pisa, from 1961 to 1996. His publication list comprises over 300 items. Another Dino Dini, born in Bristol, England, to Italian parents in 1965, and active in Britain and the United States, is internationally visible as a programmer of video-games which emulate football.

10. Female Italian iterative names

Morosina Morosini, in Venice towards the end of the 15th century, was a *dogaressa,* i.e., the wife of a *Doge* (the ruling duke). She established a workshop of lacemakers (*merlettaie*).

Berenice Gozzadina Gozadini was a Venetian woman to whom Giulio Cesare Croce dedicated *Le ventisette mascherate piacevolissime,* printed in 1603 by the Venetian typesetter Nicolò Polo.

Gentilomo Torelli was member of Consiglio Civico of Fano from 1550. Gentilomo's first wife was Francesca Francescucci, a widow of another patrician of Fano, and the daughter of yet another local patrician. Gentilomo Torelli's second wife was Margherita Guerrini, the daughter of Orazio Guerrini, a patrician from Cesena (these data about Gentilomo and his wives are taken from a website of Davide Shamà, n.d., accessed in 2006).

Monica Monachini is a computational linguist affiliated with the Istituto di Linguistica Computazionale of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerce in Pisa. The family name is formed as the plural not of a personal name, but of a common name ('little monks'). But as there exists the personal name *Monica* which is transparently related to *monaca* 'nun', the opportunity provided by such availability in the onomasticon was evidence seized upon, when Monica Manachini had her name bestowed on her.

Stefania Stefani is a scholar researching modern German literature. She is an expert on Gertrud Kolmar. Moreover, a person also called *Stefania Stefani* is one of the winners of a competition, listed on p. 2 in *La Settimana Enigmistica,* year 47, no. 2413 (24 June 1978).

Donatella Donati appears among the winners of competitions, listed on p. 2 in *La Settimana Enigmistica,* year 75, no. 3864 (15 April 2006).

Anna Maria Mariani had her name mentioned in *La Settimana Enigmistica,* year 74, no. 3841 (5 November 2005), on p. 16, among the winners of a competition. She also appeared in a list of winners on p. 2 in the same weekly, year 75, no. 3864 (15 April 2006).

Gigliola Gigli heads a civil engineering studio in Florence, specialised in environmental or restoration projects. There also is an accountant (*ragioniere*), Ragionier Gigliola

Gigli, at the Administrative Office (Ufficio Amministrativo) of a library in Florence: the Biblioteca Riccardiana, at Palazzo Medici Riccardi. On 28 July 2003, a woman in Florence, Gigliola Gigli, passed away; the announcement appeared in Bologna's newspaper, *il Resto del Carlino.* Yet another Gigliola Gigli is a housewife in Palermo, Sicily; she is among the signatories of an appeal from 2004, at the website of the newspaper *la Repubblica.*

Vanina Vanini is the eponymous protagonist of the story *Vanina Vanini* by Stendhal (1783–1842). The story is set in Italy during the Restauration, when most statelets in the country were under Austrain direct or indirect control. Vanina Vanini is the daughter of a Roman aristocrat, Don Asdrubale Vanini. She falls in love with the wounded Pietro Missirilli, a member of the Carbonari, the nationalist revolutionary underground. Missirilli is hidden in her father's house, and Vanina nurses him back to health. She then follows him to northern Italy. Being determined to free him from his revolutionary commitment so that he can devote himself entirely to her, Vanina betrays his revolutionary activities to the authorities, that then act upon it, and proceed to jail him. She visits him in prison, and reveals to him what she did. He is outraged, and tries to kill her. He is then executed, and Vanina resumes her decadent aristocratic life, eventually marrying Livio Savelli, a suitor she previously scorned.

Vanina Vanini is a character from fiction. What is apt about Vanina Vanini's name is that what is prominent in the story is the vanity of Vanina. This comes across in French (*vanité*), Italian (*vanità*), as well as English (*vanity*). Her name is not in the form with the double consonant, **Vannina Vannini,* one would have expected of an iterative name clearly derived from a diminutive of the first name *Giovanni* (hence, the family name *Giovannini*).

11. Italian iterative names borne by Jews

Donato Donati (1880–1946), from Modena, was a jurist. He belonged to one of the oldest and most prominent Jewish families in town (Sacerdoti and Fiorentino 1986: 188). This example is culturally interesting, as it shows that the pattern under consideration was instantiated across the denominational divide; besides, applying the pattern arguably carried a patrician connotation, because of the self-image of that family.

Actually, he was full professor (*professore ordinario*) of Diritto Costituzionale at the Faculty of Law of the University of Padova,[24] as well as Dean (*preside*) of its Faculty of Political Science, when because of the racial laws of 1938, he was expelled (Israel and Nastasi 1998: 254) from the university and educational system as one of a group of over ninety other Jewish professors, to whom the decree applied and who were therefore dismissed and made unemployable in education in Italy. He had first obtained a professorial post (as a *professore straordinario*) in January 1911.

Leone Leoni was chief rabbi of Ferrara. He was the father of the historian Aron Leoni, who in fact signs his work as Aron di Leone Leoni. An episode is remembered, from the evening of 21 September 1941, at the start of the Jewish New Year festival. On that occasion, the first devastation by local Fascists took place, of two of the four synagogues in town, the Scola Fanese and the Scola Tedesca. Rabbi Leone Leoni was slapped. Such devastations

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[24] The application of the racial laws of 1938 at the University of Padova has been discussed by Ventura (1996).

took place again in 1943 and 1944, and among the other things, the communal archives and books of the ancient library were burnt. Two hundred Jews were deported, and only five returned (Sacerdoti and Fiorentino 1986: 194; De Felice 1977, Vol. 2, p. 478).

Rabbi Leone Leoni's late son, an appreciated historian of the Jewish communities of Ferrara and Livorno, who earned a living as an industrial manager, used to sign himself as *Aron di Leone Leoni. Aron* or *Aronne* is a name so Jewish that Italian Jews in recent generations have avoided it[25] (other than as a liturgical name).[26] That the historian used to sign himself not just as *Aron Leoni*, but as *Aron di Leone Leoni* (thus highlighting the name of his father, which is an iterative name) is therefore a remarkable expression of individualism.

The full name of Elia Richetti, chief rabbi of Venice, is *Elia Enrico Richetti.* The family name *Richetti* is the plural form of *Richetto,* an endearing form of *Rico,* itself a backclipped form of *Enrico.*

Leone Portaleone de' Sommi (b. ca. 1527, d. Mantova, 1592) was an Italian-language playwright at the Gonzaga court in Mantova. He also authored the first handbook for theatre directors, as well as the first Hebrew-language comedy. *Portaleone* is still a family name found among Italian Jews. The Hebrew form of Leone Portaleone's name is a literal translation: 'Lion Gate-of-Lions',[27] now standardly pronounced *Aryé Šáʻar-Arayót* (with 'standing for the voiced pharyngeal, [ʕ] in the International Phonetic Alphabet, maintained as such among Jews of Arabic-speaking background, but which at present most Hebrew-speakers pronounce as the mere glottal stop, [ʔ]). Yet, that personal name in the traditional Italian pronunciation of Hebrew must have rather been uttered *Aryé Šáɲar-Arayód.* In fact, among Italian Jews, until the early 20th century, the phonetic value of the Hebrew letter ʻ*áyin* was [ɲ], a nasal consonant which is orthographically written in Italian as *gn.*

12. An Italian iterative name given to a child converted from Judaism

A story related by historian Marina Caffiero in her book on forced conversions in Rome (Caffiero 2004), and also told in a book review by Marco Politi (2004) in a newspaper, *La Repubblica,* is that of a Roman Jew, Prospero di Tullio. In 1639, a friar offered to him to have one of his children baptised by the Pope, who was Urban VIII. It was claimed that Prospero had agreed, but in fact he was unwilling. One night, his house in the ghetto

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[25] I recall a reprint (from the 1970s?) of an Italian Walt Disney story from the 1950s, in which Qui, Quo, and Qua (i.e., Huey, Louie, and Dewey), Donald Duck's (i.e., Paperino's) nephews, are guests at the farm of their "granny" (Grandma Duck, or, as she is known in Italian: Nonna Papera, sometimes described in Italy as Scrooge McDuck's sister). The three boys become apprehensive upon reading a letter concerning a debt, addressed to Nonna papera by a lawyer whose first name is *Aronne.* Fascist-era (and older) stereotypes did not disappear as promptly after the war, as the rhetoric of the Republic "born from the Resistance" complacently assumed.

[26] Onomastic fluidity in Italian Jewish communities up to the early 20th century was sometimes compounded by the impact of the city's dialect and its Jewish version (including in nicknames); see for Mantua's Jewish onomasticon in the 19th and early 20th century, a paper by Sara Natale (2011: 180–184).

[27] Even though *Portaleone* is a compound which contains *Leone,* which in this case is also the first name – just as a family name such as *Notarnicola* is a compound which contains *Nicola* – a name such as *Leone Portaleone* happens to be a *rhyming* personal name: cf. *Rodolfo Mondolfo,* a well-known philosopher who happened to be Jewish *Mondolfo* is the name of a town.

was broken into by policemen led by Remedio Albani, who was the rector of the Casa dei Catecumeni, an institution hosting or "recycling" converts, and on occasion unwilling converts.

The episode was reported by Albani himself, who had been ordered that, in case the Jew should refuse to hand out one of his children, he, Albani, should seize all children whose age he would deem to be less than seven. Therefore, when Prospero refused, Albani had one child taken out of the cradle, and another boy also detained, whose age, on that night, he evaluated at no more than six. The two children were baptised and raised accordingly. They were given the names *Urbano Urbani* and *Anna Urbani,* in honour of Urban VIII (in Italian, *Urbano*).

13. Concluding remarks: The historical trend privileging a less picturesque subpattern of iterative names in the last two centuries, and notable exceptions

In medieval up to early modern Italy, we do find such iterative names that the first name is not usually found in the onomasticon, and is only justified because it is a form in the singular of the family name. Iterative names are not exceedingly rare in the 20th century, either, in Italy.

Nevertheless, occurrences from the category of such iterative names that the first name only came into being as a singular form of the family name are quite unlikely in present-day society, because such a first name would probably set obstacles on social acceptance: for a child, who is vulnerable to peer-pressure, it would make him the target of social exclusion by other children. No right thinking parents whose family name is, say, *Brambilla* or *Pignedoli* (both these names are stressed on the second syllable), would call their child *Brambillo* or *Pignedolo.* Or then, civil servants would save the child from such an unwise decision (there was a case, in Japan, of a father being denied the permission to record the name of his newborn son as *Akuma,* i.e., 'demon').

The same applies even if the family name was historically derived from a first name that would sound quite awkward at present: in Tuscany, there exists the family name *Gualguaglini* (pronounced [gwalgwaʎʎini], which can be approximated as [gwalgwal'yini]). It is borne by a bookshop, as well as by a trade unionist. Arguably, the family name is derived from a Germanic personal name, the same from which the Yiddish first name *Velvel* or *Vélvele* was derived (it still occurred frequently among Yiddish-speakers in the early part of the 20th century). Conceivably, modern parents would not dare calling their child **Gualguaglino Gualguaglini.*

The Pazzi family, notorious (and direly punished) for the plot against Lorenzo de' Medici and his brother during the Renaissance,[28] was already prominent in Florence during the first crusade. The very first crusader who managed to climb to the top of the walls of Jerusalem (he was prized for that) – before the massacre of all Muslims and Jews in town – was the incredibly named Pazzo de' Pazzi. A name like that would be unthinkable in the modern period, even though unflattering family names are not rare. Pazzi literally means 'madmen'. Pazzo de' Pazzi is most easily interpreted, literally, as 'Madman of the Madmen', but bestowing that name on a male baby of theirs, meant for the pazzi family an assertion of

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28   See on this Lauro Martines' book (2003) *April Blood: Florence and the Plot Against the Medici.*

their pride. They formed the singular Pazzo as a first name, in the sense 'one of ours: a man from the Pazzi family'.

Rather, in the 20th century one comes across such Italian iterative names that the family name typically is the plural form (or some other derivative) of a first name, and the given individual was given precisely that first name (or one of the forms which occur in the contemporary onomasticon).

There have been notable exceptions, in 20th-century Italy: Colonel Bizzarro Bizzarri was the public face, around 1990, of the Servizio Meteorologico dell'Aeronautica Militare. That is to say, for the Italian public he was a highly recognizable weatherman, in the same way that twenty years earlier, Colonel Bernacca was. In Italian, *bizzarro* means 'bizarre', so for a family whose name is *Bizzarri* to bestow (in medieval fashion) the singular form *Bizzarro* upon a baby is a bold step, displaying utter lack of embarrassment about the literal sense of the family name. This is similar to the case of the Pazzi family of Florence who, until that family was almost destroyed by Lorenzo de' Medici in revenge for the plot that resulted in the death of his brother, were proud of Pazzo de' Pazzi (literally: 'madman of the madmen'), who was the first Crusader to reach the top of the walls of Jerusalem.

Morando Morandini, born in Milan in 1924 and raised in Como, is a well-known film critic. He has been writing about the movies, television, and theatre for the dailies *La Notte* (1952–1961), *Stasera* (1961–1962), and *Il Giorno* (1965–1998). *Morandi* and *Morandini* are Italian family names, but *Morando* is quite unusual, as a first name. This is one of the few examples from the 20th century, in which inside a personal name being a *nome iterato,* the first name was patterned after the family name. From the Middle Ages, such a pattern was not infrequent, but during the 20th century, persons bearing *nomi iterati* have usually been such that their family name is the plural of a first name from the current Italian onomasticon, and their family exploited this by bestowing on a baby that very first name.

Brandolino Brandolini d'Adda was, back in the 1960s, managing director (*consigliere delegato*) and general director (*direttore generale*) of the publishing house Selezione dal Reader's Digest S.p.A., the publisher of the monthly *Selezione dal Reader's Digest,* the Italian edition of the *Reader's Digest,* with headquarters in Milan. Brandolino Brandolini d'Adda, a count, was a poet and translator. He was born in 1928, and died in 2004. Franco Donatoni and Corrado Pasquotti set to music some of his verse, as well as his play *Picus.* His first book of poetry, *Da un monte rovesciato,* was published by Scheiwiller in Milan, in 1973. There also was a Brandolino Brandolini who was notorious militia commander in the late 14th century. Such a historical precedent, along with the aristocratic family being proud of its own name, facilitated the first name Brandolino being bestowed on a child from the family who became visible in the 20th century.

The fact remains, that iterative names are a pattern still productive in Italy. I remember, from his high school days in Milan in the early 1970s, that once a young physics teacher whose last name was *De Luca,* quizzed my class about the first name of her (i.e., the teacher's) little brother. She said it was short. The class couldn't guess the right answer (when I offered: "Pio", she said it was longer). It was *Luca.* Her brother was named *Luca De Luca.* We did not figure out that much right away, because iterative names are not very frequent. Still, the boy had an iterative name, and his sister's quiz made sense, because we

could have provided the answer, based on current cultural practices and on the fact that *Luca,* a first name, was part of her family name, *De Luca.*

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