

Benedetta Bini

Benedetta Bini is Director of the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Civilizations and teaches English Literature at the University of Tuscia (Viterbo). Her work on the sentimental novel of the XVIIIth century had led her to devote special attention to the tradition of women's writing: she was the first to introduce to the Italian public the work of an important writer like Elizabeth Bowen's, whose fiction on the Second World War, together with that of Virginia Woolf, has led her to study the diaries and memoirs of Italian and Anglo-Italian women of that same period. She has also written on Elizabeth Gaskell, Vernon Lee, Edith Wharton, and while working on gender and sexuality in *fin-de-siècle* Britain she has discovered and edited the work of Mary Cholmondeley.

She is currently researching on women's styles of life in the Second World War, both in England and Italy, and translating Vita Sackville West's *All Passion Spent*. She has been for many years a broadcaster for the cultural programs of Radio 3 Italy and she is a regular contributor to the arts pages of *Il Sole 24 ore* where she reviews mainly fiction in English. She was from 1996 to 2000 Director of the Italian Cultural Institute in London and she has always been a keen observer of the cross-cultural relations between Britain and Italy.