

### **La Repubblica**

(Italian newspaper)

14.4.1984

(...) "Babel versus Babel", or the future of major languages. Zanichelli, Publisher, the Centro di Cultura Italiana (...)

(Beppe Cottaferri)

### **La Stampa**

(Italian newspaper)

14.4.1984

"Today in Bologna some experts will discuss language and culture". "The future of the major languages". (...) A small organization called Centro di Cultura Italiana, specializing in high-level Italian language courses for foreign students. (...)

(Giampaolo Dossena)

### **Il Manifesto**

(Italian newspaper)

17.4.1984

"Ah, you never have that which is topsy turvy" muses Umberto Eco, to the amusement of the audience

organized by the Centro di Cultura Italiana to discuss the future of major languages. (...)

(Domenico Starnone)

### **Il Giornale Nuovo**

(Italian newspaper)

18.4.1984

"The congress on language in the year 2000 entitled 'This strange thing, the subjunctive' has finished"

How will we speak in the year 2000?

What is the future of the major languages? (...)

Umberto Eco is more optimistic.

"Language will always survive", he said, "we should not get upset over exoticisms". (...)

(Cesare Marchi)

### **Corriere della Sera**

(Italian newspaper)

20.4.1984

An important debate on the theme

"Babel versus Babel" has been held in Bologna. "Why is English the winning language?" (...)

A saying attributed to Charles V is: If you want to speak to women, speak Italian. If you want to speak to men, speak English.

(Alfredo Todisco)

### **Die Tageszeitung**

(German newspaper)

9.5.1984

"Babel versus Babel: the chances of possibility. A language school in Bologna and its seminar on languages" (...)

The symposium was entitled "Babel versus Babel. The Evolution of the Great Languages" in collaboration with the German Cultural Institute, the Bologna City Council and the publishers Zanichelli.

(...) In their own way the C.C.I. teachers express a degree of hope for the future of their language:

Anglo-American may well be the language of the future, but they teach the Italian cultural language. And with dedication. Sometimes the teaching lasts only one week and is individual. They try to tackle, through their



courses, what actually constitutes a language: its social cultural and socio-artistic context. (...)  
(**Andreas Rostek**)

**Frankfurter Rundschau**

(German newspaper)

9.3.1985

"Trips and Entertainment"

(...) Whoever wants really to study Italian and at the same time get to know the country and its people will find the C.C.I. the perfect place to do it. As well as the lessons themselves, there is a wide variety of meetings, discussions, visits and conferences. (...) Interesting and most stimulating for the purpose are contacts with artists and architects; there are even visits to a publishing house or to a private radio station.

(**Michaela Wunderle**)

**Der Tagesspiegel**

(German newspaper)

28.7.1985

"Grammar classes, then off to the

Etruscan Necropolis! Italian language all day long - Language lessons and a cultural programme"

The course began with an evening meal. The Italian teachers had brought along their friends. (...)

There were all the delicious Emilia-Romagna specialities washed down by a dry Lambrusco, not to be confused with the drink of the same name sold here, where we live, in two-litre bottles. (...)

(**Wolfgang Lehmann**)

**Cosmopolitan**

(German magazine)

September 1986

"From a great variety of stimuli there comes the feeling for the language"

A short summary of an original programme of courses for foreigners who wish to learn much more than simply the Italian language: "When do you have thunder in Bologna?" (conference on the climate in the Po plain); "How do you go mad in Bologna?" (meeting with psychiatrists);

"How do you grow flowers in Bologna?" (excursion to the ecological park of Villa Ghigi); "How do you procreate in Bologna?" (reflections on demographic development); "How do you fall in love with Bologna?" (talks with people in Piazza Maggiore on Sunday mornings); (...)

There are also, of course, the classes; you learn grammar and conversation, but in a particular way for example through acting, script reading or newspaper reading. On the directors' chair sit, among others, professors of the University of Bologna. (...)

(**Marlet Schaake**)

**La Repubblica**

(Italian newspaper)

24.6.1989

"The Italian we will speak"

What Italian do we speak? What Italian will we use? Can mass media change a language? To reply to these and a thousand other questions on our language, the Centro di Cultura Italiana has organized a debate between experts in the matter.





### **L'Unità**

(Italian newspaper)

22.6.1989

"Which language? In search of  
Italian at  
the

University Convention."

Will the new Europe of 1992 seem like a new Babylon? The Centro di Cultura Italiana returns to the topic of European cultural integration with a series of seminars which aim at discussing the transformation of the Italian language. (...)

### **Holiday**

(German newspaper)

June 1989

(...) In terms of quality and tenor of life, the provincial capital of Emilia Romagna (500,000 inhabitants) is the number one of Italy. According to a report in the magazine 'Il Mondo' one Italian in two would like to live in Bologna  
(Pia de Simony)

### **La Repubblica**

(Italian newspaper)

4.12.1990

"Immigrants and Italian"

"Teaching of Italian to immigrants - Open issues". The meeting will aim at

offering teaching methods to teachers of Italian for immigrants.(...)

### **Il Resto del Carlino**

(Italian newspaper)

5.12.1990

No integration is possible for non-EEC immigrants unless they manage to overcome the language barrier. This topic was discussed yesterday afternoon at a meeting organized by the Centro di Cultura Italiana, which offers Italian language courses to foreign students.

### **Anteprima**

(Italian magazine)

8/14.1.1993

Visiting Bologna

Marina, 22, from Madrid:

I enjoy Bologna in the morning, as it wakes up. At night it is even more beautiful.

Peter, 25, from Washington:

Before visiting Bologna, I was not expecting much. I had heard that Bologna was expensive and the seat of



the oldest university in Europe. The city is beautiful and the people warm. I do not know why the two towers are not as famous as the tower of Pisa.

Teresa, 40, from London:

I like the buildings with the porticoes where it seems we are protected from the outside world going about its everyday business. I also like the people, who are very patient with foreigners like us. I like to wander through the streets when the people are not in a hurry like in London and later I feel at ease going home because there are always people about.

Bernadette, 29, from Basel:

I like going to the centre on a Sunday morning because there are so many people talking together. Although Bologna is fairly big, it is possible to get together for a little chat like in any small country village.

Gerda, 23, from Vienna:

The University has a positive effect: interesting book shops and also places like pubs, cinemas, etc. That is why it is the ideal spot to live in, if one wants a fairly typical place.

### **Anteprima.**

(Italian magazine)

15.1.1993

Could you live in Bologna?

Richard, 48, from Vienna:

Certainly I could, but I do not know if I would like to. I came looking for the Bologna of a time gone by, perhaps a little chaotic but with a model social administration, perhaps imperfect but utopian. I found the Bologna of today beautiful, well managed, yes, with its structure intact and its social pretensions, but without illusions, and without illusions there can be no utopia.

Katia, 21, from Stuttgart:

If I came to live in Italy, I would certainly go to Bologna. It seems that the people still have time to chat.

Ceaga, 25, from Toronto:

Could I live in Bologna? I would simply say yes. It seems that Bologna is built on a human scale.

Peter, 24, from Hamburg:

For me to feel good in a city there must be a whole range of cultural events, such as theatre, concerts,

cinemas, etc. A city should have a wide range of different places to go. For me it is also important to have a wide range of shops where various high-quality items can be bought. It should also offer the possibility of trips and excursions in the surrounding area. Whenever there is a university, there is a young spirit. Bologna satisfies all these requirements.

Claudia, 23, from Sölden:

I do not think I would ever live in a big city like Bologna all my life, because in Austria I live in a small town with 2,500 inhabitants. My favourite Italian city would be Bologna.

### **Sueddeutsche Zeitung**

(German newspaper)

23/24.01.1993

Bologna a 'green' model?

(.....) The Historic Centre is free of traffic but not off-limits to cars (....)

After eight p.m. when the shops close, the citizens of Bologna, 70 percent of whom voted in a 1984 referendum in favour of closing the Historic Centre to





traffic, can enjoy the evening pleasures of the old city, even in their car (.....)  
(Ralph Bollmann)

#### **Sueddeutsche Zeitung**

(German newspaper)

23.02.1993

'The Red City' is even more beautiful in winter.

(...) Even after the war, Bologna continued to preserve one of the greatest historic city centres in Europe. (...) The city ensemble with its 40 kilometres (25 miles) of arcades creates a striking effect on the eye of the visitor. (...) Bologna possesses a discreet charm that is a pleasure compared to the tourist monopolies of the cities of Florence and Venice (.....)  
(Ralph Bollmann)

#### **The Wall Street Journal**

(U.S. newspaper)

14.4.1993

(...) "Corruption Elsewhere"  
Indeed, it's a measure of just how chaotic Italy's political landscape has

become that one has to visit Bologna to find some semblance of political stability and efficient government in Italy. (...)  
(Craig Forman and Lisa Bannon)

#### **Gourmet Magazine**

(U.S. magazine)

Sept. 1995

Learning Vacations. A language school in Bologna.

(...) For those wanting to learn Italian, or to improve the Italian they already know, Bologna's Center for Italian Culture has a reputation second to none. (...) Classes are every morning, Monday through Friday, 9 A.M. to 12.50 P.M., with a break for teacher changeover and student gasping and recovery. The language-learning process at this school calls for every ounce of concentration. (...) We have also received a map of Bologna and a list of thirty recommended, inexpensive ristoranti, trattorie, and pizzerie. Man doth not live by nouns and verbs alone, certainly not in Bologna. But class is no place for daydreaming about food.



Class is intensive. The only pauses stem from the mental struggle for the right word, the correct gender. The student is left drained and exhilarated. (...) Many students return.

For no good reason I had expected the school to be top-heavy with bright young executives sent by their companies to master Italian. Again, sbagliato. Instead there are social workers, an air hostess with Lufthansa, people who above everything have fallen in love with Italy and its language. (Love affairs among students also happen. Some have led to marriage). (...) A beautiful language, a superb learning vacation.

(Michael Kenyon)

**Corriere della Sera**

(Italian newspaper)

13.1996

A scuola nel Bel Paese dove il dolce "si" suona.

The School is open all the year long, and in addition to language courses three to five hours a day, it offers

lectures on art, literature and Italian cooking (...). This is the only school of its kind in Bologna. Centro di Cultura Italiana (...)

(Luisa Parisi)

**Audimax**

(German magazine)

May 1996

(...) "The course began with a dinner. The Italian teachers brought along friends and we all went off to the country. At the CCI, activity doesn't finish just with classes." Wilfred, 26, describes what happens at the little language school of the Centro di Cultura Italiana (CCI). Professionalism apart, there is a strong personal rapport between students and teachers. In addition to classes, the CCI also has a special programme on offer for students to visit local craftsmen, for example at Manciano, or to meet politicians and discuss the problems of an Italian city such as Bologna. A four-week, 80-hour course and the total of 24 hours of the extra-mural programme costs 800

marks. Students have to make their own travel arrangements. But on request the School will arrange for such things as bicycle rentals for the students, or even for baby-sitters for their children.

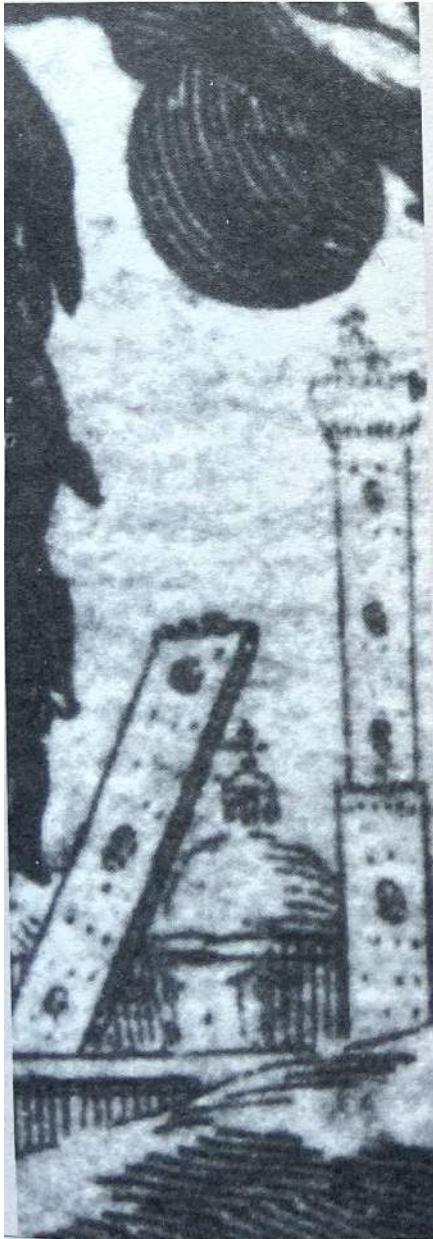
(Ulrike Schneider-Wickel)

**The New York Times Magazine**

10.11.1996

Bologna, Through medieval eyes  
In the winter of 1995 I spent three months in Bologna, Italy, doing research for a novel, but I had another, equally important agenda: I wanted to participate in the life of the city, to discover (or create) its meaning in a way that was personal without being idiosyncratic. My first step was to enroll in a four week Italian course at the Centro di Cultura, in a handsome Renaissance palazzo in the centre of town. (...) I arrived in Bologna at the end of January and left at the end of April. By the end of my stay Bologna had ceased to be what it tends to be for most travelers - a railroad hub, a place





where the train stops on the way to somewhere else -and had become a city where I felt at home, a place to be.  
(Robert Hellenga)

**Neue Zürcher Zeitung**

(Swiss newspaper)

27.02.97

Most make only a brief stop at the provincial capital of Emilia Romagna when en route for the south of Italy. Bologna possesses an antique charm and beauty.

(.....) The medieval town has a wealth of architecture full of cultural interest and testimony to the past, forming an intact historic centre, yet one which is not merely a museum, with its Piazza Maggiore (Main Square), the Basilica of San Petronio, the Asinelli Towers and the Garisenda forming the focal point of the city (.....)

(Werner Ehrensperger)

**Off Duty / April**

(U.S. magazine)

May 1997

A taste of the real Italy

Italy - I can't get enough of it. The food, the language, the people and their contagious joie de vivre - I love it all. I decided it was time to get serious about my love affair with Italy, to spend more than just a day here, two days there, in and out of churches and museums. A language course would be ideal, I thought, and I chose a two-week course at the Centro di Cultura Italiana in Bologna, the gastronomic heart of Italy and the perfect place to concentrate on my major Italian passion: food.

Mornings were spent in the classroom: grammar, conversation, more grammar. During the break students headed down the street to a nearby cafe for a standup cappuccino and conversation. They came from everywhere, and most-but not all-were young. (.....) Several afternoons a week the language school conducted optional sightseeing excursions. (.....).

(Leah Larkin)