



CURRICULUM VITAE

MICHELE COMETA

Full Professor of Cultural History and Visual Culture at the University of Palermo

Fellowships, Academic invitations etc.

2024	Fellow at the Italian Academy (Columbia University, NY)
2022	Fellow at the Collegium Helveticum, Zürich, Februar-June
2022	De Sanctis-Chair at the ETH Zürich, Summer Semester
2015-2016	Fellow at the Italian Academy (Columbia University, NY)
2015	Beinecke-Fellow at the Clark Art Institute (Williamstown, MA)
2014	DAAD Wiedereinladung, Fellow at the Freie Universität, Berlin
2007	Visiting Scholar Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (as a Guest of Professor Alain Montandon)
1997	Visiting professor at the Gesamthochschule Essen
1991	Visiting professor at the Philosophische Fakultät der Universität Murcia (Spanien)
1986	Fellowship «Centro Nazionale delle Ricerche – CNR», Rome
1980-1981	DAAD-Fellowship (Visiting Student Germanistik and Philosophie at the Philosophische Fakultät der Universität zu Köln)
1980	DAAD-Fellowship at the Goethe-Universität Frankfurt a. M.

Education & Academic Career

2005 ss.	Full Professor of Cultural History and Visual Culture at the Università degli Studi di Palermo
1998-2005	Full Professor of German Cultural History at the Università degli Studi di Palermo
1995-1998	Full Professor of German Studies at the Facoltà di Lingue e Letterature Straniere – Università degli Studi di Cagliari
1992-1994	Associated Professor of German Studies and Comparative Literature at the Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia – Università della Calabria
1987-1992	Assistant Professor of German Studies at the Facoltà di Scienze della Formazione – Università degli Studi di Catania
1981, Dec. 19	MA in Languages and Literatures at the University of Palermo (German and English)

Other academic and scientific responsibilities

2018-2024	Chair of the Department Culture e Società at the University of Palermo and member of the University's Senate Member of the Evaluation Committee (GEV 10: Scienze dell'Antichità, filologico-letterarie e storico-artistiche) of ANVUR (Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca) (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research)
2015 ss.	Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca) (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research)
2015-2017	Vice President of the Istituto Italiano di Studi Germanici (Rom)
2013 ss.	Member of the Evaluation Committee for German Studies and Comparative Literature (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research)
2013-2016	Member of the Quality Control Committee of the University of Palermo
2009 ss.	Referee for the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft im Rahmen des Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung für Villa Vigoni – Centro Italo-tedesco (Lovenjo di Menaggio)
2008-2018	PhD Coordinator «Europäische Kulturstudien» (University of Palermo, Heinrich-Heine Universität Düsseldorf, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Departamento de Historia de la Filosofía, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, The Division for the History of Croatian Music, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Departamento de Comunicación Audiovisual, Documentación e Historia del Arte)
2007-2013	Dean of the Education and Communication Faculty at the University of Palermo
2004 ss.	Coordinator of the Master in Communication and Visual Culture at the University of Palermo
2001-2007	Chair of the Dipartimento di Arti e Comunicazioni at the University of Palermo
1999 ss.	Board of Trustees at the Teatro Biondo Stabile di Palermo
1998-2001	Director of the Degree Course „Foreign Languages and Literature“ at the University of Palermo
1984-1987	Teacher of German in Messina
1982-1983	Lecturer for <i>Italianisch</i> at the Philosophische Fakultät – Heinrich-Heine-Universität, Düsseldorf (<i>Italianisch für Anfänger, Übersetzungskurs Deutsch-Italienisch I, Übersetzungskurs Deutsch-Italienisch II</i>). Lecturer at the Leibniz-Gymnasium, Düsseldorf

He has held lectures at the ETH (Zürich), at the Freie Universität (Berlin), at the Heinrich-Heine-Universität (Düsseldorf), at the Dartmouth College (Hanover), at the Universities of Valencia, Barcelona and Murcia, at the Maison de Science de l'Homme (Paris), at the Collège Internationale de Philosophie (Paris), at the University of Zagreb, at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (Belo Horizonte), at the Internationales Forschungszentrum für Kulturwissenschaften (Vienna), at the Circulo de Bellas Artes (Madrid), at the Université Paris Nanterre, at the Centre interdisciplinaire d'études et de recherches sur l'Allemagne (CIERA, Paris) at the CRASSH (Cambridge), at the Fondazione Collegio San Carlo (Modena), at the Columbia University (Deutsches Haus) (NY), at Texas A&M University (College Station TX), at the Brown University (RI), at the Clark Art Institute (Williamstown, MA), at the Fondation Fyssen (Paris), and in several Italian universities.

Awards

1999 “Ervin-Pocar-Prize” of the City Gorizia for literary translation (German-Italian).
2017 Prize “Pozzale Luigi Russo” (Empoli) for the book “Perché le storie ci aiutano a vivere” (Cortina, Milano, 2017).
2019 Winckelmann-Medaille der Stadt Stendal (Germany).

Research interests



His research interests include German cultural history and *Biopoetics* (cognitive bases of narrativity and picture-making, literature and evolution), Aesthetics and visual culture.

He has edited the Italian translation of many classics of aesthetics and literary works by the following authors: J. J. Winckelmann, A. R. Mengs, F. Schlegel, M. Mendelssohn, G. E. Lessing, J. Koller, J. W. Goethe, F. Schiller, E. T. A. Hoffmann, F. Schinkel, J. I. Hittorff, Th. Fontane, G. Lukács, O. Weininger, K. Kraus, E. Jünger, H. Blumenberg, P. Hacks, V. Braun. For the stage he translated *Die Kunst des Fragens* by Peter Handke, *Urfaust* by J. W. Goethe, *Jossel Rakovers Wendung zu Gott* by Zvi Kolitz and *Joseph und Maria* by Peter Turrini.

Projects

2021-2023.	Principal investigator: «Phototexts: rethorics, poetics and cognition» (MUR, Ministry for University and Research) Universities of Palermo, Catania, Genova, Parma
2012-2014	Principal investigator: «Literature and Visual Culture II» (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research) University of Palermo
2009-2013	Principal investigator: «Literature and Visual Culture I» (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research) University of Palermo with the University of L'Aquila
2011	Principal investigator: «Critique and Crisis» at the University of Palermo (CORI, International Cooperation and Research)
2007	Principal investigator: «Rappresentanza e rappresentazione» at the University of Palermo (CORI, International Cooperation and Research)
2006	Principal investigator: «Iconography and History of Concepts» at the University of Palermo (CORI, International Cooperation and Research)
2005-2007	Principal investigator: «Optical Devices in Literature» (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research) with the Universities of Bologna and L'Aquila
2005	Principal investigator: «Visual Culture, Cultura visual, Cultura visuale: European Tradition in Comparison» University of Palermo (CORI, International Cooperation and Research)
2002-2004	Principal investigator: «Kulturwissenschaften: New Methodologies and Researches for the Age of Goethe» (MIUR, Ministry for Education, University and Research) with the Universities of Pisa and Rom «La Sapienza»

Publications

Books

- Paleoeestetica. Alle origini della cultura visuale, Cortina, Milano, 2024
 - The Literary Life of Pictures. A Theory of Descriptio, Springer, NY, 2024
 - La svolta ecomediale, Meltemi, Milano, 2024
 - Cultura visuale. Una genealogia, Raffaello Cortina, Milano, 2020
 - Come si studia la cultura. Pratiche, tattiche e forme di scrittura, Palermo University Press, Palermo, 2019
 - Letteratura e darwinismo. Introduzione alla biopoetica, Carocci, Roma, 2018.
 - Goethe e i Siciliani. Il dialogo delle affinità, Palermo University Press, Palermo, 2019
 - Perché le storie ci aiutano a vivere. La letteratura necessaria, Cortina, Milano, 2017.
 - Il trionfo della morte di Palermo. Un'allegoria della modernità, Macerata-Roma, Quodlibet, 2017.
 - Cammarata, Cometa, Coglitore (eds.), *Archaeologies of Visual Culture. Gazes, Optical Devices and Images from 17th to 20th Century Literature*, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2016.
 - Archeologie del dispositivo. Regimi scopici della letteratura, Pellegrini, Cosenza, 2016.
 - Mistici senza dio. Teoria letteraria ed esperienza religiosa nel Novecento, Palermo, Edizioni di Passaggio, 2013.
 - La scrittura delle immagini. Letteratura e cultura visuale, Milano, Cortina, 2012.
 - Studi culturali, Guida, Napoli, 2010.
 - L'età di Goethe, Roma, Carocci, 2006.
 - Descrizione e desiderio. I quadri viventi di E. T. A. Hoffmann, Roma, Meltemi, 2005.
 - Visioni della fine. Apocalissi, catastrofi, estinzioni, Palermo, :duepunti, 2004.
 - Il demone della redenzione. Tragedia, mistica e cultura da Hebbel a Lukács, Firenze, Aletheia, 1999.
 - Il romanzo dell'architettura. La Sicilia e il Grand Tour nell'età di Goethe, Roma-Bari, Laterza, 1999.
 - Guida alla Germanistica, Roma-Bari, Laterza, 1999.
 - Duplicità del Classico. Il mito del tempio di Giove Olimpico da Winckelmann a Leo von Klenze, Palermo, Medina, 1993.
 - Gli dei della lentezza. Metaforiche della "pazienza" nella letteratura tedesca, Milano, Guerini, 1990.
 - Il romanzo dell'infinito. Miti, metafore e simboli dell'età di Goethe, Palermo, Aesthetica, 1990.
 - Il teatro di Pirandello in Germania, Palermo, Novecento, 1986.
 - Iduna. Mitologie della ragione. Il progetto di una "neue Mythologie" nella poetologia preromantica: Friedrich Schlegel e F. W. J. Schelling, Palermo, Novecento, 1984.
- (in press)
- The Literary Life of Pictures. A Theory of Description, Springer, (forthcoming, 2023)
 - Bilderschriften. ETA Hoffmanns visuelle Kultur, Mimesis Verlag, Frankfurt a. M. (forthcoming, 2023).
 - Fantasmagorie. La cultura visuale dell'età di Goethe, Quodlibet, Macerata-Roma, (forthcoming, 2023).

For further informations concerning publications and the academic and scientific career: <http://www.michelecometa.it>.



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DEGLI STUDI
DI PALERMO

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