

DICCA SEMINARS

June 1st 2023, 4pm

Location: Salone Nobile (Villa Cambiaso)



Vincenzo Vespri
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Department of Mathematics



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The architecture of the Dante's otherworldly worlds

In the Comedy Dante paid particular attention to describing the architectural structure of the otherworldly worlds. The geometry of Inferno was the subject of bitter controversy in the Renaissance. Even Galileo Galilei dealt with it in two conferences at the Accademia Fiorentina (now "della Crusca"), discussing for the first time his theories on the strength of materials. Heaven has a structure that can only be explained if the Universe immerses itself in four dimensions. In this lecture, the architecture of Dante's cosmology is analysed and discussed in the light of mathematics and scientific approaches of the time.

Short bio Professor Caputo: Lazzaro Rino Caputo (Ischitella nel Gargano 1947) is a professor of Italian Literature at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata". He has published several essays on Dante, Petrarch, Manzoni and early Italian romanticism, Pirandello and on contemporary Italian and North American literary criticism. He is a member of the Dante Society of America, he has held lectures and seminars all across Europe and North America as well as Russia and Egypt. He was a visiting professor of Italian literature and international literature criticism. He is also an 'Assessor' of the SSHRC (Human Science Research Council of Canada). In the three-year period 1999-2002 he taught "History of Literature" at the National School of Cinema (formerly the Experimental Center of Cinematography of Cinecittà). He collaborates with the major Italian literature magazines and is co-director of the international magazine "Dante. International Journal of Dante Studies" and Director of the journal "Pirandelliana". From February 2003 to September 2007 he was National President of the ADI-SD, Educational Section of the Association of University Professors of Italian Literature (ADI), of which he is a member. Since November 2007 he has been Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy of the University of Rome "Tor Vergata".

Short bio Professor Vespri: Vincenzo Vespri is a Full Professor in Mathematics at university of Florence. Previously he was a Full Professor in Mathematics at the University of L'Aquila (1994-97), Associate Professor in Mathematics at the University of Pavia (1988-91), Associate Professor in Mathematics at the University of Milan (1988-91), and Assistant Professor at the University of Rome Tor Vergata (1984-88). He was a long term visitor in several Universities including Northwestern University, The Australian University of Canberra, Saint Petersburg's Academy of Science, Haifa University, Vanderbilt University in Nashville. He has conducted several professional activities, including collaborations with: INFOTEL for applications of the theory of Levy processes to simulate the performance of financial markets; FFMiravite INC. (financial consulting firm in the Philippines) for due diligence of a trading model; the Technical Committee for a multigrid project made by ACEA (energy firm); he was Non-Executive Director in REPX (Start up to be quoted in London) and head mathematician for Swiss Ra (Lugano firm of technology). He is an author of about 130 scientific publications, concerning the existence and the regularity of solution to nonlinear equations arising from Mathematical Physics and the application of Functional Analysis to evolution equations. His research interests were directed also to Mathematical Models and to applications to Finance, Industrial Mathematics and Blockchains (Cryptography). In recent years he became interested in the study of the geometry structures used by Dante in the Divine Comedy.