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**JESSICA GABRIEL PERITZ AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS TO  
RECEIVE SCAGLIONE PUBLICATION AWARD FOR A MANUSCRIPT IN ITALIAN  
LITERARY STUDIES FOR *THE LYRIC MYTH OF VOICE***

New York, NY – 7 December 2022 – The Modern Language Association of America today announced it is awarding its twenty-fifth annual Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies to Jessica Gabriel Peritz, assistant professor of music at Yale University, for *The Lyric Myth of Voice: Civilizing Song in Enlightenment Italy*, published by the University of California Press.

The award is one of nineteen that will be presented on 6 January 2023, during the association's annual convention, to be held in San Francisco. The members of the selection committee were Kevin Brownlee (Univ. of Pennsylvania); Marilyn Migiel (Cornell Univ.); Dana Renga (Ohio State Univ., Columbus); and Barbara Spackman (Univ. of California, Berkeley), chair. The committee's citation for the winning manuscript reads:

Jessica Gabriel Peritz's *The Lyric Myth of Voice: Civilizing Song in Enlightenment Italy* is a compelling and beautifully written account of the way that both literary and musical versions of voice came to be associated with subjectivity and assumed a national and gendered identity in eighteenth-century Italy. A model of interdisciplinary scholarship, the book draws on a rich trove of materials that includes lyric poetry, opera scores and libretti, performance history, and philosophical reflections. Resisting the temptation to produce a single narrative that might account for Italy's fragmented cultural politics, Peritz perceptively tracks multiple voices, including those of women and castrati, showing how song civilizes those who hear it and how voice becomes an agent of sensibility and individuality.

The Modern Language Association of America and its over 20,000 members in 100 countries work to strengthen the study and teaching of languages and literature. Founded in 1883, the MLA provides opportunities for its members to share their scholarly findings and teaching experiences with colleagues and to discuss trends in the academy. The MLA sustains one of the finest publication programs in the humanities, producing a variety of publications for language and literature professionals and for the general public. The association publishes the *MLA International Bibliography*, the only comprehensive bibliography in language and literature, available online. The MLA Annual Convention features meetings on a wide variety of subjects. More information on MLA programs is available at [www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org).

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies is awarded under the auspices of the association's Committee on Honors and Awards. Other awards sponsored by the committee are the William Riley Parker Prize; the James Russell Lowell Prize; the MLA Prize for a First Book; the Howard R. Marraro Prize; the Kenneth W. Mildenberger Prize; the Mina P. Shaughnessy Prize; the MLA Prize for Independent Scholars; the Katherine

Singer Kovacs Prize; the Morton N. Cohen Award; the MLA Prizes for a Scholarly Edition and for Collaborative, Bibliographical, or Archival Scholarship; the Lois Roth Award; the William Sanders Scarborough Prize; the Fenia and Yaakov Leviant Memorial Prize in Yiddish Studies; the MLA Prize in United States Latina and Latino and Chicana and Chicano Literary and Cultural Studies; the MLA Prize for Studies in Native American Literatures, Cultures, and Languages; the Matei Calinescu Prize; the MLA Prize for an Edited Collection; and the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prizes for Comparative Literary Studies, for French and Francophone Studies, for Italian Studies, for Studies in Germanic Languages and Literatures, for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures, for a Translation of a Literary Work, for a Translation of a Scholarly Study of Literature, for African Studies, for East Asian Studies, for Middle Eastern Studies, and for South Asian Studies. A complete list of current and previous winners can be found on the [MLA website](#).

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Endowment Fund was established and donated by Aldo Scaglione to the Modern Language Association in 1987. The fund honors the memory of Scaglione's late wife, Jeanne Daman Scaglione. A Roman Catholic, Jeanne Daman was headmistress of a Jewish kindergarten in Brussels, Belgium. When arrests and deportations of Jews began in 1942, she worked with Belgian and Jewish resistance units, helping to find hiding places for two thousand children throughout Belgium. She also helped rescue many Jewish men about to be deported as slave laborers by obtaining false papers for them. Jeanne Scaglione's life and contributions to humanity are commemorated in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

Aldo Scaglione, a member of the Modern Language Association from 1957 until his death in 2013, was Erich Maria Remarque Professor of Literature at New York University. A native of Turin, Italy, he received a doctorate in modern letters from the University of Turin. He taught at the University of Toulouse and at the University of Chicago. From 1952 to 1968 he taught at the University of California, Berkeley, and from 1968 to 1987 he was W. R. Kenan Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. In 1987 he came to New York University as professor of Italian and then chair of the Department of Italian. Scaglione was a Fulbright Fellow and a Guggenheim Fellow, held senior fellowships from the Newberry Library and the German Academic Exchange Service, and was a visiting professor at Yale University, the City University of New York, and the Humanities Research Institute of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. In 1975 he was named Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana. Scaglione was president of the American Boccaccio Association and was a member of the MLA Executive Council from 1981 to 1984. His published books include *Nature and Love in the Late Middle Ages* (1963), *Ars Grammatica* (1970), *The Classical Theory of Composition* (1972), *The Theory of German Word Order* (1981), *The Liberal Arts and the Jesuit College System* (1986), *Knights at Court: Courtliness, Chivalry, and Courtesy from Ottonian Germany to the Italian Renaissance* (1991), and *Essays on the Arts of Discourse: Linguistics, Rhetoric, Poetics* (1998).