You are cordially invited to a presentation, book-signing event, and short film screening with:

**Margherita Heyer-Caput, Ph.D.**

**RE-DISCOVERING GRAZIA DELEDDA**

(NOBEL PRIZE FOR LITERATURE, 1926-27)

WHERE: International House, Community Room
10 College Park, Davis

WHEN: Wednesday, October 8, 2008, 5-7pm

---

Margherita Heyer-Caput’s *Grazia Deledda’s Dance of Modernity* (University of Toronto Press, 2008) offers an innovative and thought-provoking interpretation of Deledda’s narrative. A writer from Nuoro, Sardinia, one of the most isolated regions of unified Italy at the end of the 1800s, Grazia Deledda (1871-1936) succeeded in overcoming the obstacles posed by the Sardinian patriarchal culture of her time and became the first Italian woman and the second ever to be awarded the Nobel Prize in 1927.

Heyer-Caput’s book re-discovers the astonishing modernity of Deledda’s novels and her receptiveness to European philosophy and cinema, thus opening Sardinia, the very center of her most famous novels, to the world and the world to Sardinia. The book presentation will include the screening of the silent film *Cenere* (Ashes, 1916, 34 minutes) directed and interpreted by Italian theatre diva Eleonora Duse and inspired by Deledda’s homonymous novel.

---

Margherita Heyer-Caput is Professor of Italian Literature in the French and Italian Department and affiliated with the Film Studies Program at the University of California, Davis. She completed her education in Italy, at the University of Turin, and the United States, where she received her Ph.D. from Harvard University. After teaching for several years at the University of Berne, Switzerland, and various universities on the East Coast, she joined UC Davis in 2000. Among other publications, she has authored a book on German writer Franz Kafka, *Esistenza e ragione nell’opera di Franz Kafka* (Existence and Reason in Franz Kafka’s Work, 1982), a volume on Italian contemporary novelist Luigi Malerba, *Per una letteratura della riflessione: elementi filosofico-scientifici nell’opera di Luigi Malerba* (For a Literature of Reflection: Philosophical and Scientific Aspects of Luigi Malerba’s Work, 1995) and, most recently, *Grazia Deledda’s Dance of Modernity*. She is the recipient of the 2005 Italian “National Literary Prize Grazia Deledda.”

**Sponsored by the UC Davis Film Studies Program and the French and Italian Department.**

---

**This event is FREE and OPEN to the public.**