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Foreword

The new Editorial Board of *Carte Italiane* is glad to present volume 12 of its literary journal. This year's special edition includes the Proceedings of the First UCLA Interdisciplinary Conference on Italian Culture held on April 26–27, 1990.

Since our journal is undergoing a phase of reorganization and being revitalized due to last year's stagnant activity, we apologize if some of the papers presented at the conference have not been published. We have made a lenient but fair selection; in some cases it was impossible to contact some of the participants due to the great length of time which had elapsed between the actual conference and this year's publication.

We would like to thank our colleagues on the Editorial Board, the professors of the Advisory Board, Calvin Graves and Lynn Boyden for their support during the early stages of preparation. We are greatly indebted to our new Chair of the Department, Professor Luigi Ballerini, who has provided an unprecedented employment position for a Director of Carte Italiane for the years to come. We are grateful to the past editor of the journal, Andrea Baldi, who has always been supportive and helpful at a time when his own schedule was so thoroughly besieged. Without his assistance this year's volume would not have gone to press.

The Editors