



*"It is impossible to list every single woman who deserves celebration but this is a good place to start..."*

By Elvira Gisonde, Biagio de Rosa (IVF)

Have you ever heard about the story of the fire in the textile industry "Cotton" of New York?

**Well, it has never existed!!!!**

Actually, this fact was confused with a fire of another industry in the same city. The international women's day was inspired by others facts: At the beginning the American Socialist Party recommended to everyone to



organize on February, 1909 a feminist manifestation to get the right to vote for all women. In this way, on the following Sunday the "Women's Day" was extended, the first event dedicated only to women. Immediately this initiative was extended to other European countries and these events continued until The First World War. Then women continued to organize these celebrations and then in 1921 some communist women fixed 8th March as "International Feminist Worker Day".



*"Women who have changed the world have never needed to show anything but their intelligence"*

- Rita Levi Montalcini -

Born in Turin April 22, 1909 she was a neurologist and senator Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1986.

**"Women are the real architects of our society"**

- Harriet Elizabeth Beecher Stowe - writer and American activist, author of the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin and promoter of the abolitionist cause, related to the first industrial revolution.

**Giulia Marrone, Biagio de Rosa, Mariateresa Cacciapuoti (IV F)**

*"The Queen of records"*

By Giuseppe Petrarca (IIG) and Biagio de Rosa (IVF)

Queen Elizabeth II is one of the most influential heads of state all over the world, with over sixty years of reign she s the oldest British sovereign of all times. Queen Elizabeth was born in London by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. Elizabeth Alexandra Mary came to the throne to 26 years on the throne of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, following the



death of her father on 6 February 1952. With the title of "Queen" she also took on the role of Head of the Commonwealth, Supreme Governor of the Church of England and commander in chief of the armed forces. She achieved a goal that no one in England had ever got before: the sapphire anniversary, 65 years on the throne. However she has never celebrated this occasion on this day because it is the same day when her father , George VI, died and she automatically became the new English monarch. Elizabeth is one of the several women in history who found themselves performing duties typically belonging to men ; many of them were unable to play their roles while others, including Queen Elizabeth and the Empress Maria Theresa of Austria, fully managed to play male roles actually often showing to be better suited than men thanks to their charisma, tenacity and courage...special characteristics of great women.

**- Rosa Louise Parks -**

was an American activist in the movement for civil rights, famous in 1955 for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white man, thus giving rise to the bus boycott in Montgomery.

**- Margherita Hack -**

Italian astrophysicist and science popularizer. One of the most brilliant minds of the scientific community, she was the first woman to manage an astronomical observatory in Italy.

**- Samantha Cristoforetti -**

aviator, engineer, Italian military astronaut, the first Italian woman in the European Space Agency's crews. She holds the European record of permanence in space.

**- Malala Yousafzai -**

is an activist of Pakistan. She is the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, known for her commitment to the affirmation of civil rights and the right to education.

**- Amelia Mary Earhart -**

was the first female aviator to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean.

**- Marie Curie**

She was a chemistry and physics Polish naturalized French. In 1903 she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics (with her husband Pierre Curie and Henri Becquerel) for their studies on radiation and, in 1911, the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for her discovery of radium and polonium.

**RITA LEVI MONTALCINI**

By Pondurno Claudia, Rosano Francesca, Pellicchia Luigi, Verde Antonio (IIF) and Matteo Ucciero (IIG)

Rita Levi Montalcini was an Italian Nobel- laureate, honored for her work in neurobiology. Indeed she discovered the nerve growth factor together with her colleague Stanley Cohen. Moreover she was an Italian senator and one of the most passionate women ever, so passionate that she set up a laboratory in her own bedroom during World War II in order to study the growth of nerve fiber in chickens' embryos. She was especially honored for her work in neurobiology with



prize in 1986 specifically for the discovery of the "Nerve Growth Factor" (NGF). She has been a very important woman for our country, and she has also worked, from 2001 to her death, for the Italian Parliament. Another special event characterising her figure was that on 22nd April 2009, she became the first Nobel prizd ever to reach the age of 100, event celebrated in Rome with a great party. Levi Montalcini was born in Turin and in her adolescence she had always dreamt to become a writer, but, after a tragic episode happened to a close family friend she changed her mind and started studying medicine. It was World War II

period so Rita set up a little laboratory in her bedroom and studied for a long time the growth on nerve fibers but because of the war she and her family had to move to Florence. Afterwards she directed a real lab in Rome where she started her long brilliant career.

**Women in Politics**

**MARGARET THATCHER**

By Perfetto Maria (IIG)

Margaret Thatcher was born on 13 October 1925. An English politician, she was the first woman to be prime minister of the United Kingdom and the leader of the Conservation Party. She was the longest-serving British prime minister of the 20th century and the first woman to have held the office. She was a research chemist before becoming a barrister, known as "Iron Lady" because of her tenacity. She used to say that when one starts working at something, has to do that thing until the end, but she gave up her office because of the contrast between British main political parties. She also used to say: "If you want something to be said ask a man, if you want something to be done ask a woman". She even escaped from an IRA terrorist attack in 1984 when a bomb exploded at the Grand Hotel in Brighton during a party Congress. After a heart attack, she was affected by Alzheimer and she died in 2013 at 87.



## Women and NASA

*“A beam of black light behind a sea of with darkness”*

By Simone Carpinone (IIG)

Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson (born on August 26, 1918). She was an African-American physicist and mathematician who gave her contribution to the “United States” aeronautics and space programs with the early applications of digital electronic computers at “NASA.” Known

for her accuracy in computerized “*Celestial navigation*”, she worked hard for the NASA. During this time, she calculated lots of trajectories and emergency plans for many flights to and from Mercury, including the early NASA missions of John Glenn and Alan Shepard. In 1969 she also collaborated to Apollo 11 flight to the Moon, through the Space Shuttle program. Her calculations were essential to the success of these missions, she also worked on a mission to Mars. . In 2015, Johnson received the Presidential Medal of Freedom and was included in the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) list of the top 100 women in the world.



## Joan of Arc (1412-1431)

Marco Albero (IIG)

Joan of Arc is considered a heroine of France for her role during the Lancastrian phase of the Hundred Years' War and was canonized as a Roman Catholic saint. Joan of Arc was born to Jacques d'Arc and Isabelle Romée, a peasant family, at Domrémy in north-east France. Joan said she received visions of the Archangel Michael, Saint Margaret, and Saint Catherine of Alexandria instructing her to support Charles VII and recover France from English domination late in the Hundred Years' War. On 23 May 1430, she was captured at Compiègne by the Burgundian faction, which was allied with the English army. She was burned at the stake on 30 May 1431, dying at about nineteen years of age. Joan of Arc has remained a popular figure in literature, painting, sculpture, and other cultural works since the time of her death, and many famous writers, filmmakers and composers have created works about her.

## Women in War

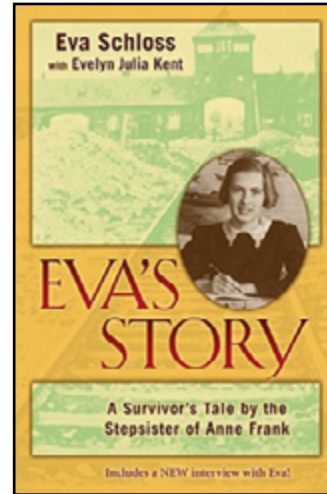


## Women in Auschwitz

### Eva Schloss

By Cimmino Maria Laura (IIG)

Everybody knows Auschwitz's story when million of people died, but there were some of them who survived. **Eva Schloss** is one of the witnesses. When that horror finished, she was 16. Her life started over, even if she had lost her father, her brother and her mother was dying. It was so difficult for her to win that trauma: she had a freshman that made her always remember those bad times. She had to get used to the idea of living, because a lot of survivors committed suicide but she resisted, she never talked about Auschwitz, even to her children, had with a lot of difficulties because of the infections taken in the concentration camps. Then, Eva decided to write a book about her story, in order to remember to everyone that horror's dimensions. And finally her story got a sense.



### Anna Frank

By Carmen Roberto (IIG)

Anne Frank was born on 12 June 1929 in Frankfurt where her father's family has lived for generations. The economic crisis, the rise in power of Hitler and the growing anti-semitic sentiments put an end to the serenity of her family life. Otto Frank and Edith decided, like many other Jews to leave Germany, in order to escape the threat of war in Europe. Otto tried to emigrate with his family in England or United States, but these attempts were vain. On 1 September 1939, Germany invaded Poland and the Second World War started. Where he German troops invaded Holland, Otto and Edith Frank with their daughters decided to

a secret place downtown where they will live more than two years. They were helped by some generous people and Anne received a diary as a gift for her birthday. Immediately she started writing and during the period spent in hiding noted the events happened in “*secret annex*”. Unfortunately they were discovered and arrested, and her diary found. Otto Frank was the only of the eight to survive the war and when he tried to find his own daughters he learns that she had died of disease and starvation in Bergen-Belsen. Miep Gies gives him the Anne's diary.





## Women in vehicles

By Francesco Pio Griffo (IIG)

Bertha Benz was a German car driver pioneer; she was the wife and business partner of the car inventor Karl Benz. In 1888 she was the first person to drive a car over a long distance, for this act Germans decided to give her name to a route in 2008. In 1886 Benz presented the Patent Motor, they only built 25 vehicles; the first prototype was assembled with the parts of a bike but they only started to sell cars from the Model 3<sup>o</sup>; one of these was driven by Bertha.



By Dario Buffardi, Giuseppe Tillo, Raffaele Ratto, Raffaele Russo, Raffaele Verolla (IIF)



## Women in Sport

Female participation and popularity in sports has increased incredibly in the last centuries. Nowadays, women are equally accepted in most part of the international sport competitions. Even though there are some countries in which women can't show their sports skills in the best way, in most of the countries they are having more and more success and popularity. This is possible also thanks to the **European**

**Chart of Women** in Sport, promoted by the UISP (The Italian Union of Sport for Everyone), whose aim is to obtain the equality between men and women in sports. This document wants to make everyone understand that women are not less skilled than men in sport, indeed we can also talk about women who have beaten men in some sports, such as Ye Shiwen, that got Ryan Lotche's olympic record. Standing ovation!!

## *"ONE SMALL STEP FOR WOMAN, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR THE MANKIND"*

Claudia Pondurno, Francesca Rosano (IIF)

Some of you may not know but the first living being in orbit was actually a woman. Her name was Laika and she was a young mostly-Siberian husky who was launched on the Soviet Union's Sputnik 2 mission in November 1957. Unluckily, Laika's trip into the space was only one-way because at the time a re-entry strategy could not be worked out punctual for the launch. Moreover nobody can say how long Laika has lived in orbit, we just know that the Sputnik 2 burned up in April 1958 and, even though she never came back, we will never forget the first woman in orbit that will always have a place in our

## Women in Space



### **CURIOSITY**

Did you know that Laika was trained for space travelling together with 2 other dogs by being kept in small cages and by learning to eat nutritious gel that would be their food in space?

# Saudi women's prohibitions:

## where are the rights?!

Saudi Arabia's human rights record, especially with regards to protecting women has often been called into question. Although women's rights have been greatly extended in recent years, their actions are still severely restricted. There is an incredible amount of ordinary things they are still forbidden to do, for example :

### - DRIVING CARS

There is no official law that bans women from driving, but deeply held religious beliefs prohibit it, with Saudi clerics arguing that female drivers "undermine social values".

By Sara Sassolino,  
Enrico Buonanno,  
Claudia Gatta,  
Giuseppe Orabona,  
Francesca Mariniello  
(IVF)



### - WEARING CLOTHES OR MAKE UP THAT "SHOW OFF THEIR BEAUTY"

The dress code for women is governed by a strict interpretation of Islamic law and is enforced to varying degrees across the country. The majority of women wear an abaya and a hard scarf.



### - INTERACTING WITH MEN

Women are required to limit the amount of time spent with men to whom they are not related. The majority of the public buildings including offices, banks, uni-



versities, most public transportation as well as parks and beaches are segregated for men and women. Unlawful mixing will lead to criminal charges against both parties, but women typically face harsher punishment.

### - COMPETING FREELY IN SPORTS

Last year Saudi Arabia proposed hosting an Olympic games without women. "It has a hard time accepting that women can compete in sports".



### - OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT WITHOUT A MALE GUARDIAN

Though Saudi Arabia has seen a welcome increase in women starting their own businesses and even running in local elections such as opening a bank account.



### - MARRYING WITHOUT CONSENT

Saudi women need their family's backing if they wish to marry someone so should they be disapproved often a wedding simply isn't going to happen.

In addition to these they are NOT allowed to :

- GO FOR A SWIM
- TRY ON CLOTHES IN A CHANGING ROOM
- WALK OUTSIDE UNCOVERED
- GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT A MALE CHAPERON

- VOTE TO THE SAME EXTENT AS MEN
- BUY A BARBIE DOLL
- READ UNCENSORED FASHION MAGS
- RECEIVE THE SAME INHERITANCE
- WORK IN CERTAIN JOBS

# FEMINICIDE

**"TOGETHER WE CAN"**

By Arianna Zenna (IVF)



Femicide has been used to describe the murder of women by their partners or family members but also the killing of gender. It cannot be explained purely in terms of a general climate of violence as it is a different part of violence. Femicide and violence against women are

nothing more than the consequence of patriarchal society and macho unable to conceive the women as autonomous beings, thinking and no longer under the will of fathers and husbands. On one side we are aware that what used to be the "Weak sex" seems to be fading

away and women are actually living great moments of redemption and rediscovery in a world that is slowly changing. It is enough to think of the relevant roles they cover today in science, politics, sport and culture. No doubts they have made giant steps in every field and proved to be reliable, acute, creative, efficient and brilliant. Yet, they remain 'fragile' when it comes to physical violence... being abused with hands but also verbally and mentally make them go back of hundreds centuries and cancel in a few horrible minutes all the route made towards emancipation.



**Domestic Abuse**

**Disrespect**

**Partner**

**Violence**

**Victim**

# The story of Lucia Annibali

By Roberta Cipriano (IIF)

Pesaro, on the 16th April 2013, around 21:30, the lawyer Lucia Annibali, 35 years old, is attacked on the landing of her house by a hooded man who throws at her sulfuric acid while a second man controls the situation. The acid strikes her neck and her hand; she is going to lose her sight and is hospitalized immediately in Parma where she goes under 18 surgeries. The guilty is arrested after a lot of investigations: he was her ex boyfriend (and two of his accomplices) who did what he did because he wanted to justify himself for having been left.

## CURIOSITY:

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

Lucia Annibali tells her story to try to encourage women who live experiences similar to hers. Furthermore she is councillor of the Ministry of Equal Opportunities.



## Russian Government banned femicide

By Barbato Emma, Grassi Giuseppe (IIIF)

Last week a Russian mp Selena Mizulina encouraged other politicians to ban domestic violence as a crime and 380 domestic violence votes in favour. The proposal has awoken most Russian women that, of course, can't accept it. It's not just a case that women are taken apart around the world. However also in Iran, African states, Afghanistan and India women don't have the same rights as men. Most of them are slaves of violent men, they are forced to work hard and they are victims of sex traffic.



*Poetry*

**SMILE WOMAN**  
(By Alda Merini)

*"Smile woman  
always smile to life  
even if she does not smile you.  
Smile finite loves  
smile to your pain  
smile anyway.  
Your smile will  
light for your path  
beacon for lost sailors.  
Your smile will  
a mother's kiss,  
the beating of wings,  
a ray of sunshine for everyone"*

Biagio de Rosa (IVF)



“I’m standing in front of a thousand splendid suns...”



By Giorgia Gaia Melucci (IIF)

“If she was a car she would be a Volga. You, on the contrary, would be a Mercedes, an absolutely new one.” These are the words that Rashid uses to describe Mariam, one of the two protagonists of the bestseller “A Thousand Splendid Suns” by Khaled Hosseini, a really touching novel ... all about women, hope, love, violence, heroism and that inevitable strife which comes out of life. The plot, set in Afghanistan from the 1960s to the 1990s, follows the lives of Mariam and Laila in their marriages and in their war-torn country; they grow up in the same period, they have different backgrounds, they meet different people and, apparently, they seem to have little in common. However, Laila’s life and Mariam’s one are destined to cross : they become friends, they live in the same house, they start dreaming and wishing of a future free of limits, they face the cruelty of women’s condition in the Middle East and, finally, they decide to rebel to the clammy, rude, archaic and violent man that Mariam was made to marry at only 15. This story, written with simplicity, is inspirational, outstanding and every man and woman should read it because, by the end of it, you’re not only left with tears but also with a fire lit within.

KHALED  
HOSSEINI

*Mille  
splendidi soli*



“EVERYONE IS A VENUS”



By Giorgia Melucci, Nicla Persico e Francesca Sorriento (IIF)

She is driven towards the shore on a shell by Zephyrus , god of the wind, while the Horae of the Seasons stands on the shore in white, flowing garments. Who is she? Who is this ethereal woman coming out of the waves? Her hair is wavy, her face is natural and remarkably free of blemishes, her cheeks are blushed, her whole body is naked and completely devoid of injuries. She seems to be protected by the universe around her so to become untouchable. What’s her name? She’s ‘ Venus’ by Botticelli, a young lady who should represent not only the conventional idea of woman in the 1500s but also the current one. A woman who enjoys respect and care. Nevertheless this doesn’t happen: nowadays women are forced to bear physical and psychological violence, to limit their freedom, to give up dreaming and living their own lives. That’s why their shapes are more and more stained with blood, pain, tears, injustices and suffering. When will this be over? When will we be given back back our Venus status ?

## WOMEN IN THE MIDDLE AGES

By Emilia di Grazia, Teresa Palmiero, Giorgia Papaccio, Vincenza di Ronza, Virginia Ianiello, Francesca Cassella (IIIF)

Most people in medieval Europe lived in small rural communities, making their living from the land. Peasant women had many domestic responsibilities, including caring for children, preparing food, and tending livestock. During the busiest times of the year, such as the harvest, women often joined their husbands in the field to bring in the crops. Women often participated in vital cottage industries, such as brewing, baking and manufacturing textiles. The most common symbol of the peasant woman was the distaff – a tool used for spinning flax and wool.



## THE WOMAN IN DANTE

*“The glory of her who moves all things...”*

By Emilia di Grazia, Teresa Palmiero, Giorgia Papaccio, Vincenza di Ronza, Virginia Ianiello, Francesca Cassella (IIIF)

One of the most interesting aspects of the poem *Inferno* is Dante’s representation of women. The Poet’s ideal woman is Beatrice, who is the whole catalyst for the *Divine Comedy*. She was his childhood beloved and personal angel, his link to God. She represents Divine Love and it is her concern for Dante that drives her to seek out Virgil to be Dante’s guide through the Underworld. It is Beatrice who gives Dante the courage to undertake his journey into Hell. She is the symbol of purity and she has the role to educate him in the truth of faith. From her life in Heaven Beatrice is a source of grace, one who prays and intercedes for Dante and the salvation of his soul. Beatrice is both a real person and a symbol. She is the beautiful appearance of the Good and the True. A perfect Girl?! We don’t know...

Certainly we find her quite unrealistic. A symbol. Yet, being the moral guide and the mentor of the poet, she seems to us much more than an “angel”...probably she is more determined and self confident than Dante himself...the ancestor of all women who only apparently look fragile and that actually take the control on everything!



## Women will inherit the Earth...

By Elvira Gisonde (IVF)



«You... ladies are better than us. Don't think that men don't know it. We know very clearly and for a long time we have been trained and organized to obey you, often with your help. However that time is going to be over. Because now women will start to govern the Earth.» This is “*Women will inherit the Earth*” written by Aldo Cazzullo who imagined a journey into the past that can really help us to know how hard it was for women to reach rights and get to a gender equality. This book starts from the Ancient Greece, passing through Caterina da Siena and Giovanna D'Arco, until the present age, with also hints to “*Women's fantasy*” as Hermione Granger (Harry Potter) and Katniss Everdeen (Hunger Games). “*Women inherit the Earth*” is a mixture of amazing emotions, a wealth of knowledge and a reading that will last just one breath.....

## “Demian” by Hermann Hesse

By Gaia Casella, Francesca Della Gatta (IIIF)

The novel “*Demian*” was published by Hermann Hesse in 1919 under the pseudonym of Emil Sinclair. It is an education novel based on the adolescence’s experiences of the main character. He was an ordinary student surrounded by the love of his family and friends, that he used to call his “right world”. However, his life changes drastically when he meets a new classmate, Demian, that makes him question his own religious, ethical and moral beliefs and helps him see the world in a new, more complex shade. This is probably the novel that best represents Hesse’s positions towards religion, being it inspired by the deep internal crisis that the author living at the end of the First World War. In this novel he mixed the experiences of a kid and the thoughts of a man that has suffered a lot in his life, but still hopes for a better world. The behaviour of the main character himself, Emil Sinclair is clearly a hint to the autobiographical aspect of the novel. We highly recommend this novel to all those who want to see the world from a different perspective where good and evil don’t exclude each other, but mix together in the figure of a new God, Abraxas.



*“THE BIRD FIGHTS ITS WAY OUT OF THE EGG. THE EGG IS THE WORLD. WHO WOULD BE BORN MUST FIRST DESTROY A WORLD. THE BIRD FLIES TO GOD. THAT GOD'S NAME IS ABRAXAS.”*



# Films... SUFFRAGETTE

By Riccardo Ronga, Francesco Muscariello, Emilio Grassi, Martina Bruno, Camilla Tozzi (IIF)

This drama about the suffragette movement, written by Abi Morgan and directed by Sarah Gavron, shows how suffragette leaders were a product of their background, but all the more remarkable for having gone against their caste, and also confirms that the working-class rank, who could not afford police fines, paid a high price in terms of prison time. It is an involving and absorbing film, with many suspense sequences. Suffragettes fought for the right to vote for women as it was not a natural right extended to women together with men. The suffragettes, to have their voices listened, had to perform some violent actions together with the former non violent actions. There are historical figures in this movie: Meryl Streep plays the role of Emmeline Pankhurst and Natalie Press plays Emily Wilding Davison, the suffragette who ran in front of George V's horse at the 1913 Derby, and created the pictures and headlines that astonished the nation: a shocking spectacle of fatal self-harm in the name of an ideal. The central character is a laundry worker named Maud Watts, played with admirable energy by Carey Mulligan. She experiences arrogance and sickening abuse and is drawn into the movement by her friend Violet (Anne-Marie Duff), who introduces her to agitators. Maud enters the arena of protest even if at the beginning she is irresolute because of her family duties. However, she gradually becomes aware of the importance of this fight and, as a young strong woman, she carries on her project until the end facing imprisonment, unemployment, poverty and marginalization. There are tough scenes showing the catastrophic disintegration of Maud's family but, at the end of all these troubles, she confirms to be the key, determining point of the hard fight for human rights.



# A FEMINIST UNDER the UMBRELLA?

By Maria Gaia Coppola (IIF)

Women nowadays can choose their job and they can go out without their husbands' consent but, above all, they are allowed to vote. These days around the 8th of March we are taken to reflect on some important questions: has this situation always been the same? What was women's condition before the **emancipation**? In early 1900 they didn't have the right to vote, therefore they were excluded from country political decisions. Millicent Fawcett thought it was unfair, so she founded in England the "National Union of Women's Suffrage" and she organised many demonstrations until 1918, when women in England had the right to vote. There's a woman we can all remember; she's a character we all know about and that, from 1964, is in adults' and childrens' hearts: she's *Mary Poppins*, the first woman with a bottomless bag. She was born by Pamela Lyndon Travers's pen in 1934 and became famous thanks to Walt Disney's and Robert Stevenson's scenes, she is an important example of female freedom in a period absolutely far from emancipation. In the film, Mrs Banks, a banker's wife and mother of Jane and Michael, is a determinate **Suffragette**. In the first scenes we see her singing some slogans with other demonstration mates. However her character is not so coherent: is it believable that a person who fights for the right to vote is supported by the husband in a luxurious Victorian house, in 17 Cherry Tree Lane?? For this reason we can say that the real feminist of this story is Mary Poppins because, despite she has a job that is traditionally practised by women, she does it with the style and the independence of a free mind. She arrives with the wind and she turned Banks' world updown thoughtlessly, she stood up to Mr Banks and finally, when her work finished and the wind changed, she started following her freedom dream so she flew away again. She was sure she could have survived with her own resources. With this film, Disney, has thrown important messages to the society of that age. In fact, the same year the film came out, in the USA there was the "**Civil Rights Act**" that forbade discriminations about sex on the work place. In 1963, in Italy, women had the access at the career of magistrate and, nowadays, they cover many relevant roles in all fields. For this 8th March, it would be beautiful if women hoped to be more like Mary Poppins and less like Mrs Banks. It's a greeting of independence and bravery. After all...a spoonful of sugar

helps the medicine go down!



**Did you know that...?**

Julie Andrews, who played Mary Poppins in the film and won the Oscar for her role, lost a big part of her vocalism because of an operation to the vocal cords that went wrong. Because of that she decided to devote to writing.

# Cinema... Oscar

On Sunday 26th February, one of the most awaited events was held in Los Angeles: the Oscar night. Meryl Streep was in the best actresses category. Everyone was so excited to see the actress on the carpet because of her speech at the last Golden Globes. She went on the stage to get her prize for the career and then she started talking.



By Eleonora Buffardi,  
Giulia Perla,  
Claudia Pondurno,  
Francesca Rosano  
(IIF)

Her speech was a direct attack to Donald Trump, his politics and his choices. Meryl talked about the muslim ban and about the fact that if all the foreign people leave America because of Trump bans, the only thing left in the USA are football matches and nothing else. Moreover she gave an amazing tribute to Carrie Fisher, the Star Wars actress who played Leia and who passed away last December. Furthermore the day after the event Donald decided to respond to Meryl's attack but most of the people on twitter decided to support the actress who is one of the best actresses of this century and with no doubts one of the best and most impactful women of all times.



## Opinions

By Antonio Varricchio (IIF)



### Difference is strenght

Since the time of Adam and Eve, men and women have always been different, and because of these differences, men have always been complaining about women and women have always been critical about men. But there is something to say: if men and women, as it appears, are naturally different, why are they inseparable? The answer is that, despite the differences, we need each other. Wouldn't it be incredibly boring if there were just one way to see the world? This diversity should be exalted, not repressed, as men have done with women for centuries, and just in this way, I think, we can really enjoy the plenitude of life....

*"I love you just the way you are":*

### Photoshopping

By Martina Marina Barone (3I)

Photoshop is a software used to modify pictures. Teenagers use this app a lot because they can appear more beautiful. For example, they can whiten their teeth, they can look thinner, they can increase hair volume... just as Hollywood celebrities do. By Photoshop you can cancel every imperfection. Nowadays, style icons don't appear on TV or on magazines anymore, but only on the web. Most teenagers use the Photoshop because it allows them to modify images with extraordinary effects. They can cancel their flaws like: spots, red eyes, blackheads, bruises, etc. Doing so, they can have impeccable photos, so they may look like film celebrities. Moreover, Photoshop is also used by models and actors. They MUST appear perfect! The photo does not correspond to the reality, but it gives a false image of the person, "a form of beauty built on a photo"! To sum up, we can say that Photoshopping helps people look better in pictures. This can be necessary for film celebrities, TV actors, fashion models, but not for ordinary people because in the modified photo, shared on the social media, they are just wearing a mask and people could feel disappointed when they meet them. We have to accept ourselves just the way we are!



By Gennaro Santoro (IVI)

The great success of "Romeo and Juliet" is due to its main topic. Even if there are lots of references to different aspects of life, the love story is the only topic that keeps up with time and makes this tragedy an **EVERGREEN**. We always struggle with this



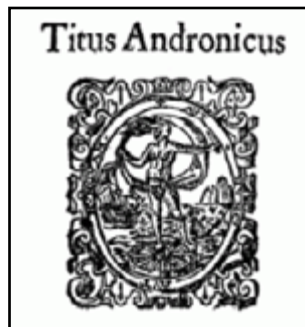
singular conundrum. We constantly feel the pressure of the two main forces that drag us through life, the need **"TO LOVE"** and the wish of **"BEING LOVED"**. Since our first days on earth, we have felt the need for acceptance. In the teenage years, we start to understand that we will never completely fulfill this objective. So, finding a partner for us is a relief because we temporarily feel free from struggles and perceive the illusion of acceptance presented to us as **"love"**. That's the main reason why we will always feel deeply connected



never lose interest in tragedies as **"Romeo and Juliet"**. So, even if time may change human manners, we will always feel the need to love each other.

By Mario Napoletano, Domenico Caviglia (IVA)

Titus Andronicus, one Shakespeare's bloodiest and most important plays, known for its violent plot, was analysed in the latest appointment of the **Shakespearean Lectures at Liceo Fermi**. After a short introduction to the play, including the presentation of the characters and the explanation of the plot, the discussion focused on one of the main topics: **"Who is the real outsider?"** As the students noticed, the concept of 'barbaric' rapidly changes over the play, shifting from the Goths to the Romans and, finally, to Aaron, so that the **'Barbarian'** is not identified by race, but by the personality and the cruelty of his person. The rest of the lecture was almost totally focused on the feminine figure intended as an outsider, as well; the topic was introduced by reading and acting an extract about the planning of Lavinia's rape, acted by Demetrius and Chiron, but suggested by Aaron. This fully involved the students into the issue of violence against women; many of them expressed their ideas about it. The Lecture was accompanied by other students' work, who studied the percentage of the cases of femicide in the last three years in Italy; others presented Elizabeth I's famous speech during her expedition to Tilbury as an example of a strong female identity which was so important to Shakespeare's career as a writer. The lecture ended with a livestream on Facebook where the students expressed their aversion to the terrible phenomenon of femicide, which still that afflicts our time, and showed their support for the campaign against the femicide **'Neanche con un dito'**, by "MRS femminile". **"This lecture really made me reflect on this terrible problem"** - says Mario Napoletano (4A), who performed Demetrius - **"I had never done it before. Playing as one of the characters brought me deeply into the topic, and really left me something. It is a troublesome issue, and after the lecture, I felt shaken by the fact that men can even think to commit a shameful act like this"**. **"The lecture was really interesting and taught something new to me, it shows us an issue that is strongly present nowadays in our modern society. I was really impressed by the fact that many people are able to commit a crime like this. Being one of the actors helped me go deep into the matter"** (Domenico Caviglia, 4A).





## Organic farms? Let me think about them...

By Lorenzo di Lorenzo (3I)

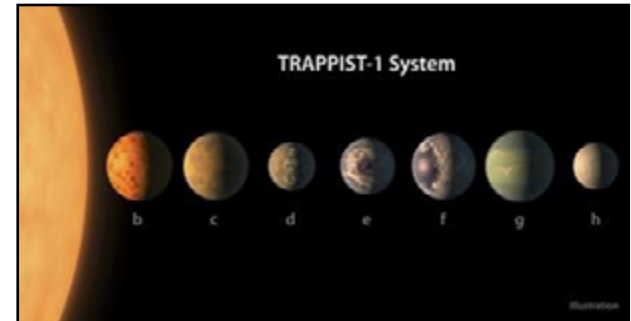
Nowadays, most people aren't fully aware of industrial farming works. Every year people make hundreds of protests against animal cruelty, not knowing that thousands of farms illegally violate lots of laws against animal treatment. Instead, it is necessary to grant animals their rights and a treatment worth of a living being. To stop that, many people are now founding organic farms. Actually, they are "environmentally friendly" because they are totally waste-free which means that any kind of waste made by animals or any production leftover is recycled to become fertilizers or food for animals. As a matter of fact, organic farms have a smaller production of goods (compared to the industrial ones) and industrial products are cheaper than organic ones. Anyway, even if organic products are quite expensive, they are better for local economy. Having many smaller activities all over the territory has been proved to be better than having a few big industrial activities. First of all, it is easier for the costumers to get them at the nearest store. Secondly, spending money in local stores makes profits more likely to remain in that area. Thirdly, the owners of little stores can invest back in local activities, making the local economy rise. To sum up, organic farms are good for the environment and the economy. They make it easier for people to get healthy food near their homes. Don't you think that there should be more organic farms?



## A REVOLUTIONARY DISCOVERY

By Riccardo Ronga, Francesco Muscariello, Emilio Grassi, Martina Bruno, Camilla Tozzi (IIIF)

It wasn't too long ago that we thought the Earth was the only habitable planet in the universe. But recent advancements in space technology led to the discovery of one exoplanet after another, leading to the conclusion that life must exist outside the Earth. The astronomers have identified a few alien planets that could potentially support life. These five are some of the closest Earth-like planets in the habitable zone of their parent star, but they are by no means the only ones that have been identified. NASA has actually discovered more than 2,000 planets that could be home to alien life – but for the most part, we know very little about them. Today, everything changed. NASA just held a press conference announcing the discovery of a solar system that has a host of Earth-sized planets. Three of these are located firmly in the habitable zone, meaning that they very likely have liquid water and could host life. Here's everything you need to know about these finds. According to NASA's Reddit AMA, this discovery sets a new record for the greatest number of habitable-zone planets found around a single star outside our solar system.



**How long would it take with current technology to get to this solar system?**

NASA: Right now, there is no current technology that can get us to the new planetary system. That's why we will use space-based telescopes to "remotely" investigate by observing the planets from afar.

**What is the protocol if you find any signs of life on any of the exoplanets? How long would it take from time of discovery to an actual announcement to the public?**

NASA: We don't have a protocol yet. Most likely, we will make a tentative discovery that will take longer to confirm. But that is a great question, and something that has been considered by many different organizations.

**Stay tuned..... this system has lots of exciting things to teach us!!**

# Music

## “WOMEN and SONGS”

By Francesca Sorriento (IIF)

Women have always been the subject of a lot of songs. Let's have a ride through the past with one of the most famous groups of the 60s: The Beatles. In 1965, the song “Michelle” celebrated love “I love you, I love you, I love you..... That's all I want to say”. A man, inspired by a woman, sang sweet and poetic words. In 1966 ‘Eleanor Rigby’ was recorded. It tells about the depression of a woman who isn't capable to have any relationships. For this reason she ‘picks up the rice in the church where a wedding has been, lives in a dream”

Later, in 1968, ‘Lady Madonna’ was published. “Lady Madonna, children at your feet wonder how you manage to make ends meet.” It is the story of a tired, worn-out and exhausted woman who faces everyday problems “Oh dirty Maggie Mae they have taken her away and she never walks down Lime Street any more”. In 1970 ‘Maggie Mae’ came out. It was a traditional Liverpool folk song. In this song the female figure is seen as dangerous and smart.



## Polly: the story of a rape

By Ilaria Pacilio, Martina Botte, Arianna Esposito, Floriana De Cristofaro (IVF)

### NIRVANA



Nirvana was an American rock band formed by the singer and guitarist Kurt Cobain and bassist Krist Novoselic in Aberdeen, Washington, in 1987. Nirvana went through a succession of drummers, the longest-lasting being Dave Grohl, who joined in 1990. Nirvana was regarded as one of the most influential and important alternative bands in history. Though the band dissolved in 1994 after the suicide of Cobain, their music maintains a popular following and continues to influence modern rock and roll culture. In the late 1980s, Nirvana established itself as part of the Seattle grunge scene and since its debut, the band has sold over 25 million records in the United States alone, and over 75 million records worldwide, making them one of the best-selling bands of all time. Nirvana was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2014, in its first year of eligibility.

“Polly is an intimate love song about rape” - Kurt Cobain says - “It happened something like this to my friend, who was kidnapped and raped by a man for a few days. Sooner or later I had to deal with this traumatic issue. The song already existed before I wrote the text and it was so melodic and accessible that I thought he needed an effective text to increase its beauty.





## Story and Inspiration of the song

Cobain wrote "Polly" after reading a newspaper article about the abduction, torture and rape in August 1987 of a 14-year-old girl by Gerald Arthur Friend. The girl asked hitchhiked with his brother, so the maniac took advantage to beat and rape her and cut her hair. The girl escaped swimming in a river and meeting a motorcyclist; her attacker was jailed when his father called the hospital and the police because he found him hurt by gunshot. Initially, it was supposed that he would never leave prison having received a sentence of 75 years but, despite being escaped twice, in 1980 he was released after only 20 years of imprisonment. And this choice of the judge changed forever the life of another young of fourteen, who after attending a punk rock concert in Tacoma in 1987, met him. It is here that begins the story told by Nirvana, a story that has its greatest originality factor in the adoption of the point of view of a man who raped and beat up an innocent teenager, torturing her with leather whips, razor, wax hot and blowtorch. A choice that very few artists would do because few are able and have the will to analyze the "evil" in such a deep way and from such a special perspective.

## "THE SHOW MUST GO ON"

By Pellecchia Luigi, Verde Antonio, Pondurno Claudia, Rosano Francesca, Mangiacapre Michele (IIF)

Freddie Mercury was a British singer, songwriter, and record producer also known as the lead vocalist and co-principal songwriter of the rock band "QUEEN". In the middle of his career, while he was having success all over the world, he found out he had AIDS... a terrible disease that slowly kills your immune system making you weak and tired. It can be transmitted in three different ways: during sexual intercourses, by infected needles and by breast milk. Some people think that he got AIDS because he used to go to homosexual night clubs every night where he used to take drugs and have sexual intercourses. In spite of his sickness he still managed to finish his last album before dying.



### CURIOSITY

Did you know that when Brian May (the guitarist of the band) told Mercury that the musical industry was too hard for him because of his health condition, he answered with his most famous quote: "THE SHOW MUST GO ON"?

## Billboard's Women in music

By Francesco Solino, Ventre Antonio (IIF)

Billboard, one of the most important and influential international music magazines, every year holds a very important event even called "Billboard Women In Music". Its main award is entitled Woman of the Year that recognized "women in the music industry who have made significant contributions to the business and who, through their work and continuous success, inspire generations of women to take on increasing responsibilities within the field" according to the magazine. Last year the Woman of the Year was attributed to Madonna "A global icon who extended her record as the highest-grossing female touring artist of all time".



Another very important edition was in 2015 when Lady Gaga was honored by Billboard with the "Woman of the Year" and also with the "Artist of the Decade" in the same year, precisely in the same week. It was the first time in history that these two prizes were awarded to the same person. A curiosity is that Lady Gaga released only a song in that period "Till it happens to you", song and music video about violence on women, from the cine-documentary "The hunting ground" (on the theme of rape in colleges). That song was also nominated for the Oscar, won a Grammy and was also performed both at the Women in Music both at the Oscar Night.





# Changing lives Opening minds

## “SAME BUT DIFFERENT”

By Giorgia Gaia Melucci, Claudia Pondurno (IIF)

It may seem strange but Erasmus + isn't only a journey: it is a chance to meet new people, to get in touch with different cultures and to face unknown realities. But what exactly is Erasmus and why did we choose to join it? Firstly, **Erasmus+ Micro Region in Macro Europe** is a high school project which includes schools with social inequalities,

exclusion and dropping out and which aims at getting youngsters ready to face the current world of job. Moreover, we chose to be part of this challenging



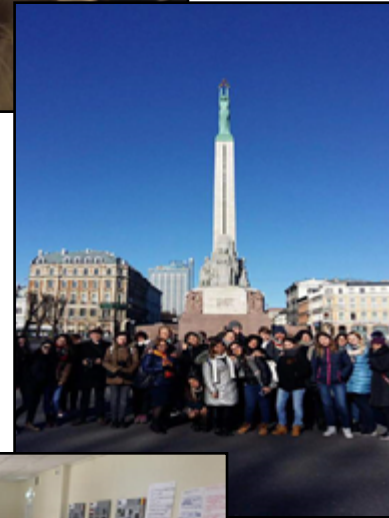
adventure because we wanted to discover how beautiful the European traditions are and how much they can be similar to each other. But now, let's start with the report !! Our journey began on March 26th when we arrived in the magical Riga. Believe us if we say that Latvia is full of contradictions; this country became a European state in 2004 but the Russian influence is still evident; the stateliness of building and

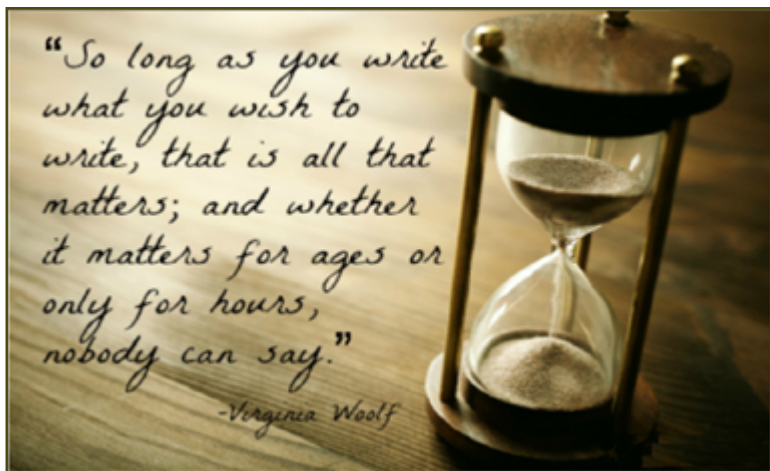
monuments is breathtaking but it's usual to come across with neighborhoods that are devastated by poverty and hardship . Everywhere pictures of colourful gardens are sold but winter has just gone and you can only see leafless trees ... How do we know that? It's easy: after working on interesting workshops with all the foreign students



we used to go out to visit the city and to learn something more about it. We also went to Laima, a chocolate factory! We'll keep in our memory all the people we met

there as well as the taste of salad with strawberry jam! No doubt It has been one of the most exciting experiences of our lives and we do hope we will never stop appreciating the importance of being different and yet together...





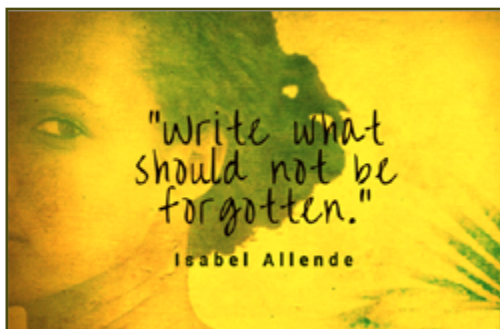
"So long as you write what you wish to write, that is all that matters; and whether it matters for ages or only for hours, nobody can say."

-Virginia Woolf

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"Write what should not be forgotten."

Isabel Allende

