

## **Dante Series**

September 28th

13**21** 

2021

The Center for Italian Studies presents

## The Gems of Dante's Divine Comedy



## A Lecture by Ann C. Pizzorusso,

Geologist and Italian Renaissance scholar

Ann C. Pizzorusso is a geologist and Italian Renaissance scholar. Over the years, Ann has experienced many facets of geology, from her Arizona University mapping in the Grand Canyon to drilling for oil, hunting for gems and planning for seismic safety. In her position as Director of Environmental Affairs for Philips Electronics, both Philips and Ann received many awards for their environmental efforts including the World Environmental Center Award for Corporate Environmental Excellence.

Having traveled extensively, Ann decided to learn more about language, art and culture. She took up the study of Italian and enrolled in a Master's program in Italian Renaissance studies at New York University. There, being the only geologist in her classes, she challenged professors to allow her to undertake research projects which would combine art and science. Many revolutionary studies resulted from her work which culminated in her multi- prize winning book entitled "Tweeting da Vinci" which explores how the geology of Italy influenced its art, architecture, medicine, religion, literature and just about everything else. She has continued with "Leonardo da Vinci Cartographer and Inventor of the Google Map", Leonardo da Vinci: Geological Representations in the Virgin and Child with St. Anne", "The Gems of Dante's Divine Comedy" and other art-science based articles.

A native of New Haven, Ct. Ann now divides her time between New York City and Italy where she continues to write and lecture about God's beautiful creation—the Earth.