

## The Columbus Affair:

Imperatives for an Italian/American Agenda

April 19, Tuesday, 5:00 p.m. Melville E-4340

Professor A. **Tamburri**, (CUNY/Calandra Institute) discusses his latest book in conversation with Professor G. **Gazzola** (Center for Itlian Studies, Director)



THE COLUMBUS AFFAIRS engages in the intellectual, crisscrossing zigzag of a quagmire that is the Columbus Affair and hence demonstrates the major complexities of such argumentation. The goal, modest it may seem, is to examine aspects of each side, with the hopes of spurring on an even greater discussion among all parties within our Italian/American semiosphere. After all, one of numerous issues with which Italian Americans at large need to come to terms is the Columbus Affair. Education, philanthropy, social and cultural activism are just three other issues that reside on the same plane. There is an interconnection here, the sight of which we cannot lose.

ANTHONY JULIAN TAMBURRI is Dean of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute (Queens College, CUNY) and Distinguished Professor of European Languages and Literatures. He is co-founder and co-director of Bordighera Press, past president of the Italian American Studies Association and of the American Association of Teachers of Italian. His latest authored books include: *The Columbus Affair: Imperatives for an Italian/American Agenda* (2021); and *Signing Italian/American Cinema: A More Focused Look* (2021). He is executive producer and host of the Calandra Institute's TV program, *Italics*, produced in collaboration with CUNY TV. He also writes a column for La Voce di New York, entitled "The Italian diaspora."