Theatre and Performance in Italy

Italian 461, section# 34445, units: 4.0
Mon./Wed. 3:30pm-4:50pm ~Location: online
Prerequisite: Italian 320

Fall 2020

Giorgio de Chirico, Le maschere, 1973, Olio su tela

Instructor: Dr. Francesca Leardini
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Course Description
This course will focus on modern and contemporary theatre masterpieces by Italian writers such as Luigi Pirandello, Dario Fo, and Peppino De Filippo. It will explore their plays within the historical context in which they were written, and relate them to the tradition of Italian theatre throughout the ages. Students will explore the history of Italian theatre from the origins to modern times, and learn about the development of the theatre as a physical space. In addition, students will investigate the connection between theatre and music, and will become acquainted with some Italian lyric operas, and writers of libretti. Students will read theoretical writings, watch video recordings of most of the plays they will study, will become familiar with renowned Italian actors, and watch and listen to opera clips. Students will be asked to interpret theatre texts through close reading, verbal expression, and in the writing of essays on the works we will discuss and in class.

Class is held in Italian