

# The long term revolutionary influence of Copernicus on the Italian literature

*Friday, 29 September 2023 19:00 (30 minutes)*

“Il Copernico” by Giacomo Leopardi is an ironic short treatise, written in dialogue form, that the Italian poet wished to include in his “Operette morali” collection. However, he did not, being aware that the treatise would have been noticed and rejected by the Neapolitan censorship. “Il Copernico” was thus included in the collection and published only 8 years later, when Leopardi had already passed away. How was it possible that almost 3 centuries after the “De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium” publication the Copernican system was still considered scandalous? And what did Leopardi exactly fear? Another famous Italian writer, Luigi Pirandello, would have made the hero of one of his best known novel, answer to those questions, some years later.

**Presenter:** FOCARDI, Paola (Università di Bologna)

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