



## ERASMUS+ (2015-2018)

### Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships for school education

#### Report R1 by A. Soriente

Of the meeting that took place in Rome at I.I.S. "Via Emery 97" - I.P.S. "Stendhal"  
Concerning R1 - **First transnational meeting** from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of November, 2015  
within the Erasmus + Schools Partnership "NUITS BLANCHES - NOTTI BIANCHE (NBE+)"

#### About the project:

*Building a common cultural project;*

*Understanding old fears to better compare and face contemporary fears.*

*The project intends to give a different and new meaning to contents and topics often perceived as too specific, disconnected from each other or from reality, by students who tend to neglect certain school subjects and / or show little ability to articulate the knowledge to perform complex tasks.*

*The problem may affect students who have chosen a vocational or technical education and do not more clearly see the value of general subjects, and students under a general education, which however offer imbalanced school profiles. It promotes a teaching method based on networking.*

*The project also aims to improve the capacity of our students on the use of ICT.*

Finally, we wish to develop student interest, including those who are not enrolled in the most prestigious deemed training provided by the school, and among which a minority having attendance problems and malaise that we hope to reverse. The confrontation of the experiences of all partner schools will help to identify and disseminate "best practices" in this regard.

As the project is held in English linguistic skills improvement is also included in the main goals, as requested is a rewriting of the myths and legends in their different languages : graphic, linguistic, artistic and so on.

#### Welcome at IPS STENDHAL





## The agenda of the meeting

### Day 1

#### Welcoming & Opening Speech

On the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 9.00 the meeting started at I.P.S. “Stendhal” School. The Italian Headmistress Prof.ssa Marina Frettoni welcomed everybody. Opening Speech. Each coordinator introduced her/his own school and country/town with a short presentation of the activities they had done until the meeting. Presentation of the Graphyc works exposed in the main hall of the Institute in a Corner dedicated to the Erasmus+ Project NBE+, which had been coordinated and produced by Prof.ssa Barbara Salvucci ( Graphyc and Art teacher) and the students of the Graphyc Area.



#### Visit to Italian National Agency Erasmus+, Indire, via Guidubaldo del Monte n. 54

This visit involved a delegation of nine professors hosted by the Italian team, as partners of the project Nuits Blanches NBE+ from the following countries France, Romania, Latvia, Turkey.

The aim of the visit was to introduce the Italian National Agency, to appreciate tools and new training methods, develop cooperative learning and discover the reality of the Erasmus+ project.

Presenters:

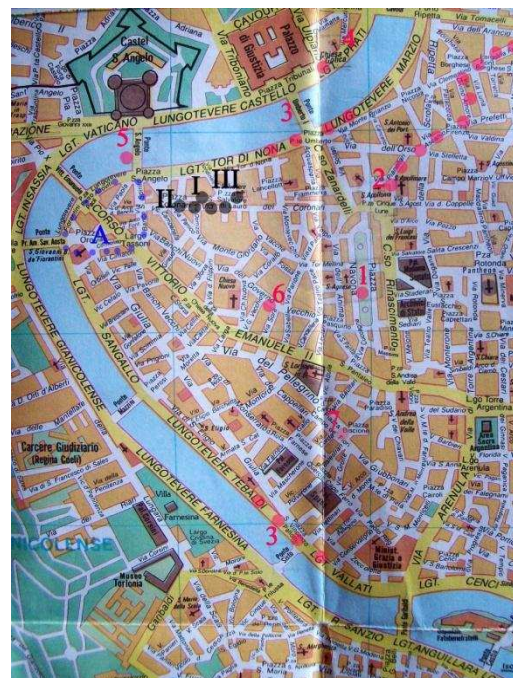
Letizia Cinganotto “A slideshow of ideas for innovation”

Claudia Peritore “Presentation of the Italian National Agency Erasmus+ Indire”



Cultural visit in the afternoon, pedestrian itinerary around the “half moon”(Piazza Navona, Ponte Sant’Angelo, Campo dei Fiori);

The itinerary around the “half moon” identifies the area where a temple dedicated to Proserpina had been built underground. The Temple which has been occasionally opened at each celebration, had surely contributed to give birth to the popular legend according to which the bend (called “ansa” or “gomito” i.e. “elbow” literally in Italian) of the river Tiber, was believed to be one of the “doors” to Hell. The District has been chosen because a certain bend of the Tiber is said to be the site in which an antique temple dedicated to Proserpina had been erected, in fact it seems to be the entrance to the world of the Dead and the Kingdom of Hell.

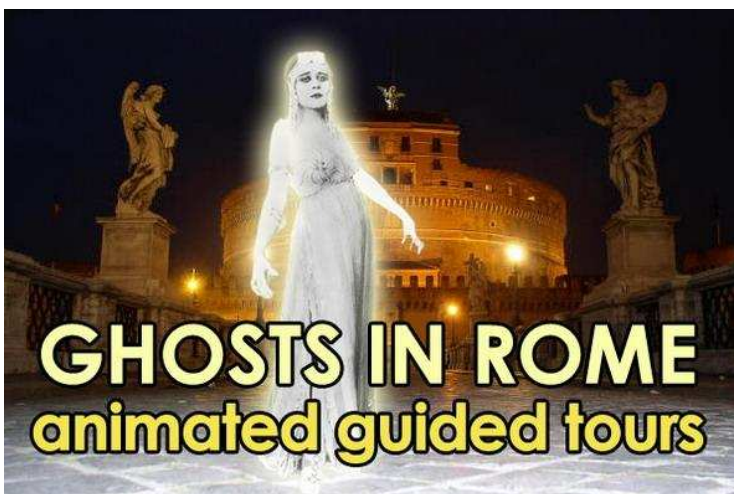




**Guided visit and happening (street theatre)**

**Meet at 18.00 in Piazza Navona, in front of the church of St. Agnese in Agone.**

**“Genti e Paesi” guided tours on the ghosts in Rome, it has always been a great success in Roman public and tourists.**



**The visit of the duration of about 2 hours includes the appearance of 4 actors along the path**

that for a few minutes recite tracks related to the characters.

The places where the 'ghosts' appear are:

- Piazza Farnese - Cagliostro
- Ponte Sant'Angelo - Beatrice Cenci
- Piazza di Pasquino - Pimpaccia
- Locanda della Vacca, Angolo Piazza Campo dei Fiori - Pope Alessandro VI (Rodrigo Borgia)

The route runs between Piazza Navona, Campo de' Fiori, Piazza Farnese, Via del Governo Vecchio, the amazing lookout by Ponte degli Angeli, where we hear the echoing footsteps of the unfortunate Beatrice Cenci.

The protagonists of the initiatory journey, however, are not only fountains, churches, palaces and Baroque Rome but includes women and men involved in legends, tragedies.

The intriguing Pimpaccia, the infamous Alexander VI Borgia, Cagliostro and his visionary wife Lorenza, the infested palace in Via del Governo Vecchio, constitute the topography of Rome spiritual mysteries of a long history of triumphs and decadence, of lights and shadows delivered to eternal beauty.

### Campo dei Fiori :

Giordano Bruno, a thinker and philosopher whose works had been thought to be heretical by the Catholic Church, was burnt here on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1600. He wrote that the universe was infinite with neither centre nor periphery, that Nature is God, an immanent "cause without cause" pervading all matter. Needless to say that he embraced Pantheism and rejected the Aristotelian conception of the universe altogether: for that reason, he was sent to the stake by Cardinal Bellarmino, the same person who forced Galileo to abjure and spend the rest of his life in house arrest. By the way, Bellarmino is a Saint of the Roman Catholic Church, since he was canonized on 1930 by the Pope Pius X during the Fascist Period. Bruno's last words were "perhaps, while you are passing this judgement against me, you are more afraid than me whilst going to my death". His ghost is reported still to haunt this square.



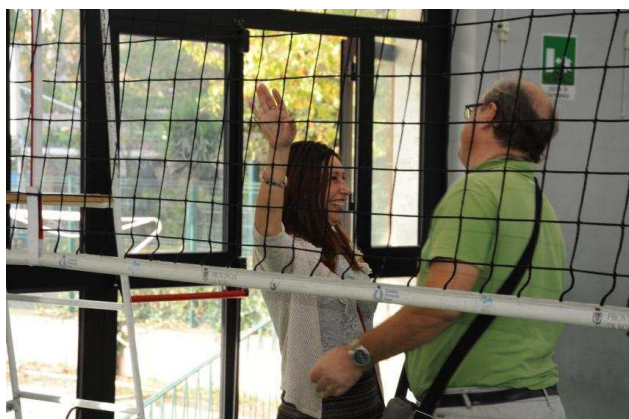
The cultural pedestrian visit has been assisted by the teachers: Alessandra Soriente, Edda Cerasi, and Gabriele Massa (as expert of Classic Literature and History). The pictures have been taken by Andrea Biasini (photographer and teacher of Photography).

Day 2

10/11/2015

### School visit & Presentation

Intercultural meeting with teachers: prof.ssa Edda Cerasi introduces the Business and Commercial Area, the Health Care Area and the main Projects of the School. The Co-teaching Project and the Graphyc Designer Area has been presented by prof.ssa Laura Guli. The matinée has been enriched by the pupils' dance performances exploiting themes and atmospheres of the topics coordinated by prof.ssa Ester De Tullio.



### Official opening NBE+

Coordinators Speeches ; Presentation and analysis of the dissemination activity in the project (website, e- twinning). Each coordinator prepared a short presentation of the activities they did until the meeting.

Cultural visit in the afternoon.

(Pedestrian itinerary, Rome: Mystery, Miths and Legends.

Colosseo, San Clemente, Pantheon, Colonna di Traiano, Galleria Sciarra, Chiesa della Vergine, Fontana di Trevi, Ara Pacis, Piazza Augusto Imperatore)

Day 3

11/11/2015

Meeting for establishing responsibilities and deadlines in the project

Plenary Discussion, about differences between demands and allowed funds, the notes of the evaluation committee.

Plenary Discussion, planning / schedule for all the other meetings , organizing mobilities and activities.

Final conclusions of the meeting, filling the evaluation questionnaire, signing the minute. Certificates of attendance for each participant.

## CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

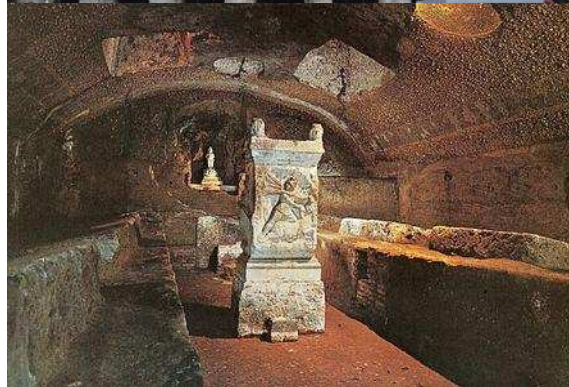
The Colosseum, whose real name was Flavian Amphitheatre, was built by the Emperor Flavius Vespasian. It could host 50.000 people and it could be flooded in order to perform naval battles (“naumachiae”). The term “Colosseum” actually indicated a giant statue of Nero that had been erected on the site where the amphitheatre was going to be built. It is told that the name itself comes from the idea that it could have been a diabolic temple, as it was a place of strong emotions and violence, for the death of men and wild beasts; so with the advent of Christianity it was linked to negativity and thus demonized. In the popular tradition of 16<sup>th</sup> Century, it was believed that the arena was home to demons and sorcerers.

Basilica of San Clemente, in the omonime square : in the basement of this Church there is one of the most beautiful Mithraea of Rome and Italy.

Mithraism was an indoarian cult imported in Rome from the near East - just like other popular religions and mysteries such as the rites of Isis and Christianity itself: during the imperial age, it became so popular and widespread that not only did it count several emperors among its followers (Nero, Gordian III, Diocletian, Julian) but it seriously rivalled Christianity until the 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

According to the tradition, Mithras was born out of a rock on December 25<sup>th</sup>, *Natalis Solis Invicti* (around the winter solstice), the birthday of the invincible sun, which later on will coincide with the Christian Christmas. It was no coincidence, indeed: since this pagan tradition, deeply rooted within both the military environment and the lower classes, could not be wiped out by the early Church, it was turned into a Christian festival.

At the beginning of the universe, Mithras, later identified with the Sun, had slain the sacred Bull - embodying Life - in order to save him from the spirit of evil, Hariman; the world was created by the animal’s blood. As soon as a cosmic explosion will have brought the cosmos to an end, those initiated into the mysteries of the god will be rewarded with immortality. Mithras’ mission was saving humanity, and therefore the God had to kill and shed on the earth the blood of the animal symbol of life, the bull. Mithras’ aim was not easy at all because opposed to his enterprise were some



animals such as the scorpion, the dog and the serpent, symbols of evil, or rather the "chaos". But the God still managed to kill the animal: from its blood shed on earth prunes the vine, from its bones the grain and from its seed the useful animals for the human beings.

The choice of the animals which oppose taurochtony was not casual, in fact rites were celebrated especially during the spring equinox, in the sign of the "bull" and, what is not casual at all, the constellation opposite happens to be that of the "scorpion".

The Mithraic religion is thus linked to the cosmos and to the seasons. The rites were celebrated preferably in caves or underground places, which represented in their interiors both the celestial vault and the foothills of a mountain, from which the Sun-Mithra rises in the morning. As for the here concerned mithraeum, there are also eleven openings which should represent good and evil. Seven of these doors are supposed to represent the major Constellations and the four seasons. Among the ceremonies of worship was prescribed an adept ablution in sacred baths rather similar to our baptism, also it seems that the most characteristic part of the ritual was the final banquet in memory of the triumph of Mithras, during when they ate bread, water and wine : "food" and "drinks" which is also found in the Christian culture.

In the worship of Mithras we find the themes of the "sacrifice" of the "Last Supper" and the "Ascension", proper of Christianity. If the similarities with Christianity are many, however, the differences are even more: in fact Mithraic religion is based on the release of the adept and the search for the achievement of a unity with the divine. This myth, in many ways, reminds us of those linked to the worship of the mother goddess. In fact, the cave is the typical environment coinage linked to the image of the female belly, while the bull, whose horns are so similar to the fallopian tubes, gives "birth" to the "knowledge".

All herein explained is present in the mithraeum in the Church of San Clemente. In the lower level of the building we find a vestibule adorned with beautiful stucco and then the room where there is an altar adorned with precisely the image of the "tauroctony", a huge snake and finally the two "dadophori" (two recurring male figures whose names were Cautes and Cautopates. They were always depicted as torch-bearers), one with the torch upside down and one with the torch raised to symbolize respectively the day and night. The first is Cautes, symbol of the solar activities between December 21<sup>st</sup> and June 21<sup>st</sup>, the other, Cautopates, is the sun in the declining phase.

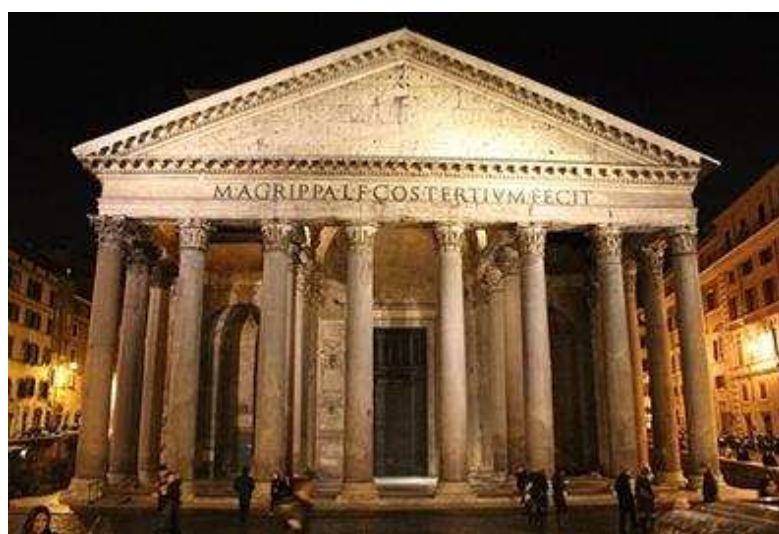
The site of San Clemente, however, was a real school; it consists of three rooms and a cloud of intricate corridors : a Triclinio, a porch and an environment where the adepts learned the Seven Truths. Deeping then into other areas, a dull sound of water can be always heard, in the lower level of the church because of a spring that links between the cult of Mithras to the Seasons and the Goddess Mother.

**Pantheon, Piazza della Rotonda:** born to be a pagan temple was dedicated to all the Gods.

One of the symbols of the city of Rome is the Pantheon, built in 27 BC by Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa - Augustus' right-hand man and lieutenant, as well as his son-in-law, since he married the emperor's daughter Julia -and rebuilt by Emperor Hadrian in the second century AD; it was so named because it was dedicated to "all the Gods" (*pantes*



*theoi* in Greek). The porch of sixteen monolithic columns introduces the building itself, in circular plant, topped by a hemispherical dome with a diameter of 43.30 meters, the largest that has ever been built. It was realised through the use lighter and lighter materials as it gets higher: concrete and brick at the base, then concrete and tuff and, finally, concrete and pumice stone. Its lightness increased by the lacunar ceiling. On its top there is an “oculus”, an opening from which the sunlight - or the rain, depending on the weather - gets in. Inside, we find seven niches that once contained the planetary gods. The building itself is made inside a large imaginary sphere, symbol of the divine Eternity. The Pantheon has been built pointing toward the cardinal points (the entrance is located in the east), "with a difference of 5 °, equal to the obliquity of the lunar orbit," just as it is for “Palazzo della Ragione” in Padua and Castel del Monte, Andria. The bronze covering which once adorned the ceiling of the pronaos was removed by pope Urban VIII and used for the Canopy (“Baldacchino”) by Gianlorenzo Bernini in St. Peter’s Cathedral: that’s why a common say states that “quod non fecerut barbari fecerunt Barberini” (“the Barberinis did what barbarians did not do”): in fact, Rome had just been plundered by the Lansquenets in 1527 and Urban VIII belonged to the powerful Barberini family. Among others, several important persons are buried inside the Pantheon: painters Annibale Caracci and Raffaello Sanzo and two Kings of Italy, Vittorio Emanuele II and Umberto I.



# PROGRAMMA ERASMUS+ 2015-2018

NBE+



Erasmus+

## NOTTI BIANCHE

Costruire un progetto culturale comune.  
Capire paure antiche per affrontare meglio le paure contemporanee.  
"Costruire un progetto culturale comune su la Festa e i Riti della Notte"

### COORDINATORE

LYCEE MAURICE RAVEL  
SAINT JEAN DE LUZ (Francia)

### PARTNERS

Colegiul economic "Iulian Pop"  
Cluj-Napoca (Romania)

Rigas 18 vakara (mainu) vidusskola  
Riga (Lettonia)

ULUSOY MTAJ  
gesme, Izmir (Turchia)

I.I.S. VIA EMERY 97 Roma (Italia)

### METODI

attraverso il teatro, i video, e la divulgazione scientifica,  
la pratica del "vivere insieme" al di là delle differenze individuali  
(fase di indagine sui miti e le celebrazioni della Notte,  
fase di riscrittura del mito di Dracula e fase di disseminazione e  
diffusione pubblica dei frutti di questo lavoro).

### PRINCIPALI IMPATTI PREVISTI

Valorizzazione delle competenze di tutti gli studenti e sviluppo della loro  
autonomia attraverso una strategia di apprendimento peer-to-peer.  
L'attuazione di una valutazione attraverso gli obiettivi più qualificanti per gli studenti  
più rilevante per insegnarli, sviluppo di competenze informatiche degli studenti e  
del personale scolastico, familiarizzazione con l'ICT.

### OGGETTIVO PRINCIPALE

L'organizzazione di un festival internazionale a Saint-Jean-de-Luz,  
che culmina il ciclo degli scambi internazionali.

### OGGETTIVI OPERATIVI

Realizzare un sito web NBE+ / un blog associato  
Realizzare indagini geografiche sulle tradizioni locali  
Studiare / utilizzare ricerche scientifiche effettuate dai Partner per razionalizzare i miti  
Incontri multilaterali  
Produzione di lavori di scrittura e riscrittura  
Interpretazioni grafiche o drammatiche di miti  
Produzioni di costumi e oggetti, immagini  
Organizzazione di un festival multilingue  
Drammatizzazioni e conferenze da parte degli studenti  
Uso di piattaforme di un DVD per render conto del risultato finale e diffondere un metodo.

