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# Christ In Concrete

**Louise Napolitano**



## **Christ In Concrete:**

**Christ in Concrete** Pietro di Donato, 2004-09-07 Giving voice to the hardworking Italian immigrants who worked and died in New York City shortly before the Great Depression this American classic ranks with Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* as one of the 20th century's great works of social protest Largely autobiographical *Christ in Concrete* opens with the dramatic Good Friday collapse of a building under construction crucifying in concrete an Italian construction worker whose death leaves his pregnant wife and eight children impoverished His oldest son Paul at just twelve years old must take over his father's role and his job Paul's odyssey into manhood begins on the high girders where death is an occupational hazard and a boy's dreams are the first fatality Written in sonorous prose that recalls the speaker's Italian origins Pietro di Donato's *Christ in Concrete* is at once a powerful social document and a deeply moving story about the American immigrant experience

[An American Story](#) Louise Napolitano, 1995 This text closely examines Pietro DiDonato's classic novel *Christ in Concrete* from an historical sociological and literary perspective Louise Napolitano examines *Christ in Concrete* 1939 as a chronicle of the experience of Italian immigrants in the United States during the twenties and early thirties The literary analysis involves a thematic and stylistic study focusing on the work's modern realistic naturalistic romantic and classic qualities In addition this study places *Christ in Concrete* in both the American as well as the Italian American literary tradition

**Christ in Concrete** Pietro Di Donato, 1937 [Resurrecting Christ in Concrete](#) Joseph A. DiPasquale, 2015 Abstract In 1939 Pietro Di Donato's landmark novel *Christ in Concrete* was released to accolades of admiration vindicating the Italian American immigrant Since their mass immigration to American shores in the late nineteenth century their status was left socially and economically bereft in a fog of misunderstanding and marginalization as a low class almost white ethnic culture This marginalization encouraged many Italian Americans to seek outside relief in the form of proletarian activism while many wrote radical proletarian pamphlets in refutation of the American Dream This dissertation proposes to analyze the novel in relation to radical proletarian writings by Italian Americans alongside *Christ in Concrete* and its author and his ideology which propelled him to write *Christ in Concrete* Tracing the radicalization of Italian American immigrants during the first decades of the twentieth century through political economic and societal measures adds impetus to the dissertation's analysis of radical proletarian literature *Christ in Concrete* represents one of the most notable vehicles by which to analyze the Italian American immigrant Pietro Di Donato was lauded as a shining figure to add to the proletarian gallery of artists Gardaph *Italian Signs* 66 Some critics worried that this early spotlight of honor may have blinded his artistic vision as none of his subsequent works met the standards of this early achievement Napolitano 7 But in terms of proletarian radical literature *Christ in Concrete* envelops the immigrant experience in language style and the mores of Italian Americans The dissertation journeys into this writer's ascent from an initial reading to a path of determination to acquire book rights and create a film to spur this unique book to its rightful place in literary history Acquiring the book rights is only part of the story I wrote a

screenplay assembled a star studded cast all the while pursuing an academic path studying the Italian American proletariat literature with *Christ in Concrete* as the paradigm I was propelled into making this film and onto the public scene in response to a statement written by Fred Gardaph In his analysis of the Italian American population he declared that Italian Americans are invisible people because they refuse to be seen and this dissertation proposes to expose this hidden essential segment of Americana Gardaph *Anti Italianism* 1 In my almost thirty years of working in the film and television industry nothing has gripped me like *Christ in Concrete* The end result of my work as a screenwriter adapting the novel into a script resulted in my further examination of the academic life of the novel and writing like it Ultimately the two will work in concert for me to produce the film version of *Christ in Concrete* after decades of its sidelining from American culture

**Pietro DiDonato, the Master Builder** Matthew Diomedes, 1995 In *Pietro DiDonato the Master Builder* author Matthew Diomedes explores the role of the immigrant Italian American writer in twentieth century American letters by examining the life and work of the novelist dramatist and essayist Pietro DiDonato Diomedes uses the text of two lengthy interviews with the writer to discover the themes of love death women beauty rebellion and the mystery of life that can be found in DiDonato's works He also touches on DiDonato's writing process Diomedes then incorporates these concepts into a critical analysis of several of DiDonato's works including his novels *This Woman* *Christ in Concrete* and *Three Circles of Light* a play *The Love of Annunziata* two biographies *Immigrant Saint* *The Life of Mother Cabrini* and *The Penitent* and an essay *Christ in Plastic* Central to Diomedes's analysis are two concepts of analyst Carl Jung that dreams can prove valuable in understanding ourselves and that full human realization occurs when a person takes on a father male component and a mother female component Diomedes also explores the development of DiDonato's autobiographical character Paul Paolo in three novels and a play He then demonstrates the value of dreams by tracing Paul's dream nightmare in *Christ in Concrete* through DiDonato's oeuvre to the character's fullest development in *This Woman* the pinnacle of DiDonato's work Besides exploring the Jungian concepts in DiDonato's biographies Diomedes demonstrates how love is the concrete that is central to the author's work

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**Sensational Modernism** Joseph B. Entin, 2007 Challenging the conventional wisdom that the 1930s were dominated by literary and photographic realism Entin uncovers a rich vein of experimental work by politically progressive artists Examining images by photographers such as Weegee and Aaron Siskind

**The Novel and the American Left** Janet Galligani Casey, 2004-06 The first collection of critical essays to focus specifically on the fiction produced by American novelists of the Depression era *The Novel and the American Left* contributes substantially to the newly emerging emphasis on twentieth century American literary radicalism Recent studies have recovered this body of work and redefined in historical and theoretical terms its vibrant contribution to American letters Casey consolidates and expands this field of study by providing a more specific consideration of individual novels and novelists many of which are reaching new contemporary audiences through reprints

The Novel and the American Left focuses exclusively on left leaning fiction of the Depression era lending visibility and increased critical validity to these works and showing the various ways in which they contributed not only to theorizations of the Left but also to debates about the content and form of American fiction In theoretical terms the collection as a whole contributes to the larger reconceptualization of American modernity currently under way More pragmatically individual essays suggest specific authors texts and approaches to teachers and scholars seeking to broaden and or complicate more traditional American modernism syllabi and research agendas The selected essays take up among others such hard core leftist writers as Mike Gold and Myra Page who were associated with the Communist Party the popular novels of James M Cain and Kenneth Fearing whose works were made into successful films and critically acclaimed but nonetheless lost novelists such as Josephine Johnson whose Now in November Pulitzer Prize 1936 anticipates and complicates the more popular agrarian mythos of Steinbeck s The Grapes of Wrath This volume will be of interest not only to literary specialists but also to historians social scientists and those interested in American cultural studies

American Dantes Zygmunt G. Baranski, Theodore J. Cachey, Jr., 2025-09-15 American Dantes provides fresh perspectives on Dante s reception and cultural impact in the United States over the past two hundred years American Dantes investigates the depth and breadth of Dante s American legacy from the early nineteenth century to the present Showcasing an impressive array of approaches from renowned literary and Dante scholars this book explores how Dante has influenced American poetry fiction memoir painting film television and political and religious discourse This collection offers an extensive look at the vibrant and ongoing scholarly traditions of research editing translation and creative adaptation that have established Dante s Divine Comedy as a classic in American literary culture influencing cultural movements from transcendentalism to jazz to the Black radical tradition and more Contributors David Wallace Laura Dassow Walls Joshua Matthews Dennis Looney Kathleen Boyle Kathleen Verduin Christian Y Dupont Kristina M Olson Henry Weinfield Stephen Fredman Joseph Elkanah Rosenberg Arielle Saiber and Peter S Hawkins

**Hollywood Exiles in Europe** Rebecca Prime, 2014-01-14 Rebecca Prime documents the untold story of the American directors screenwriters and actors who exiled themselves to Europe as a result of the Hollywood blacklist During the 1950s and 1960s these Hollywood migr s directed wrote or starred in almost one hundred European productions their contributions ranging from crime film masterpieces like Du rififi chez les hommes 1955 Jules Dassin director to international blockbusters like The Bridge on the River Kwai 1957 Carl Foreman and Michael Wilson screenwriters and acclaimed art films like The Servant 1963 Joseph Losey director At once a lively portrait of a lesser known American lost generation and an examination of an important transitional moment in European cinema the book offers a compelling argument for the significance of the blacklisted migr s to our understanding of postwar American and European cinema and Cold War relations Prime provides detailed accounts of the production and reception of their European films that clarify the ambivalence with which Hollywood was regarded within postwar European culture Drawing upon extensive

archival research including previously classified material Hollywood Exiles in Europe suggests the need to rethink our understanding of the Hollywood blacklist as a purely domestic phenomenon By shedding new light on European cinema s changing relationship with Hollywood the book illuminates the postwar shift from national to transnational cinema

*Transatlantic Modernism* Robert P. McParland, 2025-06-10 This book explores transatlantic modernism and the relationship of modernist authors with the thought of their time and their search for meaning It is an introduction to the interactions between literary modernism artistic culture religion and philosophy The novelists studied include Conrad Woolf Faulkner Mann Hemingway Kafka Joyce Lawrence and others The poets include Eliot Rilke Stevens Frost Williams and Moore Literary modernism engaged explorations of literary form language ways of knowing the world identity commitment chance truth and beauty The book considers how writers sought belief or denied it and participated in the intellectual spirit of their time Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute Print and Document Scripts Collection, 1924\* *Forum Italicum*, 1967 **The Exhibitor**, 1947 Some issues include separately paged sections Better management Physical theatre extra profits Review Servisection America, 1960 The Jesuit review of faith and culture Nov 13 2017 **Praxis**, 1978 Esquire, 1937 **Concrete** Harvey Whipple, 1927 *The Annual Obituary*, 1992 Concrete, 1927 **Jesus, the Christ, in the Light of Psychology** Granville Stanley Hall, 1917

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