

press release

Escaping from Hyenas: from Eritrea to Lampedusa

talk by the journalist **IMMA VITELLI**

FRIDAY 19th DECEMBER 2014 AT 10:30 AM

**Auditorium "Sac. Vincenzo Minutella", Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore
"Luigi Failla Tedaldi" - Castelbuono (Palermo)**



photo I. Vitelli

The Civic Museum of Castelbuono is pleased to announce *Escaping from Hyenas – from Eritrea to Lampedusa*, a talk by the journalist **Imma Vitelli** which will be held on Friday 19th December 2014 at 10:30 AM in the **Auditorium "Sac. Vincenzo Minutella"** of the **Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore "Luigi Failla Tedaldi"** in Castelbuono.

The war correspondent for Vanity Fair Italy on major international fronts, **Imma Vitelli** will describe her direct experience of the migration route that leads from Eritrea to Lampedusa, through the Sahara desert, Libya and the Channel of Sicily. The Mediterranean has become symbolic of the tragedies happening there on a daily basis: an ever growing number of migrants face the dangerous journey of hope to reach the Sicilian coast, in search of a better life.

After a recent talk held at Villa La Pietra, home of the New York University in Florence, Imma Vitelli arrives in Castelbuono, as part of the strategic repositioning of the Museum as an observation post on the political, social issues in the Mediterranean area. Amongst the numerous emergencies, the issue of immigration in the Mediterranean is a topical one that also affects the Madonie area, as this year many of the surrounding towns of the Madonie Regional Park joined the Protection System for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (Sprar) accepting many migrants in public and private accommodation.

Last August, in Castelbuono, about thirty male minors arrived and were housed in a religious institute in Piazza Castello, next to the Civic Museum. Some migrants, accommodated also in other facilities of the area, will be involved in a dialogue with the journalist Imma Vitelli. This talk "shows that a Civic Museum belongs to all those who frequent it, and not only of those who live in the town", says the Director, Laura Barreca, "it is a lively place that speaks to the community, starting with school children. The entire community of Castelbuono is invited to listen to the direct testimony of a drama to which we cannot but dedicate deep and humane attention".



At the Civic Museum of Castelbuono it is also possible to visit the exhibition ***Lipadusa. Storie of Life and the Sea***, a project of the young photographer **Calogero Cammalleri**, organised in collaboration with **Fabrica**, after a residency in Lampedusa. *Lipadusa* is a work dedicated to the islanders who, every year, witness the arrival of hundreds of migrants.

The talk has been made possible thanks to the generous support of The Hotelsphere | Hotel Plaza Opéra in Palermo (www.hotelpiazzaopera.com) and the Agriturismo Bergi in Castelbuono (www.agriturismobergi.com).

The Civic Museum of Castelbuono wishes to thank the Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore "Luigi Failla Tedaldi", the Istituto Comprensivo "F. Minà Palumbo", the CPA "Istituto San Giuseppe" of Castelbuono for the precious collaboration.

Biography:

Imma Vitelli (Matera, 1970) is International Correspondent for Vanity Fair Italy. She began working with Vanity Fair covering the Israeli war against Lebanon lasting 33 days in the summer of 2006; and since then has covered conflicts in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Somalia, Israel, the Palestinian Territories, and in many other countries. After writing on the Arab Spring in Tunisia and Egypt, she was one of the first foreign journalists to travel to Benghazi to tell the story of the beginning of the Libyan revolution. She holds a Masters in Journalism from Columbia University in New York. After spending a year in Cairo and eight years in Beirut, Imma Vitelli is currently living in Rome when she is not traveling. In 2012 she wrote a book, *Tahrir: I Giovani Ghe Hanno Fatto la Rivoluzione* (English translation: *Tahrir: Young People Who Have Made the Revolution*. Published by Il Saggiatore), on the Egyptian revolutionaries. Currently she holds a blog on Vanity Fair.it: "Io sono qui": <http://iosonoqui.vanityfair.it/> (English Translation: "I am here").

Information:

Title: *Escaping from Hyenas – from Eritrea to Lampedusa*, a talk by journalist Imma Vitelli

Date: FRIDAY 19th DECEMBER 2014 AT 10:30 AM

Place: Auditorium "Sac. Vincenzo Minutella" of the Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore "Luigi Failla Tedaldi"

Address: Contrada Rosario, Castelbuono (Palermo).

Entrance: free

At the Museo Civico di Castelbuono

Exhibition: *Lipadusa, stories of Life and the Sea*

Artist: Calogero Cammalleri

Duration of the exhibition: 8th December 2014 – 8th March 2015

Address: Museo Civico di Castelbuono, P.zza Castello – Castelbuono (Palermo), Italy.

Telephone: +39.0921.677126

Opening times: from Tuesday to Sunday 9:30 a.m – 1:00 p.m. and from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: € 4,00; reduced € 2,00 (for people 65 years old or over and from 8 to 18 years old, schools and groups of 12 people or more); free entrance for children under 7 years of age.

Web site: www.museocivico.eu

For further information, Valentina Bruschi – exhibitions coordinator and scientific research: +39.338.7820256

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