



# HUMANITIES Trailblazers & Hellraisers WEEK 2014

**OCT 13 @ 5:30 PM**

## BREAKING THE MOLD:

The First(?) Woman in Italian Literature

**Thirteenth-century Florence was not an ideal place to be a woman, especially a fairly outspoken poet.** Active between 1260-1270, the woman known only as La Compiuta Donzella (the fulfilled damsel) attracted the attention of several male writers. Two of them were astonished that such wisdom could be found in a female. The third, the important poet Guittone d'Arezzo (1235-1294), praised her insights but reminded her to follow virtue. And yet, almost nothing is known about her, not even her name. She left a corpus of three sonnets, and her status as a woman in medieval Italy is a topic that her works all but invite us to examine.

Presented by

**FABIAN ALFIE**  
French & Italian

Fabian Alfie is a Professor of Italian and is the Head of the Department of French and Italian. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1995, specializing in Italian medieval literature. The focus of his research is the comic poetry of the Middle Ages. He has written numerous articles on medieval comic authors, such as Cecco Angiolieri, Rustico Filippi, and Dante, and has recently published a book on Dante's tenzone with Forese Donati (University of Toronto Press, 2011).

**MONDAY** **HW**.arizona.edu

JOIN US AT 5:00 PM FOR A RECEPTION CATERED BY TAZZINA DI GELATO

**FREE EVENT @ UA POETRY CENTER**

*Dorothy Rubel Room, Helen S. Schaefer Building, 1508 E. Helen Street*

**College of Humanities**

HUMANITIES WEEK 2014 is a series of FREE public lectures and events on the University of Arizona campus presented by the College of Humanities.