Early Career Research Profiles

This profile series on young members of INHIGEO is to create a space where early career scholars can present their studies and research interests within the history of the geological sciences to the whole membership and anyone who receives the newsletter, in order to highlight their field of expertise. It is hoped this will lead to contacts and collaborations for the future through our extensive network. Our profile this month is on an early career researcher from Italy.

Name: **Maria Faccioli**

Studies:

2019: Ph.D. in Law and Human Sciences, Department of Law, Economics and Cultures, University of Insubria, Varese-Como, Italy.

2008: Master's Degree in Communication Sciences and Techniques, University of Insubria, Varese-Como, Italy.

2005: Bachelor degree in Communication Sciences, University of Insubria, Varese-Como, Italy.

Prizes:

2019 Award for Best Poster – "young scholar" section on the occasion of the 44th INHIGEO Symposium, Varese – Como, Italy

Title of PhD: The historiographic problem of management of extraction activities in the Veneto Region during the 18th century. The mineralogical travel and mining project of Marco Carburi (*La gestione dell'attività estrattiva nel Veneto del Settecento come problema storiografico. Il viaggio mineralogico e il progetto minerario di Marco Carburi*).

Abstract: Marco Carburi was a chemist, holder of the first Italian professorship of Chemistry at Padua University. He lived in the mid-18th century in the Republic of Venice, and, given the skills recognized in him, he was sent by the "Magistrato sopra le miniere", the competent body in mining matters, to carry out between 1760/64, a so-called "mineralogical journey", a rather common practice in eighteenth-century Europe, which took many Earth Science experts to visit the most cutting-edge mineral and stone extraction sites of the times. These types of travels had the aim of observing and acquiring the most innovative mineral processing techniques, especially those relating to noble metals.

My doctoral research, reconstructed through unpublished sources, mainly a voluminous correspondence between Carburi himself and the Venetian government - preserved in the library of the Correr Museum in Venice and never transcribed before - allowed to retrace the places visited, the personalities with whom Carburi came into contact and the technical knowledge that he was able to record and report to the government that had financed his trip.

Research interests:

After my master's degree, my first interests were linked to the **history of material culture** understood as a reconstruction of the techniques linked to daily life and production processes in the pre-industrial era (18th and 19th centuries).

During my Ph.D. I developed a particular interest in workplaces such as quarries and mines, sites where it was also possible to deduce particular aspects of the history of the earth, its **geology**, **stratigraphy** and **petrography.**

My interest is to demonstrate how particular workplaces contribute to the development of the earth sciences: history of quarry and mining techniques has indeed provided significant contributions to the development of **Earth Sciences** through observations that were transformed into visual materials such as sketches, diagrams, images of the stratigraphy that emerged during the excavation works. The material culture in quarries and mines, the tools and techniques connected to it, has therefore proceeded hand in hand with an increasingly deeper understanding of the Earth and vice versa.

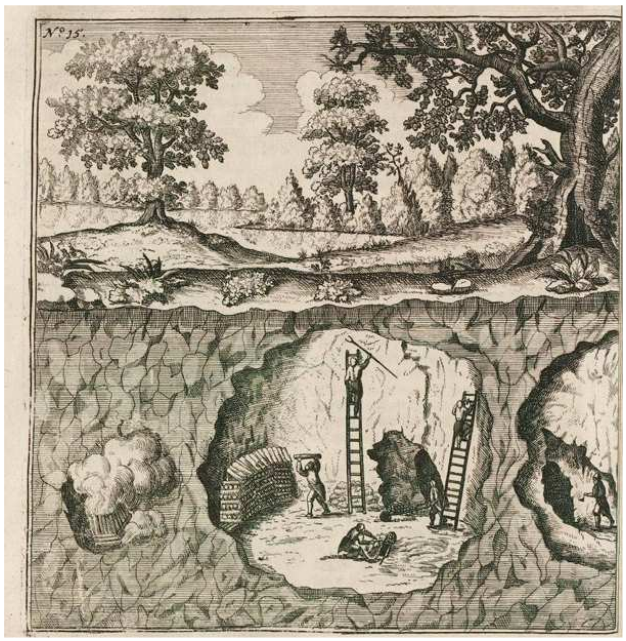

Image from: Balthasar Rösler, *Speculum metallurgiae politissimum, oder: Hell-polierter Berg-Bau-Spiegel*, Winckler, Dresda, 1700, p. 76

Publications:

Faccioli M., Mineralogical travels and mining knowledge in the XVIII century: preliminary considerations on the case of Marco Carburi in Physis, Vol LVI (2021), nuova serie, fasc. 1-2, pp. 319 - 331

Faccioli M., "The underground ornamental stone quarries of Valceresio (province of Varese)" in Memorie Descrittive della Carta Geologica d' Italia, 3a Giornata di geologia e storia: cavità sotterranee nascoste o scomparse sotto il tessuto urbano, 2020, pp. 317 – 324.

Faccioli M., Le cave di pietra ornamentale nel Veneto: alcune riflessioni sulla normativa e sulle sue applicazioni nella Repubblica Serenissima. In Bottino G., Cafagno M., Minazzi F. (Eds), Sui beni comuni: contributi e riflessioni, Mimesis, Milano 2016, pp. 225 - 247

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