



Marco Pozza draws on the sidewalk with a long stick dipped in color for his audience in Mosson di Cogollo del Cengio.

Marco Pozza Research Assistantship

This Research Assistantship is given by the FAU Italian Program to deserving students. It is a project-based assistantship to develop special initiatives that expand Italian and Italian American academic research. It may be used by graduate students during class breaks. The amount of the fellowship and the time commitment will vary, according to the project.

The creative nature of this assistantship honors poet Marco Pozza (1863-1950) who specialized in surprises that made his town shiver and smile. Pozza was born in the small town of Mosson di Cogollo del Cengio, in the Vicenza province. His inventive was limitless and he enjoyed the puzzled reaction of his townsmen in front of his impromptu ideas: a reversible drawing on the sidewalk (a drinking man becomes a donkey if seen upside-down), long rhymes about the new mountain railroad and the town's immigrants, and large-scale pranks involving ghosts ringing the bells at night, the beggar's last letter or the amazing fortune-teller. Two World Wars did not dampen his ingenious spirit and his jolly creativity.

The first recipient is Ph.D. candidate, Viviana Pezzullo, in Summer 2020.