

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 graduate or undergraduate students. It is a project-based assistantship to develop special initiatives in 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.

## **Application**

Consult with Dr. Ilaria Serra for project proposal. Deadline is flexible.

## Who was Marco Pozza?

The creative nature of this assistantship honors poet Marco Pozza (1863-1950). 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 rhyme poems about the mountain railroad or the town's immigrants, and large-scale pranks at the expense of the entire village (the ghosts ringing the bells, the beggar's last letter, and the amazing fortune-teller). He lived through the first line of two World Wars but never lost his inventive spirit and his jolly creativity.

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