

Nadeesha Uyangoda

PROFILO

Born in Colombo (Sri Lanka) and brought up in the Milanese suburbs (Italy), I am a writer, podcaster and freelance author. My writings has appeared on national and foreign media, including Al Jazeera English, The Telegraph, Open Democracy.

My debut non-fiction book, *L'unica persona nera nella stanza* [The only black person in the room], was published in March 2021 by publisher 66thand2nd. It earned a spot on many prestigious award longlists and shortlists, including the Anna Maria Ortese Special Rapallo Prize, the 2021 Anima Prize for Literature, the Giuditta Prize 2022 and the prestigious Sila '49 prize for non fiction.

I am the creator of the podcast *Sulla Razza* [About Race], which was sponsored by Juventus Football Club. Its first season was produced by Undermedia, with extra contents available on Vice Italy. The second season was produced by One Podcast.

In 2022 I was a consultant to the City of Milan for the development of the public program of MUDEC, the Museum of Cultures. In 2023 Book Pride, the independent publishing book fair, asked me to be the curator of a special section, focusing on language.

Currently I am a columnist for Internazionale magazine and a contributor for Italian newspapers La Repubblica and La Stampa. I am a board member of MUDEC.

Art Omi International Writers Program (Ghent, NY) awarded me a residency in fall 2023.

SELECTED WRITINGS/WORK

EINAUDI

66THAND2ND *Corpi che contano*, 2024 (non-fiction book)

66THAND2ND *L'unica persona nera nella stanza*, 2021 (non-fiction book)

EFFEQU *Casa*, 2022 (non-fiction children's book)

TLON *Lacrime bianche, ferite scure*, 2022 (preface)

FELTRINELLI EDUCATION, VALORE D *Non solo parole: guida a una cultura condivisa*, 2024

LUCY *La lingua che abitiamo*, 2023 (short story)

K-FELICITÀ *Sostantivo, femminile, singolare*, 2022 (short story)

THE PASSENGER: MILANO *Microeconomie etniche*, 2022 (longform)

BOOKCITY MILAN *Cittadinanza*, 2021 (short story)

JUVENTUS / ONE PODCAST *Sulla Razza 2nd season*, 2023 (podcast)

IOM - INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION *Parole nuove*, 2023 (podcast)

JUVENTUS / UNDERMEDIA *Sulla Razza 1st season*, 2022 (podcast)

COMUNE DI MILANO / ISTITUTO CONFUCIO *La cura delle parole*, 2022 (podcast/vodcast)

MUTTI / CIAOPEOPLE *Lavoro e speranza: storie di impegno e riscatto*, 2021 (vodcast)

FESTIVALETTERATURA *Approdi*, 2021 (podcast)

INTERNAZIONALE *Il Libro* (book columnist)

LA REPUBBLICA / ROBINSON (book columnist)

LA STAMPA / TUTTOLIBRI (book columnist)
VANITY FAIR ITALY Ghali, Italia, 2021 (interview/cover story)
OPENDEMOCRACY Black Italians' plea to media and politicians after killing of Nigerian man, 2022
OPENDEMOCRACY 'The only Black person in the room': The truth about racism in Italy, 2021
OPENDEMOCRACY Italy, it's time to confront your own rampant racism, 2020
JACOBIN ITALY Un affare di famiglia, 2021
ROLLING STONE ITALY Il libro da leggere per capire l'America nera, dopo Black Lives Matter, 2021
ROLLING STONE ITALY Il caso Luis Suarez è l'ennesimo schiaffo agli italiani senza cittadinanza, 2020
ROLLING STONE ITALY Cosa abbiamo imparato su razzismo e antirazzismo nel 2020, 2020
LINC/STUDIO EDITORIALE La sfida di Tia Taylor per un'industria creativa sempre più inclusiva, 2020
THE TELEGRAPH It's not quite la dolce vita, but life in Italy is returning to normality, 2020
RIVISTA UNDICI Paola Egonu, Schiacciare i pregiudizi, 2021
AL JAZEERA Alitalia's new advertisement shows a 'blackened-up' Barack Obama, 2019
GAL-DEM Can Italy's new security minister flip the script on racist immigration policy?, 2019
KOBO La letteratura europea è monoetnica, 2019
NOT L'unica persona nera nella stanza, 2019
VICE ITALY Abbiamo parlato con Danielle Madam di Olimpiadi, ius soli e cittadinanza italiana, 2021
VICE ITALY È assurdo che i nostri nomi stranieri vengano percepiti come un problema, 2019
i-D VICE Italiane, musulmane e con il velo: un fumetto per abbattere i pregiudizi, 2018
CORRIERE DELLA SERA Registi italiani, figli di genitori immigrati, si raccontano, 2018
CAFÉBABEL UK Italy: Second generation immigrants wait for passports, 2017
CORRIERE DELLA SERA L'avventura di Dinusha/Lucio: dallo Sri Lanka all'Italia come in un film, 2017

AWARDS

"L'unica persona nera nella stanza", Premio Sila '49
"L'unica persona nera nella stanza", Premio Giuditta 2022
"L'unica persona nera nella stanza", Premio Anima 2021 Award - Literature, 20th edition
"L'unica persona nera nella stanza", Special Jury Prize "Anna Maria Ortese" - Premio Letterario Nazionale per la Donna Scrittrice - Rapallo 2021, 37th edition
"Leader of Change: Community", Black Carpet Awards 2023

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