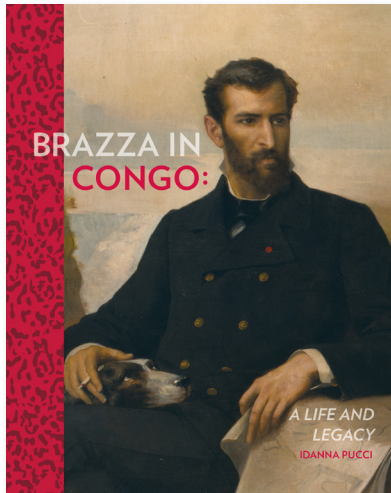


## BRAZZA IN CONGO: A LIFE AND LEGACY

By Idanna Pucci

"Humanism is the essential component of true civilization. For this reason, the life of Pietro di Brazza is so important. History has charged him with transmitting a message for our time. Let us be elevated and educated by him."

—Dr. Albert Schweitzer, Nobel Peace Laureate, 1952



**BRAZZA IN CONGO: A LIFE AND LEGACY** presents the first ever consideration by Africans of Pietro Savorgnan di Brazza, the unusual explorer who conquered an empire with trust and peace, without spilling a drop of blood. The African capital of Brazzaville still carries his name. Unlike his rival Stanley, Brazza embraced the African people with respect and equality, rejecting the racism of his age. His lasting friendship forged with King Makoko Iloo I, sovereign of the ancient Batéké people, signaled one of the most luminous moments in the tragic history of colonial Africa. Each testimony has been chosen to present a view of what Central Africa once was and what could have emerged if only Brazza's dream of "good governance" had been allowed to develop.

In association with this book, New York University Africa House and La Casa Italiana along with the National Arts Club in New York will pay homage with a series of exhibitions and events.

**IDANNA PUCCI**, is the author of *The Epic of Life: A Balinese Journey of the Soul*, *The Trials of Maria Barbella*, and *Against all Odds: The Strange Destiny of a Balinese Prince*. Her documentary film *Eugenia of Patagonia* won the 2005 Audience Award at Torino's CinDonne Festival. She was educated at Columbia University, and is a descendent of Brazza.

### CELEBRATE THE PUBLICATION OF BRAZZA IN CONGO

*Brazza in Congo: A Life and Legacy*  
by Idanna Pucci  
Umbrage Editions  
www.umbragebooks.com

Hardcover/\$40.00  
History/Photography  
240 pages/8"x10"/150 Illustrations  
ISBN: 978-1-884167-94-2

### EVENTS:

#### NYU CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI-MARIMO'

24 West 12 Street, New York 10011  
www.nyu.edu/pages/casaitaliana  
212.998.8739

#### March 24, 2009 6-9pm

6pm Opening of Exhibition: *Brazza in Congo*  
Film Screening:  
*Brazza: the Epic of French Congo*  
directed by Leon Poirier  
Q&A follows  
Closing date: April 17

#### April 2, 2009 6-7:30pm

Africa House Symposium  
Q&A follows  
www.nyu.edu/africahouse

#### April 9, 2009 6pm

6pm Film Screening: *Congo: White King, Red Rubber and Black Death*, directed by Peter Bate  
7:30 Documentary film premiere:  
*Back to Congo*, directed by Nicole Leghissa  
Q&A follows

#### April 16, 2009 6-7:30pm

Africa House Symposium  
Q&A follows

#### NATIONAL ARTS CLUB

15 Gramercy Park South, New York 10003  
www.nationalartsclub.org  
212.475.3424

#### March 31, 2009 6-8pm

Opening of Exhibition *Brazza: A Symbol for Humanity: a Masterpiece of Contemporary Art* by the Poto-Poto Painters, Brazzaville, Congo  
March 31–April 19, 2009

#### Book Launch

*Brazza in Congo: A Life and Legacy*  
by Idanna Pucci