

«È lui il mio antagonista».

Pier Paolo Pasolini nell'opera di Walter Siti

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Abstract

"He is my antagonist". Pier Paolo Pasolini in Walter Siti's work

*This article aims to analyse the problematic and ambivalent relationship that Walter Siti entertains with Pier Paolo Pasolini to highlight how this "attraversamento" represents a fundamental step in Siti's poetics. Although the first encounter between the two authors takes place in literary criticism (Siti dedicated many years of his career to Pasolini as a critic, writing several essays on his work, editing the complete edition of his works for the "Meridiani" series and, in 2022, the critical edition of *Petrolio*), it is mainly in Siti's literary writing that Pasolini's influence comes to the fore. As I demonstrate, most of the contradictions that Siti detects in Pasolini's thought and work as a critic is resolved in Siti's literary writing. In his novels *La magnifica merce* and *Troppi paradisi*, Pasolini appears as a character who embodies an authority to be denied, a symbolic Father to be abjured. Pasolini is also present in *Il contagio* through the reexamination of some of his theoretical and sociological assumptions which are, however, disavowed and overturned by Siti.*

Keywords: Pasolini; Siti; abjuration; desire; borgata.