

SARAH GLAZ

Late Afternoon at the Workshop on Commutative Rings

Il Palazzone, Cortona, Italy, June 2006

Day One

Window wide open,
shutters pushed aside,
Tuscan hills in morning light—
a herd of sheared fat sheep.

Day Two

Early afternoon out of blue sky
a barrage of hail the size of pheasant eggs.
The inner courtyard instantly fills.
A small dog is frantic, scampers and barks.
Five minutes later—as if it never was.

Day Three

“The nature of a faithful content ideal
of a Gaussian polynomial over a commutative ring”
(a source of excitement for a number of years)
“proves to be locally principal.”

The first idea relayed from mind to mind
at last reached perfect formulation.

Days Four to Seven

Vino rosso O Vino rosso
silken on the palate like a Puccini aria
on the lips of Maria Callas.

Inebriated in Pienza and Montepulciano
Cortona Firenze and San Gimignano

Brindisi! Salute! Chin-chin!

To our quest!

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