



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO



SILSIS-MI Indirizzo SOSTEGNO

FACULTY OF HIGHER EDUCATION STUDIES  
PHD STUDIES IN HUMANITIES  
PHD IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
COMMUNICATION SCIENCES

Thursday **April 3rd 2008** from **14.30** to **16.30**  
**Edificio U6, Aula 3**

## **Santina Portelli**

***It is easy to push a wheelchair, what is difficult is to “carry”  
one’s own story, in other words: Identity and integration***

*Introduction by Ottavia Albanese*

She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in psychology and collaborates with universities in Rome and Milan for the training of teachers and psychologists. She is the author of *Convivere con l’handicap [Living with disability]*, published by Kappa, Rome.

Affected by spastic quadriplegia, since 2001 she has been an active member of the V.D.M.F.K. Worldwide association of painters who paint with the mouth and/or the foot.

The topic examines the construction of the identity of the disabled person; with specific reference to the disabled person’s self-awareness, and the ability to separate one’s own individual self from the disability. From the moment we are born, over the course of the years, and through different evolutionary phases, each one of us grows, creating a personal wealth of experience which characterises us and defines us, takes shape and develops a personal identity, the “personality”: what are the repercussions that disabilities cast on this process of personal development?

The lecturer will present the documentary “Amore solo amore” [Love only Love] by Renato Pugina, created by Swiss television and broadcast on Rai TRE as part of the programme “STORIE VERE” [REAL STORIES] to which she has contributed as story supervisor.