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*Professor of Cultural and Postcolonial Studies, formerly at the School of Political Science, University of Milano, Italy. Her first book focussed on dissent and deviance in the colonial context of early Puritan America. She has written in the field of postcolonial studies analysing relationships between literature, history, society in sub-Saharan Africa and the emergence of new, creolized literary expressions in the West and elsewhere. Among her publications, Il Nuovo Sudafrica dale strettoie dell'apartheid alle complessità della democrazia (The new South Africa from the strictures of apartheid to the complexities of democracy), 1998, Corpi liberati in cerca di storia, di storie (Liberated bodies in search of history and stories), 2005, and Prisma Sudafrica, 2011. In recent years she has researched and published on the role of cultural museums in contemporary society.*

**Decoloniality: museums and monuments in post-apartheid South Africa**

Prior to 1994, South African museums, memorials, monuments, and commemorative sites were all devoted to celebrating colonial history and culture, and the apartheid regime. After that date, democratic South Africa decided to preserve this patrimony but to transform and translate its narration into a new, postcolonial discourse and, at the same time, make space for new stories and previously hidden memories, while also focusing on cultures hitherto neglected. The paper looks at this process and observes its results and also the conflictual issues that emerged in the territory, by analysing relevant architectural examples of new or revised museums and commemorative sites, such as the Red Location Museum in Port Elizabeth, the Lwandle Migrant Labour Museum near Cape Town and the Liliesleaf Farm Museum at Rivonia, Gauteng.

