



- Main cities: CATANZARO, Lamezia Terme, Crotona, Cosenza

Historical overview: Calabria has one of the oldest records of human presence in Italy, which date back to around 700,000 BC when a type of Homo Erectus evolved leaving traces around coastal areas. **It did not exist when the Greeks first got there (Magna Grecia?)**. The Roman invasion of the 3rd cen BC brought stability which was only briefly interrupted by the Second Punic War. Following the post classical period in Calabria the Byzantines gave way to the Longobards in the 7th cen; a new period of decadence and social collapse followed. Over two hundred years of petty minded barony under Spanish fiscal control. The cavalry arrived in the form of the French and Napoleon's troops who abolished feudalism. The Risorgimento of the 19th cen saw many insurrectionist movements coming out of the region until Garibaldi put an end to Bourbon influence once and for all in 1860.

- Spoken languages: Italian and Calabrian dialects

• Climate: it is influenced by the sea and mountains. The Mediterranean climate is typical of the coastal areas with considerable differences in temperature. Mountain areas have a typical mountainous climate with frequent snow during winter. Erratic behavior of the Tyrrhenian Sea can bring heavy rainfall.

«Italy's most beautiful kilometers» -
Gabriele D'Annunzio



Santa Maria Church, Isola Bella



Lamezia Terme



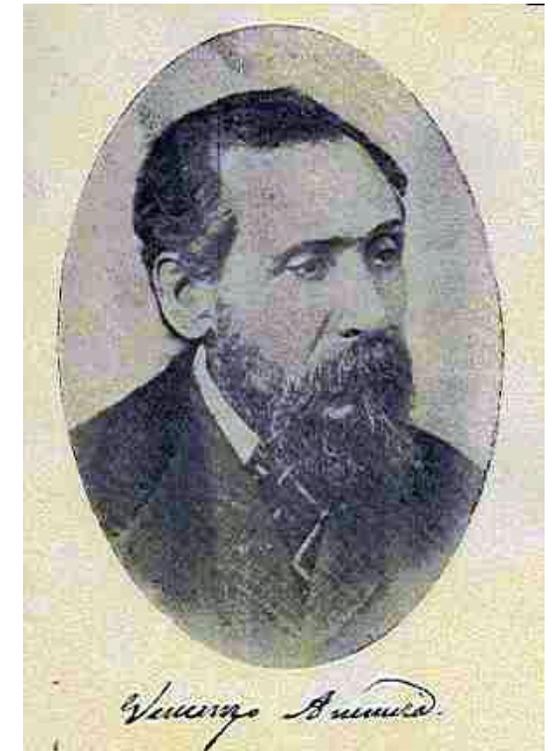
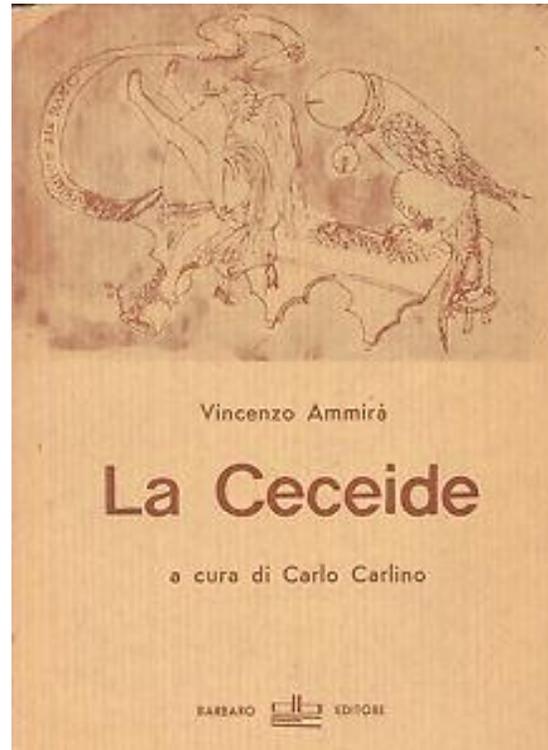
La Castella, Capo Rizzuto



Capo Colonna, Crotona



Riace Bronzes, Reggio Calabria



Vincenzo Ammirà, the damned poet. He wrote verses both **dialectically** and in **Italian**, including a free translation of the epic poem “Eneide”. The work to which his reputation belongs is the “**Ceceide**”, a dialect poem in which various components, from volition to satire, from scurvy to fantastic, are intermingled. Another known work is his poem “A Pippa” (The Pipe). In the work of Vincenzo Ammirà, sex and moral cleansing alternate, confirming the polyhedricity of a great poet.