

Sensual San Francisco intertwines exotic Tuscany in local novel like upgraded *Sex and the City*

13 April 2007



THE ITALIAN CONNECTION — Author Jill St. Anne, left, surrendered to the seduction of Italian food, fashion, and handsome men twenty years ago and brings the throb to heart in release of spy thriller *The Italian Connection*, set in San Francisco and Tuscany. St. Anne seen last night with San Francisco book signing fans. Judy Fairchild, right, celebrated her own birthday at the event, recalling daughter St. Anne's early years when St. Anne devoured Nancy Drew mysteries and promptly rewrote them... for improvement, at eight years of age.



By Pat Murphy

Sentinel Editor & Publisher

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The bold, the beautiful, and the deadliest of bad guys, wage a modern day spy thriller between exotic Tuscany and sensual San Francisco now luxuriating off the pages of Jill St. Anne's second novel — ***The Italian Connection***.

Italians, more beautiful than they have any right to be, and San Franciscans more sensuous than the world dare utter, come to world-saving life from St. Anne's memory of her first trip to Italy with friend Susan Jarolim who blends into leading character Christina. "Everybody thinks Christina is me, she's not, she's my friend Susan," St. Anne confided to the Sentinel.

Jill St. Anne is the pen name for Jill Zajicek Wickersham, who received award for investigative journalism while in college.

San Francisco misty intrigue combines with lush beaches of Tuscany to read like today's version of Sex and The City, with Christina the modern day Nancy Drew.

"The thriller part is that the main character comes into possession with this microchip that is used to activate an arsenal of anti-ballistic missiles," continued St. Anne.

"So it's very timely actually because this is what's going on in North Korea, this is what's going on in China.

"What happens is that the bad guys chase down Christina, because they know she has the microchip, knowing that if they were able to get ahold of the microchip they would be able to disarm our military."

The seduction of both cities, and their people, intertwine with the caper.

"It is a romance but it's very serious as well. With the cars, the food, the fashion, and the handsome men."

St. Anne, *of course*, arrived in latest model Italian Ferrari.



Event host Claudia Ross, left, emceed the gathering with fashion connoisseur Sophie Azouaou also welcoming St. Anne's mother Judy Fairchild, right.

Leading San Francisco Italiana were represented by Alioto clan frontliner Joe Alioto Veronese and wife Laura Veronese.



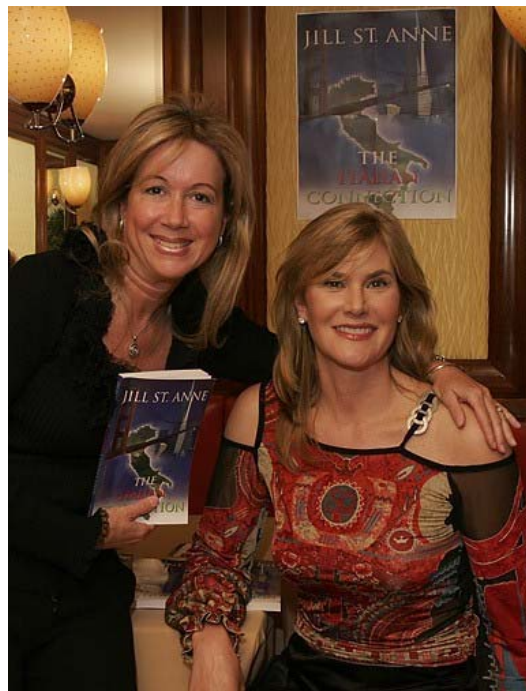
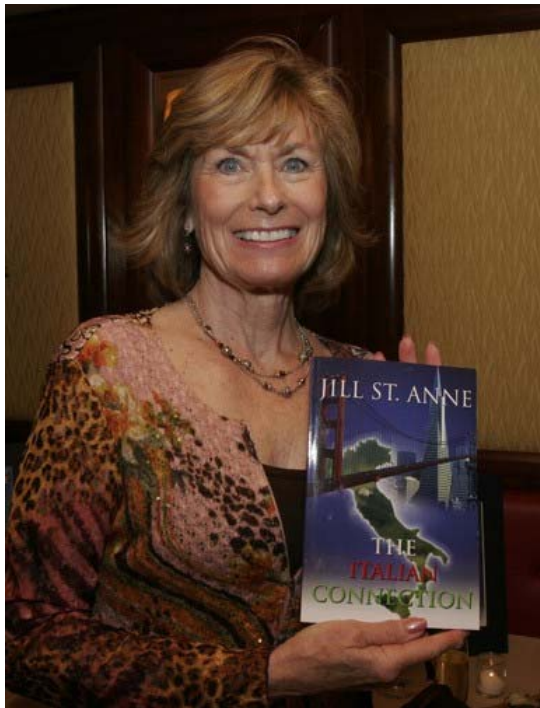
San Francisco Police Commissioner Joe Alioto Veronese and wife Laura ushered a path by Claudia Ross, at left Exacting bon vivants attended nodding approval.



From left, Claude Hubert, Chip Zecher, Michael Mulcahy, and Holly Baxter



Mark Calvano, right, makes the party in between [launching men's fashion wear](#) for gentlemen born to center stage



The Italian Connection is available [online](#), cover designed by discerning mother Judy Fairchild

In the end, Christina takes a gamble that puts her own life on the line. She discovers her inner strength and learns that in love, a woman's intuition is seldom wrong.

Last night, St. Anne captured intuition of locals who sense winners.



Pat Murphy and Sophie Azouaou with Judy Fairchild