Foreign Rights Catalogue

Bologna Book Fair 2009

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NEW TITLES
What book it is:
A novel for young adults.

What it is about:
An adolescent kills her parents. In jail, she at first closes up in obstinate isolation; but then, little by little, she reveals her thoughts in a thick correspondence with Carla, her lawyer. The arrival of a cellmate, Arthia, makes detention more bearable; lively and generous, Arthia wins Daria's shyness and helps her regain self-confidence. A strong, intimate novel that makes us think and come closer to a not easy but dramatically current reality: the motivations of family murders. The afterword is written by the renowned psychiatrist Vittorino Andreoli, as a letter to the protagonist.

Fabrizia Poluzzi lives and works in Bologna. After graduating in pedagogy, she attended the school of anatomic drawings of Bologna and, for a short time, the academy of fine arts. Literature teacher in middle school, she has collaborated with many publishers (Zanichelli, DeAgostini, Edagricole, Nicola editore) and magazines (Espresso, Vanity, Zoon) as scientific illustrator. She realized for ‘Bologna 2000’ the project La bilia di vetro (The glass ball), creating an open editing unit and a literary magazine for teens, and in 2002 she planned and coordinated the European computer magazine Young-lit for the municipality of Bologna with the collaboration of Sala Borsa.

Backlist:
Porkiria
LA BAMBININA IN FONDO AL MARE
THE CHILD UNDER THE SEA

What book it is:
A new fantasy novel by the author of Pasta di drago, one of the most renowned voices of Italian literature for the youth.

What it is about:
A shy and insecure child lives oppressed in a big house by the sea. Her mother, who hates water, forces her, the brother and her husband to live according to very rigid, severe and a little insane principles. When the child escapes from the house she runs into a mysterious young lady who comes from the sea: she’s the good part of her mother, separated from her in a sea accident thirty years before. Thanks to a shipwreck and to a helpful uncle, the two parts will join up.

Silvana Gandolfi was born in Rome. She wrote short stories, romantic novels, radio stories, but now she’s dedicated to children/teenagers’ books. In 1996 she won the Andersen Prize as Italian author of the year, and she is among the most translated Italian writers.

Backlist:
La Scimmia nella biglia (The monkey in the ball) Occhio al gatto (Watch out for the cat) La memoria dell’acqua (The memory of water) Pasta di drago (Dragon’s paste) Qui vicino mio Ariel (Close to here, my Ariel) Al- dabra (Aldabra) L’isola del tempo perso (The island of time lost)
IL LIBRAIO SOTTERRANEO
(THE UNDERGROUND BOOKSELLER)

According to his mother and his teacher Nicolo doesn’t socialize enough, but he feels alright (except for the fact that maybe he’s a bit in love with Simona). He loves books and socializes a lot with old Mr. Cartesio, the underground bookseller of the stationery shop facing home. But one morning, while Nicolo tries to grab a light blue-covered book from the highest shelf, Mr. Cartesio disappears. The only way to take him back is to fill the mysterious light blue-covered book with a story that in fact still has all blank pages! Thanks to the help of Mr. Panino (vice-librarian, added on trial, of the elastically loaning Volante Library) Nicolò manages to find a real writer that him alone however is not enough, and also they have to face Tzigo Tzigûr, the treacherous man of dust...

« The charming book by Quarzo dedicated to the passion for ‘frap-frap’ – the sound of a pen on paper: writing ».  
Corriere della Sera

Guido Quarzo is from Torino, where he was born in 1948, and where he still lives and works. For many years he taught Primary School which he gave up in 1999 in order to write full time. When a child he had the fortune to have an aunt that would tell him every evening fairytale's from the traditions of Piedmont. And he is still bond with fairytales, even though he turns them around and around, twists them and makes them say deepest things, almost for ‘grown-ups’. For Salani - G'Istrici he published L’ultimo lupo mannaro in città (The Last Werewolf In Town) and Clara va al mare (Clara Goes To Sea).

Pub. Date: September 2008
Price: € 7,00
Pages: 104
Illustrations by Ilaria Faccioli
2 reprint
Rights available
GLI ULTIMI INCANTESIMI
(THE LAST SPELLS)

What book it is:
Third chapter of the saga started with L’ultimo elfo (The last elf).

Strength points
An important novel, born from the union of fantasy and epic.
An original re-writing of the world’s history.
Previous De Mari’s novels’ success.
Author’s talent that accounts her as one of world fantasy’s big stars.
The Last Spells is a story of unintentional, improvised, minor heroes, the low, ugly, feeble, anonymous ones. It’s a choir of small voices. The smallest is a little boy terrorized by monsters that live in his bed’s shadow. For at least one episode Rankstrail and Robi will step down the stage. They’ll be back on to tell the last part of the story, and in order to do so they’ll have to descend to Hell, as the ones who don’t stop halfway and dare go till the end must always descend to Hell.
Silvana De Mari’s vision: a powerful and most original re-writing of the world’s history; creativity moved by thoughtfulness and an intense, civil and human commitment. The most remarkable synthesis of fantasy and epic.
A city dwells in a deep cleft between two mountains. Its name is Ottavia: it is suspended, fastened to the rocks with ropes and chains, cradled by the wind; its residents go along with its breath and throb, and the youngsters challenge the sky with fearless acrobatics upon its narrow bridges made out of ropes. Young Schivo always lived there and always has he known that the Suspended City lives through the exchange with Zora: but suddenly communication ceases, the fortress rests in silence.

It’s an unpleasant awakening for Ottavia. Its quietness is interrupted, and its residents are shaken. It’s then Schivo who volunteers: but as soon as he touches the ground on the Exchange platform, the archers on duty guarding Zora’s blind walls shoot on him all their arsenal of arrows. Schivo manages to escape but knows that the explanation of the mystery is inside those impregnable walls, and he also knows that something terrible took over the city, something that, like an evil spell, can only be won by courage, determination and blood...

A surprising, most original novel that, like a mirror, narrates our world, our contradictions, and with its refined style, light and elegant, it unforgettably honors the most important among the Italian writers of the nineteenth century.

« Of one city you don’t take pleasure in its seven or seventy-seven wonders, but in the answer it gives to one of your questions ».

Italo Calvino

Luca Randazzo was born in Milan in 1971 and spent his childhood and adolescence in the mountains of Trento. After moving to Pisa to study physics, he instead discovered a passion for children and teaching. After becoming a teacher, he taught in Primary Schools for ten years in the surroundings of Bologna and Pisa. The Parallel Cities is his first novel.
This is Bruno Tognolini’s new fantasy novel about an ancient, yet modern story, a beautiful and intelligent tale by a great novelist, winner of the Andersen prize 2007 as best writer. Tognolini is a classic and versatile children’s author (he has sold over 25,000 copies with Adriano Salani Editore). After Lilim del Tramonto, this new novel, set in a future where life is controlled by Nassa, tells the tale of a supreme being resembling the Big Brother, and of a group of kids, the ski-Ilelli Lunamoonda gang, ready to put an end to the system. The characters include biotechnical computers that look like books and ancient forms of life like the Giant Squids; the landscapes are deserts and seas where the gang and its well designed characters have to defeat the technological wonders invented by man to save themselves. This very modern fantasy story is set in Shardenya, an area that resembles the real island of Sardinia and comes after Tognolini’s other books, which include Mal di pancia calabrone and Rima rimani.

One of the two winners of the Elsa Morante Ragazzi Prize 2008.

« As strenuous as it may seem to stay up to date with future (and its language), the book is an adventure that deserves to be lived till the end ».

Corriere della Sera

Bruno Tognolini was born in Cagliari in 1951. He got his degree at DAMS in Bologna in 1979, and has been living there ever since. He spent many years working for the theatre and now is a full-time novelist, writing books for children but also for adults. For years he wrote the scripts for the children’s TV programmes L’albero azzurro and Melevisione. He also created multimedia works including an adventure game taken from the film Nirvana by Gabriele Salvatores, and designed children’s sites like www.bambini.rai.it. However, his first and last love is writing books and since 1991 has written a dozen novels, short stories and poems for children.
LA BANDA DELLE QUATTRO STRADE
THE BAND OF THE FOUR STREETS

What book it is:
A book for teenagers about friendship, games and adventure.

What it is about:
The Seventies. A young city boy spends the summer in his grandmother’s village where he meets other boys, and together they found a band against Nero, the local bully. Between games by a secret lake and explorations in an abandoned house, they will discover that Nero’s nastiness hasn’t spared the deaf-dumb glazier, but they will manage to unveil who’s guilty.

Mario Schiani, 45 years old, has been a professional journalist since 1988. Presently, he is central vice-managing editor of newspaper ‘La Provincia’, editions of Como, Lecco, Sondrio, Varese. In his career he’s dealt with news, sport and culture. In 2002 he married a girl form Hong Kong with whom he lives in the surroundings of Como with four cats.
**LE STORIE DELLA FATTORIA**
**THE FARM STORIES**

**What book it is:**
The story of life in a modern farm.

**What it is about:**
A collection of true tales set in Aurora, a real farm. Moving to the country, the contact with animals, the arrival of a dog, the first time a sheep is helped to give birth: many tales hovering around the farm, lively frames, bits of a life and of a choice different from the usual.

**Caterina Bernardi**, niece of famous Marcello Bernardi, lived in Milan, where she was born, until 21, when she moved to Val Curone after longing deeply for it. She now lives in Caldirola at the Aurora farm with her husband, her 2-year-old baby girl, and many animals: they breed horses, sheep, chickens and rabbits.

Pub. Date: March 2009
Price: € 12,00
Pages: 160
Rights available
L’INSALATA ERA NELL’ORTO
SALAD WAS IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

What book it is:
New chapter in the series Laboratorio Salani.

What book it is:
Care, preparation, maintenance of a vegetable garden, for little gardeners and curious children. After telling what TOOLS are needed and the meaning of some TERMS, the book: talks about PLANTS, saying when they have to be seeded, picked up, cured and with which plants ‘get along’. A short chapter for each vegetable, fruit and aromatic plant – including a section dedicated to flowers. With a short recipe index.

Nadia Nicoletti, elementary school teacher since 1975, lives in Trentino. She has developed passion for plants since childhood, through her grandmother. She likes to teach children how to grow a vegetable garden and take care of plants, environment and small animals. From 2006 she writes a column on the website www.ortidipace.org in which she narrates the adventures of children, amidst cabbage and zucchini. Beside the vegetable garden of the school, she dedicates herself to her big passion: roses. She’s a juror for the Rose Garden of Geneve Prize and follows many other international events.

Pub. Date: February 2009
Price: € 11,00
Pages: 128
Rights available
What book it is:
After the success of Giardino dei giochi dimenticati (The garden of forgotten games), a new book on the most amusing games playable in little time.

What it is about:
Many files, hints and suggestions for playing many games with friends during a party, or with brothers, sisters, grandparents and parents. How to build the dice of activities, to play with colors and numbers creating also charts and pawns... Fun is not just the game itself, but its preparation too. And the needed material is so simple that can be put together in every home: to have fun you just need paper, colors, glue, scissors, friends and fantasy.

Claudio Procopio started his experience in the world of games in 2003 with Adesso ci penso. (Now I take care of it), the game of creative words, published on Focus Giochi (now on Focus Brain Trainer), Alpes and Quattro. Ever since, he has created and published many games related to didactics and reasoning on magazines for the youth. His aim is to create simple, enthralling and always unpredictable games.

Giorgio Reali, true ‘gamer’, stage director, playwright, games creator, designer of children’s parks, planner of games related to handicap with particular dedication to blind people, habitually attends the most important events regarding games. He founded the Academy of the Forgotten Game of Milan and coordinates ‘Playing City’, association of the Italian cities that have a museum dedicated to children’s games.

Backlist:
Il nonnolibro (The grandparent book) Il giardino dei giochi dimenticati (The garden of forgotten games)