Foreign Rights Catalogue

New Books 2009-2010

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What it is about:
This book contains an unusual collection of introspective images which reflect the author’s perception of life and of all the small and great issues concerning part of contemporary society, particularly the lack of roots – be they geographical or mental. It is the work of one of the most important illustrators on the international scene and is a wonderful book not only to have but also to give.

"Fabian Negrin’s illustrations contain references which are not obvious and which do not always belong to our culture or tradition and this makes them unconventional and unexpected."

Goffredo Fofi

"Fabian Negrin is perhaps the best living illustrator we have in Italy at the moment."

Francesca Lazzarato

"Fabian Negrin is also a narrator: the colours and shapes he uses in his images depict unsettling visual elements that create a very subtle atmosphere."

Roberto Denti

Fabian Negrin was born in 1963 and lived in Argentina until he was 18. He got his degree in Mexico and came to Italy in 1989. He works with some of the most important international publishers.
What kind of book is it?
Stefania Bertola always distinguishes herself for her sociological realism combining a truthful, yet profound portrait of the haphazard lives of four women whose lives are mixed up to say the least. All in all an enjoyable and exciting plot.

What it is about:
The lives of four women and other characters, which in some way or another are menacing, revolve around The Elastic Theatre of Kryptonite. A combination of cuisine, Shakespeare and love are the delicious ingredients that make this novel irresistible.

What they say about her:
« The writer of love stories par excellence ». 
La Repubblica

« One of the few examples of a humorous love story ». 
Grazia

« Anybody who reads a book by Stefania Bertola likes to think that there’ll be another one straightaway ». 
Bruno Gambarotta

« Stefania Bertola gracefully embodies female irony ». 
Donna Moderna

Stefania Bertola lives in San Mauro, near Turin, where she was born. She worked for some radio stations for many years. She is also a screen-writer and has worked for successful series. She has a passion for the theatre, is a mother, a cat-lover, a great reader and a great Juventus soccer fan.

Backlist:
Ne parliamo a cena, (Let’s Talk About it at Dinner), Aspirapolvere di stelle (Star Hoover), Biscotti a sospetti (Biscuits and Suspects), A neve ferma (The Motionless Snow), Se mi lascia fa male (If He Leaves It’ll Hurt)
What book it is:
A new day for the protagonists of The Post Romantics.

What it is about:
Symbol of a competitive and corrupted capitalism, Lemar is the financial empire for whose control old Antonio Di Pula and minister Pietro Dreveri have always been fighting. Share majority is held by Di Pula, man with a discussed past, hit recently by a stroke. The reins and every decision are now left to Margherita, his niece and only heir. Dreveri’s palace in Via Sant’Andrea in Milan gives scenery to political influences, evil and passion, but it also hides a heart: Rina, the old nursemaid blocked by osteoarthritis, tired of living but not of insulting the woman who looks after her. Amidst her words, nostalgia and time that goes and doesn’t come back. Amidst her arms, the head of a boy that simply doesn’t want to grow up -and that will not forget her. In one day, loves, betrayals, power and obsessions, defeats, sensuality and catholic faith are mixed together.

“This book can be read all in one go, it’s fun and entertaining also thanks to its proper ‘screenplay’ along the lines of the typical American series ».

Libero

Carlo Mazzoni was born in Milan in 1979. He has studied in Italy and in the United States. He has collaborated with Saatchi&Saatchi in Milan, with Paramount Pictures in New York, and with magazines Vogue, Dove, Corriere della Sera Magazine, Corriere della Sera Style.

Backlist:
I Postromantici (The Post Romantics)

April 2009
Price: € 15,00
Pages: 320
Rights available

June 2007
Price: € 11,00
Pages: 192
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. Like the little boy’s terrorized by monsters that live in his bed’s shadow.
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.

Silvana De Mari lives near Turin with her family and an enormous dog. She’s a surgeon, and has worked in Italy and Africa before devoting herself to psychotherapy. She has already published tales in several magazines.

Backlist:
L’ultimo elfo (The Last Elf)
Rights sold to United Kingdom (Bloomsbury), North America (Miramax books), Brazil (Editora Rocco), France (Albin Michel), Finland (Wsoy), Thailand (Pearl Publishing), Japan (Hayakawa), Mexico, Central and South America (Norma), Portugal (Asa), Netherlands (Van Gennep), Spain (Belacqva), Taiwan (OWL), Latvia (Dienas Gramata), Romania (Aramis), Hungary (Europa), Germany (Bertelsmann), Poland (W.A.B.), Russia (Meshcheryakov), Cina (Henan)

L’ultimo orco (The Last Ogre)
Rights sold to Brazil (Rocco), France (Albin Michel), Ungheria (Europa), Germany (Random House Audio), Netherlands (Van Gennep), Russia (Meshcheryakov)

October 2008
Price: € 18,60
Pages: 770
Cover Illustration
by Gianni De Conno
Y.A.
Rights sold to Germany (RHM-Bertelsmann), Poland (W.A.B.), Brazil (Rocco)
**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.

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**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.
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 unforgottably 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.
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) *Aldabra* (Aldabra) *L’isola del tempo perso* (The island of time lost)
The book is set in the ballet world and focuses on the discipline, passion and dreams of a young girl. However, the protagonist is not Billy Eliot and her life is not a history of success after years of sacrifice – the book finishes in a completely different and unexpected way.

Turin 1969: Mariolina, the only daughter of a bourgeois family attends the most prestigious ballet school of the city, hoping to become great artist - it is the only thing she wants and hopes for. Mariolina literally worships her art which is governed by mysterious laws based on the colour of ballet shoes, the width of their elastic bands, the way the girls wear their hair, not to mention the strict discipline that makes their feet bleed and dries up their heart.

After years of hard work, projects and dreams, one night... Set in Italy during the restless 1970s, this is a story of an intense and vibrant rebellion, and of how a young girl out of right and rage becomes a fearless person.

Chiara Simonetti was born in 1964 in Turin where she is still living now. She is a dance and literary critic and has been writing reviews on English Language literature for the weekly supplement ‘Tutto Libri Tempo Libero’ of La Stampa since 1993. She edited Eva contro Eva by Carola Prosperi (Palermo 2002), translated The Antwerp Toymaker by Nico Orengo (Turin 2003) into English, edited and translated Just As I Thought by Grace Paley into Italian (2007). This book is her first novel.
What book it is:
A novel that strikes the ambiguity in media communication system, the separation between power and justice, and the importance of individual ethics.

What it is about:
Emilio Rivolta, restless journalist, at the peak of a modest career in the editing office of a women’s magazine, has a rush of pride and leaves. Called back by an old chief he is right back at work in a case: he must interview an elusive movietelevision producer, Corrado Zappavigna. He is entrusted with the interview thanks to Iride Maestri, a new television host, who knows Emilio since university. When he finds out that the producer is about to receive a notification of legal inquiry, Emilio decides to investigate. Little by little, Irene’s multifaceted personality becomes more ambiguous and confused, and Emilio begins to have doubts about her. Thanks to the moles he has in the Justice Court he understands what is at stake. The horror of the revelation drives him to try it all: through a ploy he gets proof of Irene’s involvement, but now he must decide whether to press charges against her or not.
The Italian writer Serena Vitale and her husband, the Bohemian painter, Vladimír Novák, have a lot of things in common, including cigarettes and two Persian cats, Yorick and Nina. For years Novák has been painting miniature watercolours (5 x 10 cm) designed to ‘hide’ that truthful, yet ominous, threatening writings on cigarette packets. These miniatures are a proper series, featuring the couple’s cats, in which the artist interprets the two cats who are interpreting characters of their own.

Vladimír Novák has painted over one hundred and seventy portraits while Serena Vitale, an important Italian expert in Russian literature and culture, not to mention a great lover of cats, has written three short stories to accompany these paintings. Of course her stories are about cats: the first one is gothic, the second is mocking, the third is surreal... all three are glittering.

« ‘Transform all human beings in cat lovers is my impossible dream’, says the author who instead did have the dream come true: as a lady of letters who entered the feline world through the door of fantasy and art ».

la Repubblica

« Many write about cats, but few manage to do it convincingly. (...) Serena Vitale and Vladimir Novak are now able to ».

La Stampa
**MISTER MASTER**

What book is it?
A new book of the series *Istrice*.

What it is about:
Mister Master is a little man made of enamelled metal, who together with Ursula a wild duck also made of metal sets off from a Nordic village on a passionate trip for the hot lands in the south. This book could undoubtedly become a great modern classic.

March 2009
Price: € 8,00
Pages: 112

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Rights available

**DONATELLA ZILIOTTO**

Donatella Ziliotto is one of most important writers of children’s fiction. She has always worked in this sector, also working for children’s TV programmes and children’s art. She has received many prizes including The 2000 Andersen Nomination for her complete works.

Backlist:
*I selvagnoli*

April 2005
Price: € 6,90
Pages: 112

*Salani Editore*
NON FICTION
Angola – a journey to the heart of a country where children have no rights. This is a precious and touching account of the dark side of a society where superstition makes adults persecute children.

What it is about:
This book focuses on the violence, abuse, and persecution adults perpetrate on children. One word sums it all up: horror. And what is described here is the violence that occurs in a country which is not well-known, a country that believes a scapegoat must be found when something bad happens. The victims are mainly children, often very young. Once they’re accused, they are victims of all kinds of abuse, from being badly treated to extreme violence, they are removed from their families and their community, exploited and often even murdered.
What book is it?
It’s a light-hearted yet penetrating book all based on betrayals, on what being betrayed actually means and on how one can live with it.

What it is about:
« It was my father and his different point of view that helped me understand what being betrayed really meant. When I was about twenty my boyfriend went off with another girl. My father told me not to get things mixed up, to understand the difference between men and women when it comes to sex: ‘we play around’ he said ‘we have different needs’ ».
Since then Rosita has developed a very particular idea of what betrayal really means. She’s become much more tolerant but also much more demanding. Cheating can be a joke, but love’s a serious business.

« It’s a fun book as well as a happy-go-lucky confession... but it’s not just those things – readers will be surprised ».
Corriere della sera - Magazine

Rosita Celentano (Milan, 17 February 1965) is an Italian TV anchorwoman and actress. She’s the daughter of Adriano Celentano and Claudia Mori and Rosalinda Celentano’s big sister.
She co-presented the Sanremo Festival in 1989 – at only 24 – with Danny Quinn, Gianmarco Tognazzi and Paola Dominguin.
She acted in the film Yuppi Du (1975) featuring both her parents and in the mini TV series.
Since October 2007 she has been conducting a radio programme.
Following on the series of Salani therapies, here is a book on Astrology therapy which is good for the soul.

**What it is about:**
This book will help the reader feel comfortable with their life and in harmony with their sign and the planets.
The signs of the zodiacs are seen from an unconventional point of view according to Lisa Morpurgo’s School (scientific observation and psychological investigation). The book not only analyses the signs of the zodiac but gives precious suggestions to improve our well-being according to the features of our sign.

**Elena Rader** has been studying Astrology for over 30 years. She was a student of Lisa Morpurgo, one of the greatest scholars of the zodiac. In 1981 she published *Il libro di astrologia pratica* (The practical book of Astrology) with Mario Paltrinieri and it was translated into five languages. She has written the astrology column for several Italian magazines and newspapers as well as for the most important publishers. She lives in Milan.

**The other booktherapy:**
Bacioterapia (Kiss Therapy), Cucinoterapia (Cook Therapy), Gattoterapia (Cat Therapy), Gattoterapia – Gli esercizi (Cat Therapy: exercises), Caneterapia (Dog Therapy)
Adults fiction
Celani, *La casa dei giorni dispersi* (The house of Scattered days)

Non-fiction
Allan Bay and Nicola Sorrentino, *La dieta BaSo* (The BaSo diet)
Caterina Bernardi, *Le storie della fattoria* (The farm stories)
Glauco Benigni, *Youtube with a CD-Rom*
Laura De Tomasi and Yoshitaka Masumi, *Ogni gatto è illuminato* (Every cat is illuminated)
Daniela Fedi and Lucia Serlenga, *Alla corte di re moda* (At court of king fashion)
Rita Valentino Merletti and Bruno Tognolini, *Leggimi forte* (Read me aloud)

Salani Laboratory Handbooks
Nadia Nicoletti, *L’insalata era nell’orto* (Salad was in the vegetable garden)
Claudi Procopio and Giorgio Reali, *Il giardino dei giochi creativi* (The garden of creative games)
Niccolò Barbiero, *Giochi di mano* (Hand games)
Elisabetta Furlan, *Yoga libera tutti* (What Yoga are we playing at)

Children books
Guido Quarzo, *Il libraio sotterraneo* (The underground bookseller)
Mario Schiani, *La banda delle quattro strade* (The band of the four streets)
Bruno Tognolini, *Lunamoonda*