



Rights List

Fall 2023

Non fiction

ilSaggiatore



Founded in 1958 by Alberto Mondadori, who announced the news to William Faulkner by letter, **Il Saggiatore** remains committed today to its original mission: to publish books that convey a precise identity. Our distinctiveness rests on the authors whose work we bring out: Louise Glück, Simone de Beauvoir, Noam Chomsky, Daron Acemoglu, Paul Mason, Witold Gombrowicz, Joan Didion, Geoff Dyer, Olivia Laing, Mircea Cărtărescu and others. Together, our backlist and more recent releases form one grand tome with a precise profile. **Il Saggiatore** is grounded in the Enlightenment, Neoclassicism and a secular conception of culture. We envision books as tools with which to examine reality. Throughout its long and storied past, our publishing house has remained independent, putting out titles we believe in rather than catering to market demands. We are not so much interested in current affairs as we are in investigating contemporaneity. Our outlook is international, and we are supporters of radical reformism. **Il Saggiatore** publishes both fiction and nonfiction, often in blended form; we believe that essays can also be a type of narrative, and novels tools for knowledge. **Il Saggiatore** eschews ideologies. We focus on peripheries, in our belief that they are often actually at the centre of matters. **Il Saggiatore's** primary traits are **curiosity**, **exploration** and **knowledge**. We will continue to survey the worlds we live in and to help engender new ones.

For further information or to receive our newsletter:

Rebecca Mombelli | **Foreign Rights Manager** rights@ilsaggiatore.com

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**HIGH
LIGHTS**



Alessandro Paolucci

An Addictive History of Science

Hashish, Ketamine and Magic Mushroom from
Avicenna to Oliver Sacks

The breakthroughs of scientists renowned for their insights and discoveries – from Avicenna to Thomas Edison, Paracelsus to Oliver Sacks – are no less significant for their originators' lack of moral impeccability or occasional irrationality. They are testaments to towering intellects who, perhaps thanks to their use of mind-altering substances, brought about critical scientific advances.

Pub. date Nov. 2023 | 200 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

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Diletta Huyskes

Gender and Technology

Drawing from theories on the social construction of technology, cyberfeminism and technofeminism, Diletta Huyskes examines the ethical, social and political aspects of technology and gendered biases in algorithms and artificial intelligence systems, offering theoretical tools and methodologies to address the social impacts of the design and development of technology and virtual realities.

Pub. date June 2024 | 250 pp.

Material available English sample | Provisional Italian PDF

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Giacomo Di Girolamo

The Invisible One

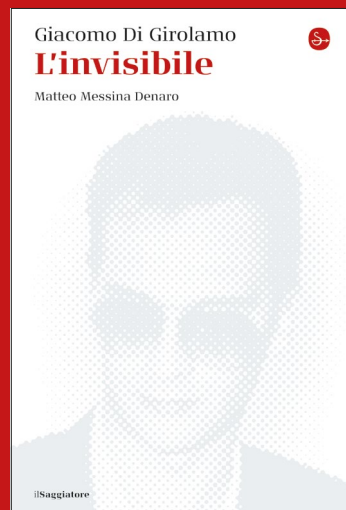
Matteo Messina Denaro

Following the arrests of Salvatore “Totò” Riina and Bernardo Provenzano, only one Sicilian Mafia boss was left: Matteo Messina Denaro, known as “Italy’s last godfather”. Raised by the Corleone clan and responsible for a long “season of massacres”, he lived in hiding for thirty years until his arrest in January 2023, during which time he continued to engage in racketeering, money-laundering, drug-trafficking and other lucrative criminal activities.

Pub. date March 2023 | 416 pp.

Material available English Sample | Full Italian PDF

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Giuseppe Barbera

Citrus Fruit

A World History

There is a type of fruit that has actually changed the course of history: citrus fruit, including lemons, oranges, citrons, mandarin oranges and bergamot oranges. From the frescoes of Pompeii to Lake Garda, Cubism to limoncello, Kubrick’s *A Clockwork Orange* and more, here is an as-yet untold history of the world as seen through a special zingy lens.

Pub. date Feb. 2023 | 320 pp.

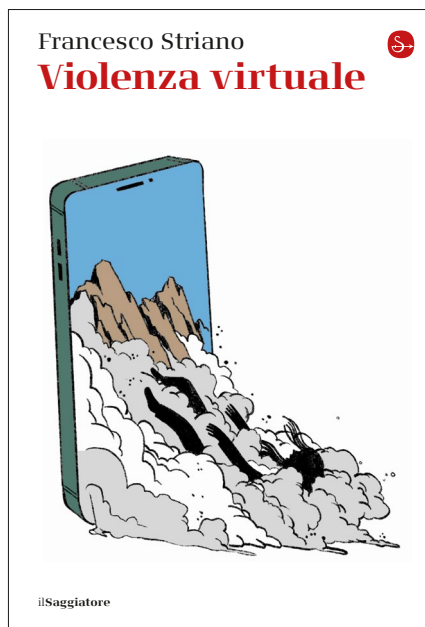
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**HUMAN
ITIES**

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Pub. date Feb. 2024 | 180 pp.

Material available Provisional Italian PDF

Based at the University of Turin, **Francesco Striano** is a post-doctoral researcher for the Northwestern Italian Philosophy Consortium. His main fields are ethics and theoretical and ethical aspects of digital environments.

Francesco Striano *Virtual Violence*

Starting with a comparison of two separate cases – the “Bungle Affair” written about by journalist Julian Dibbell in 1993 and centred on the LambdaMOO community, and a more recent case where a woman targeted on Reddit avenged herself by publicly mocking her attackers on Twitch – Francesco Striano explores the exact nature of online violence. Is it *actual* violence, analogous to offline violence as the “Bungle Affair” suggests, or is it more a form of hate speech that can be retaliated against using sarcasm and ridicule? Taking an intersectional feminist perspective, Striano offers readers a theoretical framework and tools for a critique of digital media as well as his reflections on what a philosophy of feminist-oriented technology might look like.

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Pub. date June 2024 | 250 pp.

Material available English sample
Provisional Italian PDF

Diletta Huyskes does research on automated decision-making processes by governments and public administrations, the impact of virtual reality on human beings, and the relationship between technology and feminism.

Diletta Huyskes

Gender and Technology

More than books exploring the relationship between gender and technology, we need one that reveals the sociopolitical nature of technological design. Only feminism has been able to posit theories about the social construction of technology, introducing both innovative theoretical tools and a sense of the radical nature of the empirical experience. Diletta Huyskes delves into the social research done in the fields of cyberfeminism and technofeminism on technology and gender and proposes new tools and methodologies for addressing the social impacts of the design and development of technology and virtual realities.

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Pub. date June 2023 | 300 pp.

Material available English sample
Full Italian PDF

A professor of Social Psychology at the University of Padua, **Ines Testoni** is also a member of the MiStory international network to study the causes and effects of gender-based violence.

Ines Testoni

The Third Sex

Why God Is Not Male and Other Gender Issues

Starting from the works of Simone de Beauvoir and Simone Weil, Ines Testoni overturns long-outdated gender stereotypes to set forth her “theory of post-presence”. In order to live in tomorrow’s world, she posits, it will be indispensable that we move beyond male/female binarism and sexual and linguistic distinctions to envision ourselves as individuals capable of balancing the demands of both sexes within ourselves. For Testoni, the only possible world is a fluid and plural one.



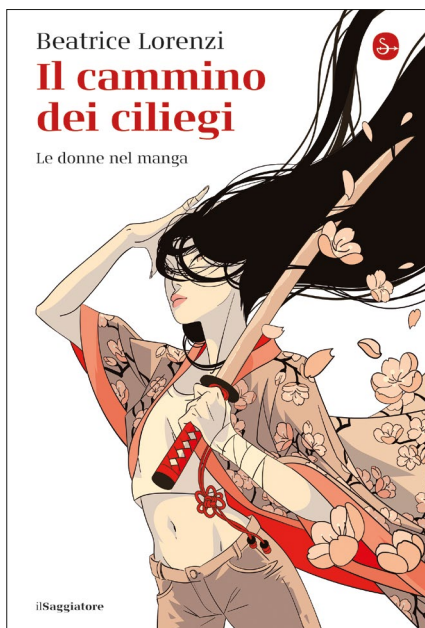
Death

A Biography

Pub. date 2021 | 374 pp.

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Pub. date Sept. 2023 | 200 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

Beatrice Lorenzi

Under the Cherry Tree

Women in Manga

Manga, which originated in Japan but is now immensely popular worldwide, often features hypersexualized portrayals of girls and women with exaggerated physical attributes. Today, however, it is increasingly showcasing strong, independent, resolute and defiant female characters. Beatrice Lorenzi's *Under the Cherry Tree* recounts the long history and evolution of the genre through a feminist lens, investigating the influence it has had on generations of readers and broader contemporary culture, from Ribon no Kishi (Princess Knight), the ground-breaking female character created by Osamu Tezuka, “the Father of Manga”, in 1953, to the 1970s and ‘80s heroines who helped overturn gender stereotypes and break down barriers, on through Sailor Moon, Candy Candy, Evangelion and today’s modern, multifaceted female characters.

An expert on pop culture, anime and manga, **Beatrice Lorenzi** works for radio, television, and festivals.

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Pub. date May 2023 | 342 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

An expert on Emily Dickinson's poetry, **Marisa Bulgheroni** is an author and a professor of American literature.

Marisa Bulgheroni

Existing on the Periphery

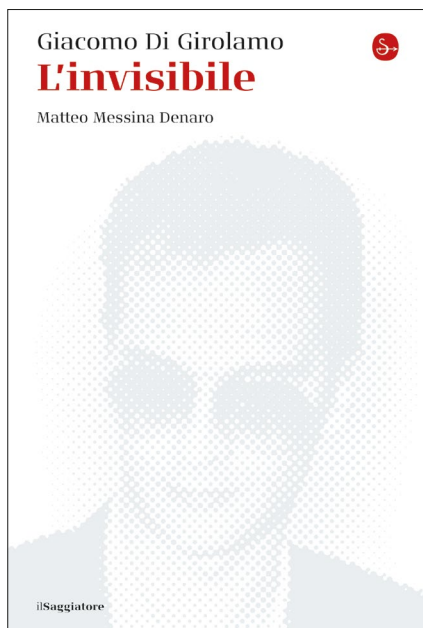
The Life of Emily Dickinson

Attempting to encase the life of the celebrated 19th century American poet Emily Dickinson, who chose to live isolated from the world as a young woman, self-exiled in her family's home and in the silence of her own poetry, within a grid of dates and events, makes little sense. Marisa Bulgheroni eschews common notions of what a biography should look like, immersing herself in the beloved poet's world, visiting the places she inhabited, inebriating herself with the same fragrances and colours she did, delving into archives and Dickinson's works, of course, but then returning to those rooms and gardens to again experience the poet's world first-hand. Bulgheroni poses questions to which we still have no answer: why did the poet choose not to publish her poetry? Why did she isolate herself? Did her work ever reflect her actual life experience? Who did she love? *Existing on the Periphery* is an intimate literary journey into a uniquely mysterious life.

Emily Dickinson's searing intelligence, genius and striking unpredictability pour from the pages of this captivating biography, making it easy to believe that this immortal being was the only truly alive individual of her times; hence her immortality.

Nadia Fusini

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Pub. date March 2023 | 416 pp.

Material available English sample
Full Italian PDF

One of the leading experts on Messina Denaro, in 2014 **Giacomo Di Girolamo** won the *Premiolino*, one of Italy's most important journalism awards, and in 2022 the Paolo Borsellino National Award.

Giacomo Di Girolamo

The Invisible One

Matteo Messina Denaro

Born in the Sicilian province that Matteo Messina Denaro held sway over for decades, Giacomo Di Girolamo has never stopped speaking out about or reporting on his notorious “neighbour”. In an ongoing imaginary dialogue with “the Boss”, the author recounts both his life and those of people who have lived and worked with him.

You’ve been in hiding for thirty years, half of your life. But I saw you everywhere.

In the end they got you, surprised you were still alive. Surprised that it was actually you.

The first time I wrote about you I was a little over twenty years old, and here we still are.

You were born in 1962.

You loved those technological gadgets, the video games, the newest smartphones.

You smoke a lot, Marlboro Red if possible. Sometimes you smoke a whole carton in one day; bosses are pretty stressed out. You wore Ray-Ban Aviators to hide your crossed eye.

You carried diesel fuel with you to set cars on fire with, a gun to settle scores with right away, a rifle for hunting among the Sicilian olive groves of Belice.

The first time you were charged with associating with the mafia was in 1989, but the first time you killed someone you weren’t even 20 years old.

PREVIOUS TITLES OF THE MAFIA TRILOGY

If *The Invisible One* recounts the three decades of hiding and subsequent capture of Matteo Messina Denaro, Cosa Nostra's last boss, *Cosa Grigia* explains what this new Mafia-that-isn't-the-Mafia actually is – something that resembles it, but no longer has “Godfathers”, “families” or commands; something that moves in a twilight space between legality and illegality whose “legal flexibility” can be used as a lock pick. Giacomo Di Girolamo has christened it “*Cosa Grigia*” because, like a nameless parasite, it has crept its way into the life of Italy, sucking out its lymph. We are no longer in the era of Totò Riina, Provenzano and the like. Now, thanks in part to Matteo Messina Denaro, criminals operate in the light of day, carrying expensive briefcases with tablets inside, not guns. *Against the Antimafia* shows how alongside the many individuals working in good faith to weaken the Mafia, there are also many who use it to enrich, build a career or consolidate power for themselves. Today it is the antimafia oligarchy that's in charge and, whether it has to do with small or big business opportunities, from public funding to the management of confiscated property, anyone who dares to question it is accused of complicity. Investigations, reporting, novels and tragicomic dramas – with Matteo Messina Denaro's arrest, the trilogy is now complete, but is Cosa Nostra truly dead?



Cosa Grigia

Pub. date 2012 | 281 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

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Against the Antimafia

Pub. date 2016 | 243 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

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Pub. date April 2023 | 192 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

Franco Maresco is an Italian screenwriter and director, famous for the TVshow *Cinico TV*, written with Daniele Ciprì, and for the docu-film *Belluscone: a Sicilian History*.

Franco Maresco

Letizia Battaglia

Conversations

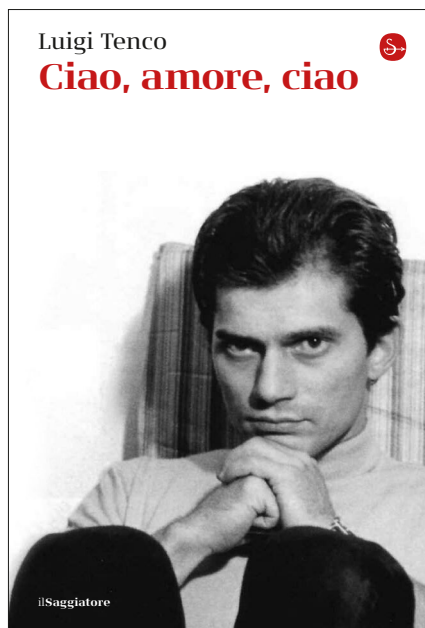
Letizia Battaglia: Conversations contains a never-before-published dialogue that took place towards the end of the photographer Letizia Battaglia's life as she spoke with film director Franco Maresco about mental health, the mafia and antimafia, theatre, cinema, and the city of Palermo, where both were born and with which both had a love-hate relationship. The two met when she was very young; the night before, Maresco's neighbour had killed his wife and a crowd of doctors, police and journalists had gathered around his home. Among them stood Letizia Battaglia, a cigarette hanging from her mouth and a camera in hand, with her blonde bob, long colourful skirt and clogs, the typical feminist outfit at the time. From then on, the two would meet numerous times; Battaglia would go on to become the best-known photo reporter on the Mafia and Maresco the most heretical Italian director.

«I have been a little crazy.

My craziness was my launching
pad to love more, to know better.»

Letizia Battaglia was one of Italy's most important contemporary photojournalists. She witnessed, reported and photographed the Mafia and its crimes, as well as an even broader spectrum of Sicilian life. She was the first woman and European to receive the W. Eugene Smith Grant.

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Pub. date Feb. 2024 | 400 pp.
Material available Full Italian PDF

Curated by
Enrico de Angelis and **Enrico Deregibus**

Luigi Tenco

Ciao, amore, ciao

Collected Works

Everything Written by Tenco that *Wasn't* a Song

Described as “a sort of Italian Charles Aznavour”, Luigi Tenco, who committed suicide during the 1967 Sanremo Music Festival aged just 28, was considered to be one of the country’s best singer-songwriters. Part of “the Genoese School”, a cultural movement that broke with more traditional Italian music styles, he was also an actor and a poet. The authors of *Ciao amore, ciao* have tracked down and gathered in a single volume a large number of the artist’s personal materials including school papers, letters to his mother, three movie scripts (including one with Donald Duck as its main character!) and interviews with Italian and foreign journalists. Much has been written and said about Tenco; in putting together this “involuntary autobiography” – a book not *about* him, but rather “by” him – the authors’ hope is to give the artist a posthumous opportunity to speak to us in his own words

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| 1. Early childhood (1946-47) | 5. Fame (1963-65) |
| School papers | 6. Visit to Argentina |
| 2. Letters to his mother (1957-65) | (11-21 December 1965) |
| 3. A singer-songwriter is born | 7. Final success (1965-66) |
| (1960-65) | 8. Sanremo Music Festival |
| Letters and interviews | (January 1967) |
| 4. The cinema (1962-63) | |
| Three screenplays | |

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Pub. date Feb. 2024 | 250 pp.

Material available English sample
Provisional Italian PDF

A lecturer in the Tibetan language as well as neuroscience, mindfulness and contemplative practices, **Francesco Tormen** is also co-director of the Italian Buddhist Union's Research Centre.

Francesco Tormen

Lucid Dreaming

The Art of Oneironautics

Lucid dreaming – the seemingly paradoxical practice of dreaming while consciously aware that you are doing so – has been practiced in various spiritual traditions since antiquity. Starting in the 1980s, neuroscientists began to investigate the phenomenon and to refine techniques and methods for inducing and achieving this state of being. As humanity moves into the age of the digital metaverse, lucid dreaming is a reminder of what every form of virtual reality is inspired by, yet has thus far been unable to match; and underscores how imagination is less a faculty than a different plane of being that some have always known how to achieve. Based on the most recent neuroscientific research, Francesco Tormen's handbook explains how to approach the experience of lucid dreaming in three stages, including dream recall, mindful awareness exercises and, finally, full mastery of the practice.

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Stefano Bizzotto

**Storie del mondo
in 12 partite di calcio**

Pub. date May 2024 | 300 pp.

Material available English sample
Provisional Italian PDF

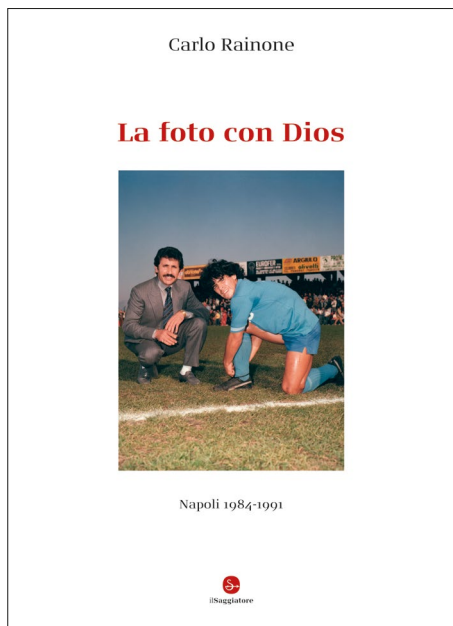
Stefano Bizzotto is a sports journalist and commentator. He has covered numerous FIFA World Cups and Winter and Summer Olympic Games for Italy's national broadcasting company RAI.

Stefano Bizzotto

A History of the World in Twelve Football Matches

Is it possible to sketch the history of the world through the lens of football matches? Stefano Bizzotto, surveying twelve legendary matches between the years of 1914 and 2012, explores the links between the popular sport and geopolitics, cultural history and the fall of empires: from 1914's Christmas Truce to the 1923 White Horse Final at the brandnew Wembley Stadium, from the "Football War" – the name Ryszard Kapuściński gave the 1969 conflict between El Salvador and Honduras – to the tense 2012 European Cup match between Germany and Greece, played as the latter came close to leaving the eurozone due to its dire financial crisis and the severe austerity measures imposed on it by Germany's leadership and its "troika" of institutional servants. Football may be "just a game", but it also reflects the world well beyond the stadium.

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Pub. date June 2023 | 136 pp.

Material available English sample
Full Italian PDF

Carlo Rainone is a documentary photographer whose work examines people's sense of identity and cultural belonging. He worked with *Vice* and *Time*.

Carlo Rainone

A Picture with Dios

Napoli, 1984-1991

From 1984 to 1991, “God” lived in Naples, Italy. You could bump into him while walking around one of the city’s *rioni*, at a shoe store, or in a restaurant along the seaside. And you could definitely find him every other Sunday at the former San Paolo Stadium. Diego Armando Maradona’s presence in Naples meant far more than “just” football to Neapolitans: for many, having “Dios” in their city was a mystical experience whose apex consisted of getting a selfie taken with him. Carlo Rainone travelled around Naples to collect 120 such “relics”, photos taken with Maradona in every type of setting and jealously preserved for decades in people’s homes, offices and wallets. This book is a testament to their adoration for the man widely considered to be the greatest football player of all time.

Along with a few of his friends, Sasà Vitale was one of the first Italian children to be photographed with Diego Armando Maradona. Just weeks after his arrival to Naples, in fact, the Argentinian football star had already begun to spend much of his free time in the private homes of Neapolitans. This time a party was being thrown for him in the Vomero, a hilly district of the city, and Sasà and his friends had come to meet and be photographed with their idol before leaving the revelry to the adults. For weeks afterwards, Sasà did nothing but talk about how lucky he was to have met “the King of Naples”. He never had copies made either for himself or his friends; instead, he kept his precious photo in his wallet and pulled it out to show to anyone who did not believe his story. Photos of Maradona in Naples were rare at the start of his career there, in fact, any photo of him with anyone would do for those who venerated him.



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Pub. date Nov. 2023 | 916 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

Franco Basaglia

Essays

The late psychiatrist and mental health reformer Franco Basaglia waged a tireless battle for legislation to transform Italy's psychiatric institutions, leading to 1978's "Law 180" – better-known as the "Basaglia Law" – that abolished and dismantled the country's mental asylums and hospitals and regulated medical treatment for the mentally ill. It was to be the last of numerous battles fought by the activist-doctor, one of the most important intellectuals of his time. Written from 1953 until his death in 1980, Basaglia's *Essays* reveal the nuances of his views on the issue and recount his struggle to emancipate thousands of institutionalized people from the scientific dogmatism and practices of the time that reduced them to "non-persons". Characterized by ongoing, intimate involvement with the psychiatric suffering of others, it was a struggle that forced an entire medical class to acknowledge the violent, political nature of *any* forceful intervention on human bodies.

Franco Basaglia (1924-1980) was an Italian psychiatrist and neurologist.

Edited by Franco and Franca Basaglia

How Class Kills

With photographs by Gianni Berengo Gardin and Carla Cerati



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Pub. date Feb. 2024 | 90 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

In 1969 Franco Basaglia and his wife and colleague Franca Ongaro asked the celebrated Italian photographers Gianni Berengo Gardin and Carla Cerati to photograph mentally ill people institutionalized in Italian psychiatric asylums. They agreed to the request, but things were not always easy. At one point nurses in Parma sought to confiscate their negatives, but Berengo Gardin handed over blank film instead: the book includes some of those photos. In 1978, almost a decade after Einaudi published the book, “Law 180” came into effect, dismantling all such institutions.



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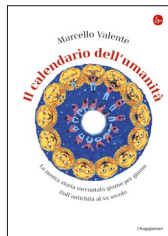
Pub. date Oct. 2023 | 360 pp.
 Material available English sample
 Full Italian PDF

Marcello Valente is a professor of Greek History at the University of Turin and the author of numerous academic publications.

Marcello Valente

Twenty-five Expeditions Through the Ancient World

Common notions about the ancient world, that of Greece and Rome, tend to be circumscribed to the area directly around the Mediterranean Sea. Yet Greeks, Romans, Phoenicians and the Punic people all sought to leave their territories and the known world at the time to follow their dreams of unknown places: the Greek geographer Megasthenes travelled to Sri Lanka, then known as Taprobane; the Romans and Chinese fought in the Himalayan North; and Carthaginian mariners likely reached the Sargasso Sea. Recounting twenty-five astonishing expeditions involving four different continents, Marcello Valente traces the journeys of the world's first known explorers and shows readers a completely new map of the ancient world.



The Calendar of Humankind
Human History, Day by Day
 Pub. date 2020 | 784 pp.

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AFRICA

Greek mercenaries discover the land of the Pharaohs
The Phoenicians circumnavigate Africa
Hanno the Carthaginian sails from the Pillars of Hercules to the Equator
Eudoxus of Cyzicus and his insatiable curiosity for Africa's coasts
King Juba II and the Fortunate Isles
Harkhuf the Egyptian and the Pygmies from the "Land of Spirits"
The obsession of the Ancients: The source of the Nile
Saharan explorers

ASIA

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Nearchus in the Persian Gulf
Megasthenes' diplomatic mission to the plain of the Ganges
On the wings of Hippalus: the route to India and the discovery of the monsoon winds
At the edge of the world: Taprobane Island
Herringbone formation: did the Romans and Chinese battle on the Himalayas?
Maës Titianus and the Silk Road
Alexander: a merchant on the route to China

EUROPE

Aristeas of Proconnesus, a Greek shaman among the steppe nomads
The amazing adventures of Pytheas of Massalia in the Far North
Julius Caesar's campaign in Gaul and Britain
The Roman search for amber
Gnaeus Julius Agricola's expedition to Caledonia

THE AMERICAS

Carthaginians sail to the Sargasso Sea
Euphemius of Caria and the Satrid Islands: did the Ancients reach America first?



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Aldo Rossi *A Scientific Autobiography*

Aldo Rossi was not only a revolutionary architect, but also a fine essayist, an urban philosopher, and even a filmmaker – in short, a deeply inquisitive intellectual and an all-round Renaissance man. This is his autobiography, a book in which Rossi offers readers a magnificent blend of his artistic and human expertise and his reflections on the meaning of architecture, cities, archetypes and actual projects – both those successfully brought to fruition around the world and others that were never completed. Students of architecture as well as ordinary admirers of urban beauty will appreciate this valuable artistic and philosophical memoir.

Pub. date March 2023 | 148 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

Aldo Rossi was an architect and a professor. He was the leader of the movement La Tendenza and one of the most influential theorists of the 20th century.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

The Architecture of the City

Firstly published in 1966, this book is a landmark in the history of architecture. Aldo Rossi reshapes urbanism and the whole idea of what a city should be: driving away from functionalism and rejecting the idea that a city is just the sum of its functions, Rossi explores the idea of *shape*, and of the city as a community. Architecture becomes a collective act, in which two human needs come together: aesthetic beauty and the necessity to build an environment suitable to life. This alchemy generates real, livable spaces: roads to travel, buildings to live in, monuments in which to deposit identities. This city, so animated and so human, emerges from time, and reshapes tradition to make in functional.

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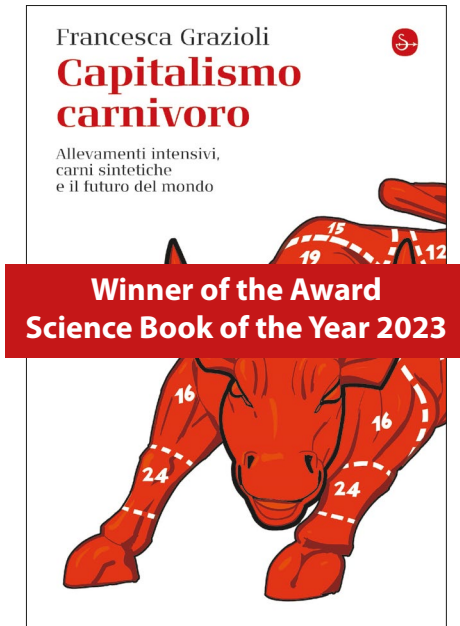


Pub. date Sept. 2018 | 256 pp.

Material available English full translation
Full Italian PDF

**FOOD
AND
CULTURE**

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Pub. date 2022 | 140 pp.

Material available English sample
Full Italian PDF

Francesca Grazioli

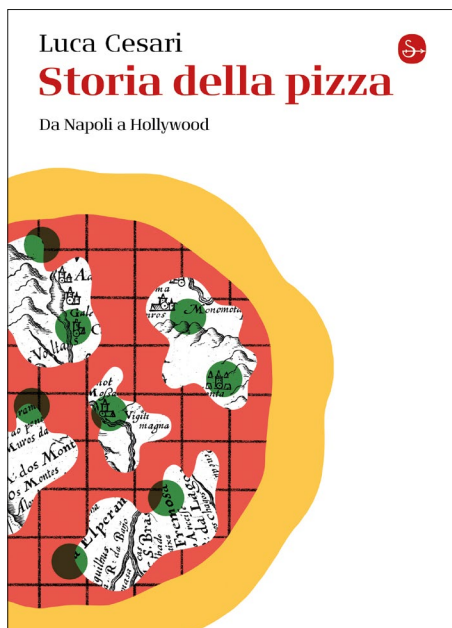
Carnivorous Capitalism

Intensive Farming, Lab-Grown Meat
and The Future of the World

Reading *Carnivorous Capitalism* might not convince you to stop buying or eating meat or to become a vegan, but it *will* give you a new perspective on the economic consequences of the meat industry and meat production. After years of travelling in the poorest parts of the world and studying the animal industry, Francesca Grazioli describes how the West fuels a system that has made meat into one of the top drivers of international conflict: 77% of the planet's arable land, in fact, is used exclusively for animal exploitation; 55 billion chickens are consumed yearly; and the world's largest slaughterhouse, in Oregon, butchers up to 36,000 pigs daily. Eating meat is no longer an "innocent" choice, Grazioli asserts, because it helps to support interest groups that are utterly unconcerned about worsening the climate and economic crises in order to expand and safeguard the "carnivorous capitalism" their profits depend on. Only by being aware of what we eat we can redefine the society we choose to live in.

Francesca Grazioli works at the Bioversity International Research Centre and conducts research on climate change and food security.

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Pub. date May 2023 | 250 pp.

Material available English sample
Full Italian PDF

Luca Cesari is a food historian who writes for newspapers including *Il Sole 24 Ore*.

Luca Cesari

The Real History of Pizza

Discovering the Secrets
of Italy's Most Famous Food

Where does pizza come from? And what does it have in common with maza or plakous? Together with pasta, pizza is undoubtedly the dish that best represents Italian food culture around the world. But pizza actually has a thousand-year-old history that goes well beyond the borders of Italy. Luca Cesari shows us how pizza is just one of many types of *schacciata* produced and eaten daily all over the world, and is closely related to a broad range of similar foods from the Mediterranean region. The word “pizza” has been documented to as far back as 997 A.D. and seems to have appeared for the first time in the *Codex diplomaticus Cajetanus* of Gaeta, which labelled a stuffed focaccia as such. Tracing the foodstuff’s origins and evolution over time and space, Cesari presents a history of pizza that aims to debunk the many stereotypes surrounding the world’s most famous food.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

A Brief History of Pasta

From Tortellini to Carbonara

Can you even imagine Italy without pasta? It's a hallmark of the country's cuisine, and you might imagine that Italian pasta recipes date back to the dawn of time. But food history shows that these dishes actually caught on pretty slowly, with a sudden uptick in popularity only after the middle of the 19th century. Theories about the invention of pasta are still murky, but most agree that it first appeared in the early Middle Ages along the shores of the Mediterranean, between the Near East and southern Italy. So it was neither an import from China nor a Greek or Roman invention.



Pub. date 2021 | 344 pp.

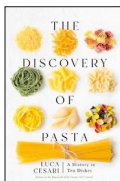
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Pub. date Feb. 2023 | 320 pp.

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Full Italian PDF

Giuseppe Barbera is a professor of Tree Cultivation at the University of Palermo and a member of the scientific committee of the Benetton Foundation Research Centre.

Giuseppe Barbera

Citrus Fruit

A World History

There is a type of fruit that has actually changed the course of history: citrus fruit. Lemons, oranges, citrons, mandarin oranges, bergamot oranges and others figure prominently in Greek mythology, the Bible and Asian folklore. They have been used to combat centuries-old epidemics, influenced innumerable writers and poets over time, and been the foundation upon which economic empires were built. From the frescoes of Pompeii to Lake Garda, from the Cubist paintings of Braque and Picasso to the popular liqueur *limoncello*, from Goethe's *Italianische Reise* to Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange* and more, this richly illustrated book by Giuseppe Barbera treats us to an as-yet untold citrus-focused history of the world.



BY THE SAME AUTHOR

The Mediterranean Garden

A Journey Through the Heart of Three Continents

In the middle of the Mediterranean Sea lies Sicily, a Greek and Roman island long dominated by the Arabs and now the first port of call for thousands of desperate migrants seeking to reach Europe. It is also an ideal observatory from which to study the landscapes of Mare Nostrum, the Roman name for the Mediterranean, whose 46,000 kilometres of wildly varied coastline have enabled a constant exchange of goods and ideas over time. Travelling by foot along its coasts and inland areas, I will seek out traces of encounters between time, nature and humans both on the Sicilian landscape and the greater Mediterranean region, with the goal of crafting a volume that is part travel journal (inspired by those of celebrated earlier explorers such as Humboldt and Darwin) and part compendium of current perspectives from the fields of botany, geology and ecology as well as history, literature and folklore.



Embracing Trees

Pub. date 2017 | 264 pp.

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Giuseppe Barbera

Il giardino del Mediterraneo

Storie e paesaggi da Omero all'Antropocene



Pub. date 2021 | 288 pp.

Material available English sample
Full Italian PDF

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SCIENCE

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Pub. date Sept. 2023 | 200 pp.
Material available Full Italian PDF

Andrea Levi is a neurobiologist who has worked at CERN, the Conway Institute at University College Dublin, and the Weizmann Institute of Science, focusing on the study of the molecular mechanisms that regulate gene expression.

Andrea Levi

The Genetics of Remembrance

How Life Transforms into Memory

We already know that DNA carries and passes down the information that determines our physical characteristics and structural functions, but that's not the end of the story. In this fascinating book, Andrea Levi investigates the processes by which memory, too, is linked to DNA. We *are* our memories, along with the memories of those who came before us; what we remember is associated not only with the events that we experience firsthand in our own lives, but also those experienced by our ancestors long before. Levi takes us on an intriguing journey in discovery of the part of our memory that has a genetic component.

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Sabrina Mugnos

**Vita aliena
sulla Terra**

Pub. date Feb. 2024 | 250 pp.

Material available Provisional Italian PDF

Sabrina Mugnos is a vulcanologist, journalist and science writer who has worked with several newspapers and TV stations including RAI and Sky.

Sabrina Mugnos

Alien Life on Earth

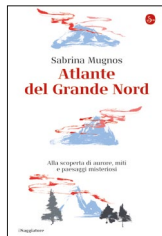
Science tells us that our planet is not only stranger than we imagine, but also stranger than we *can* imagine. In her new book, Sabrina Mugnos takes us on a journey around our planet, from its most profound depths to its highest peaks, looking for traces of alien life. Do UFOs really exist? That's what we usually ask ourselves when thinking about extraterrestrial life. Astrobiology, the scientific field that investigates both the origins of life on Earth and the possibility of life beyond Earth, can help us find answers. Using all the means at disposal, Sabrina Mugnos investigates how life as we know it may be present outside our orbit. While the planet Mars is the first target, having once (before all the liquid water disappeared from its surface) been a sort of smaller Earth, the discovery of thousands of exoplanets – planets beyond our own solar system – has greatly expanded the search range. Obviously, our ultimate goal is the search for intelligent life, that is, life that is somehow capable of manifesting its existence. But what about UFOs? For decades humans have reported their sightings of unfamiliar objects or phenomena in the sky, giving rise to understandable questions about whether other life forms inhabit our planet alongside us.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

Slumbering Dragons

Voyage to Italy's Volcanoes

To the vast majority of its inhabitants, this mountain is a living being, one with many faces, loved beyond measure. It is, to be precise, a 'she', with all the associated faults and virtues: caring mother, fiery lover, moody adolescent, sophisticated lady, a sincere friend, a maiden to be conquered, a grumbling wife, and so much more. She is in any case always, inevitably female, and as such, just the right amount of whimsical, mischievous and temperamental. When in a good mood, she will give you a reassuring welcome with her smoking, majestic profile, winking above the airport whose location has been named Fontanarossa (Red Fountain), in her honour. But there are times when she will cloak herself in bizarre clouds, or even vigorously reject you by darkening the sky with ashes, hindering all attempts to reach her.



Atlas of the Great North

Pub. date 2022 | 256 pp.

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Pub. date 2020 | 256 pp.

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Full Italian PDF

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Pub. date Nov. 2023 | 200 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

Alessandro Paolucci holds a Philosophy degree and is an expert in digital communication. He is also the founder of @Dio, with more than 900,000 followers on X.

Alessandro Paolucci

An Addictive History of Science

Hashish, Ketamine and Magic Mushroom from Avicenna to Oliver Sacks

Though we often envision scientists as paragons of virtue – solemn, upright and tirelessly dedicated to their research – history shows that many have also engaged in hallucinogenic “adventures”. Alessandro Paolucci has put together an entertaining account of scientists of the past, towering intellects who, even as they scandalized their contemporaries with less than sterling qualities/behavior (vanity, arrogance and worse), brought about watershed advances perhaps due in part to their use of mind-altering substances. The breakthroughs of many renowned for such scientific insights and discoveries – from Avicenna to Thomas Edison, Paracelsus to Oliver Sacks – are no less significant for their originators’ lack of moral impeccability or occasional irrationality.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

An Addictive History of Philosophy

Opium, LSD, Amphetamines from Plato to Friedrich Nietzsche

The ultimate expression of intellect, brought to us by divine grace: this is how many of us tend to think of, or be taught about, philosophers. But *An Addictive History of Philosophy* explores the shortcomings, vices and hedonistic adventures of the world's titans of thought, as well. In this entertaining yet methodical volume (which contains an abundance of notes and an extensive bibliography), Alessandro Paolucci discusses the relationship some of the most renowned Western philosophers had with drugs and alcohol, offering us a peek into the instances when they cheated on Apollo to have a fling with Dionysus. Nietzsche's opium, Plato's hallucinogenic herbs, Freud's cocaine, Sartre's "corrected" (read: amphetamine-supplemented) aspirin: could these episodes of "irrationality" actually have had a decisive impact on these thinkers' worldviews? Did their yielding to "imperfection" expand their vision of human destiny and the meaning of existence?



Pub. date 2022 | 200 pp.

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Giulia Fabriani

Storia della luce

Giulia Fabriani

History of Light

Light, of course, has a *very* long history. It began with the Big Bang, from the very first photons up to the most powerful light sources that we can observe in the cosmos today. Starting with the most ancient and exotic light objects in the universe and moving on through humanity's most recent achievements and aerospace missions, Giulia Fabriani explores this history, explaining the characteristics of light and demonstrating how even its absence provides vital information for astrophysicists. But her book is also a historical and anthropological discourse on how our forebearers used and observed light, and how the relationship between light and shadow has always been a basic philosophical paradigm.

Pub. date Feb. 2024 | 200 pp.

Material available English sample
Provisional Italian PDF

Specialized in science journalism, **Giulia Fabriani** holds degrees in astronomy and astrophysics. She writes for a range of newspapers, including *Le Scienze* and the National Institute of Astrophysics's *EduINAF*.

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Pub. date Nov. 2023 | 200 pp.
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Antonio Ereditato is a Visiting Professor in Physics at Yale University and Emeritus Professor of Particle Physics at the University of Bern.

Antonio Ereditato Letter to the Scientists of the Future

What will science focus on in the future? What will change in the way research and experiments are conducted? Antonio Ereditato, one of Italy's preeminent physicists, writes a letter to the scientists of the future investigating what we might discover while looking at the centre of galaxies, getting closer to the speed of light, decoding the secrets of DNA and more. Above all, he discusses the qualities and characteristics that future scientists will need to have, including an enterprising spirit, curiosity, courage and a touch of madness. Recounting the history of the CERN laboratory and his experience there, Ereditato charts a path for tomorrow's scientists and their potential discoveries.

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Elementary Particles

Pub. date 2017

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A Brief Voyage Called Earth

Pub. date 2016

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Spanish, Tusquets Editores

A Travel Guide for Space Explorers

Pub. date 2019

MUSIC

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Pub. date Sept. 2023 | 176 pp.

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Full Italian translation

The Canadian musicologist **Cliff Eisen** is one of the world's foremost experts on Mozart. He has worked in the Department of Music at King's College London and taught at New York University.

Cliff Eisen

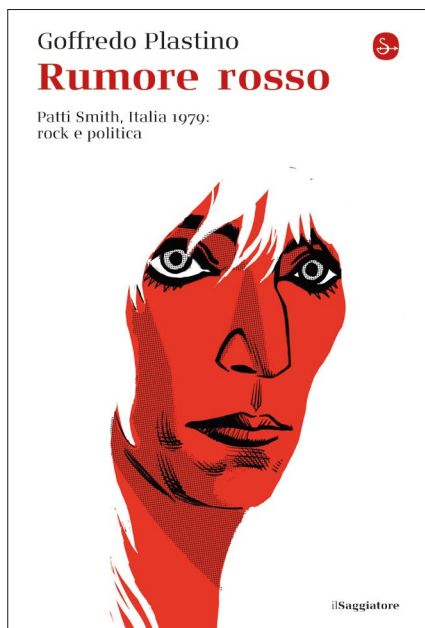
The Real Mozart

Translated by Patrizia Rebulla

The life and music of a composer are indivisible, as this biography of Mozart demonstrates. Tracing the musician's life and work through three different periods – the years of travel, Mozart's relationship with his father and his birthplace, Salzburg, and his adjustment to the musical culture of Vienna – Cliff Eisen's analysis highlights what a modern man Mozart was, and how attuned he was to the world around him. His music reflected both his own persona and times and the milieus in which he lived.

A new – non-legendary- biography.

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Pub. date Nov. 2023 | 350 pp.

Material available Full Italian PDF

A musicologist at Newcastle University, **Goffredo Plastino** has worked with Pino Daniele and curated both editorial and discographic series, writing about ethnomusicology, jazz, organology, pop music and photography.

Goffredo Plastino

Red Noise

Patti Smith in Italy, 1979: Rock and Politics

On September 9th 1979 the Patti Smith Group performed at the Bologna stadium, and the day after at the Florence stadium. Now, for the first time, Goffredo Plastino's book recounts the singer-songwriter and poet's unstoppable success in 1970s Italy, her disbanding of the group and 16-year semi-retirement following those shows, and the political and cultural impact of the latter. Based on a rich collection of documents, first-hand accounts and artwork, Plastino surveys this unique time in contemporary Italian history, one that transformed the way people listened to live music and that remains a part of our collective memory.

Cover illustration by **Davide Toffolo**

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Pub. date 2022 | 704 pp

Material available Full Italian PDF

Carlo Piccardi is a musicologist and essayist. He worked for the Swiss Radio and Television network first as a music producer and then as director of its music division, and now directs Italy's Rete Due.

Carlo Piccardi **The Sound of War**

A Musical Representation of Armed Conflict

A survey on how music has portrayed, accompanied, supported or condemned armed conflict over time – from Renaissance *cantus firmi* to revolutionary chants, and war marches to 1960s peace songs – that manages to be comprehensive and erudite while also accessible to a broad audience, Carlo Piccardi provides a compact yet thorough account of the history of war music, including sheet music, song lyrics and other valuable accompanying documents. How has the meaning of music changed during armed conflicts, and how has it portrayed such conflicts: as painful necessities, heroic acts in support of the homeland, or futile bloodbaths? What has music signified, and what roles has it played, during historic conflicts from the Napoleonic Wars on through the two World Wars? As war once again rages in Eastern Europe, music can still convey powerful messages. Piccardi's book is both an invaluable guide and a beacon of hope; battles have often been fought to the beat of marches, but so too has music been used to seal the peace.

A Night at the Opera

Rossini | Donizetti | Bellini | Verdi | Puccini

Featuring an appealing mix of biography and discussion of their artistic output, this five-volume series on the most renowned exponents of nineteenth-century Italian melodrama was developed for non-specialists interested in learning more about these masters of poetry within music. Those already familiar with their lives and work will also find it a congenial source for furthering their own knowledge.

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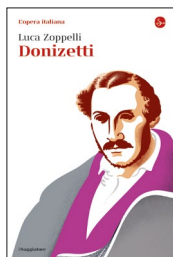


Rossini

Pub. date

2022 | 560 pp

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Donizetti

Pub. date

2022 | 573 pp

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Bellini

Pub. date

2022 | 456 pp

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Verdi

Pub. date

2022 | 648 pp

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Puccini

Pub. date

May 2023 | 544 pp

Recent Acquisitions

Non Fiction

Joan Didion - *Didion. The Last Interview* (Melville House)
David Bowie - *Bowie. The Last Interview* (Melville House)
Marion Rankine – *Broliology* (Melville House)
Sarah Hart - *Once Upon A Prime* (Mudlark)
Sally Adee - *We Are Electric* (Canongate)
Michel Nieva- *Ciencia ficción Capitalista* (Casanovas Y Lynch)
Michel Nieva - *Tecnología y Barbarie* (Casanovas Y Lynch)
Peter Singer - *Animal Liberation Now* (Susanna Lea)
Ben Wilson - *Urban Jungle* (PRH)
Reiner Stach - *Kafka. Biographie in drei Bänden* (Fischer)
V – *Reckoning* (Bloomsbury)
Brian Dillon - *Affinities* (Casanovas y Lynch)
Charles R. Cross - *Heavier than Heaven* (Hachette)
John Berger - *Over To You* (Balcells)
Pablo Maurette – *El sentido del tacto* (Indent)
Maggie Nelson - *Like Love* (Janklow)
Jamie Kreiner - *The Wandering Mind: What Medieval Monks Tell Us About Distraction* (Liveright)
Joan-Carles Mèlich - *La condición vulnerable* (Fragmenta Editorial)
Joan-Carles Mèlich - *La experiencia de la pérdida* (Fragmenta Editorial)
Mona Chollet - *Réinventer l'amour* (La découverte)
Mona Chollet - *Chez Soi* (La découverte)
Mona Chollet - *Beauté Fatale* (La découverte)

Narrative Non Fiction

Adam Nicolson - *Life Between the Tides* (Georgina Capel)
Bill Hayes - *Sweat. A History of Exercise* (Bloomsbury)
Charlotte Van den Broek - *Waagstukken* (Singel)
Mark O'Connell - *A Thread Of Violence* (CAA)

Fiction

Michel Nieva - *La infancia del mundo* (Casanovas Y Lynch)
William Gaddis - *A Frolic of His Own* (Wylie)
Joyce Carol Oates - *With Shuddering Fall* (John Hawking & Associates)
Kathryn Scanlan - *Kick the Latch* (David Higham)
Kathryn Scanlan - *Aug 9 - Fog* (David Higham)
Mircea Cărtărescu – *Theodoros*
Sven Holm – *Termush* (Gyldendal)

Illustrated

Hannah Strong - *Sofia Coppola: Forever Young* (Abrams Books)
Pedro Torrijos - *Territorios Improbables* (Linwood Messina)

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