

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



ITALY

GUEST OF HONOUR 2024  
FRANKFURTER BUCHMESSE  
16-20 OCTOBER 2024

**Italy Guest of Honour 2024 Frankfurt Buchmesse**  
**16-20 October 2024**

**PROGRAMME OF EVENTS**

**WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER**

**Time 10.00 – 10.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**Inauguration of the Italian Pavilion**

***The Beauty of Words***

With **Susanna Tamaro** and **Stefano Zecchi**

Moderated by **Luigi Mascheroni** (journalist)

Can life be lived in the pursuit of beauty, through its narration and dissemination? And what is the profound essence of this idea, so universally resonant yet deeply personal? Italy's programme in Frankfurt begins with a dialogue between those who have examined beauty through the lens of philosophy and those who have articulated it through literature.

*#literaryprogramme #arts #fiction*

**Time 10.30 – 11.20 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

**Inauguration of the Italian Collective Stand**

Ribbon-cutting ceremony with **Alessandro Giuli** (Minister of Culture), **Claudia Roth** (Minister of State for Culture and Media in the German Government)

With **Juergen Boos** (Frankfurter Buchmesse), **Innocenzo Cipolletta** (AIE - The Italian Publishers Association), **Ferdinando Fiore** (ITA - Italian Trade Agency), **Armando Varricchio** (Embassy of Italy in Germany)

**Time 9.00-11.30 | Zentrum Wort | Hall 4.1**

***From Italian to the rest of the world***

With **Annalena Benini**, **Juergen Boos**, **Ilide Carmignani**, **Emanuele Di Giorgi**, **Linus Guggenberger**, **Lorenza Honorati**, **Annette Kopetzki**, **Vincenzo Latronico**, **Monica Malatesta**, **Beatrice Masini**, **Francesca Novajra**, **Laura Pugno**, **Michael Reynolds**, **Ana Rodado**, **Audrey Scarbel** and **Susanne Schüssler**.

Curated by **Salone Internazionale del Libro di Torino**

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Salone Internazionale del Libro di Torino presents an exceptional in-person edition of our annual conference Dall'Italiano al Mondo – From Italian to the rest of the World. The Salone organizes the initiative in collaboration with Frankfurter Buchmesse and AIE (Italian Publishers Association) with the support of Italia Ospite d'Onore 2024 at the Frankfurt Book Fair, ITA (Italian Trade Agency) and the Conseil Européen des Associations de Traducteurs Littéraires (CEATL). The project curated and chaired by Ilide Carmignani is designed for translators from Italian into all the languages of the world; it was born in 2021 to present each year a vast selection of Italian books yet to be translated.  
*#professionalprogramme #fiction #non-fiction*

**Time 11.00 – 11.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Living in the Time of the Apocalypse***

With **Luigi Maria Epicoco** and **Carlo Rovelli**

Moderated by **Nico Spuntoni** (journalist)

Viruses and wars, economic recession and the climate crisis. With a degree of severity, reality is reviving a concept long familiar to the major religions: the end of the world. Is this an exaggeration, or should we genuinely be concerned for the future? The response from a renowned physicist and a distinguished theologian/writer will offer insight through dialogue between science and faith, exploring both present and future perspectives.

*#literaryprogramme #spirituality #science*

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Thinking of Moving to Berlin?***

With **Andrea Bajani** and **Mario Desiati**

Moderated by **Maria Carolina Foi** (Università degli Studi di Trieste)

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Numerous Italian writers have not only contemplated such a move but have also embraced it and portrayed it in their works. One such author is Andrea Bajani, a finalist for the Strega and Campiello prizes in 2021 with his novel *Il libro delle case*. For him, the German capital - where he resided until a decade ago - served as a pivotal chapter in his journey as an expatriate author, eventually guiding him to America. Another is Mario Desiati, who not only lived in Berlin but also set part of his novel *Spatriati*, which won the Strega Prize in 2022, in the city. From the first steps taken in the city, through varying lengths of stay, to the final farewell, intimate secrets and literary curiosities of the "metropolis" with a unique allure, as experienced by those who have, at least once in their lives, encountered it.

*#literaryprogramme #Italy-Germany*

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

**36 Years On. The Italian Book Market Today**

With **Innocenzo Cipolletta** (AIE - The Italian Publishers Association), **Giovanni Hoepli** (Hoepli Editore), **Stefano Mauri** (GeMS Gruppo Editoriale Mauri Spagnol) and **Susanne Schüssler** (Verlag Klaus Wagenbach)

Moderated by **Karen Krüger** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

In 1988, Italian publishing was, just as it is this year, the Guest of Honour in Frankfurt. Today, the Italian publishing industry ranks as the fourth largest in Europe, with a strong focus on international markets and bolstered by a domestic market that features a diverse audience engaging with a broad spectrum of genres and titles. An international discussion drawing on the analysis of data compiled by the AIE research department.

*#professionalprogramme #Italy-Germany*

**Time 12.00 – 12.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**Between Notes and Words**

With **Frida Bollani Magoni**

Moderated by **Adriano Monti Buzzetti** (Centro per il libro e la lettura)

At just 20 years old, with her birthday falling on September 18, a month before the Book fair, pianist and singer Frida Bollani Magoni stands out as one of the most vibrant talents in contemporary Italian music. Coming together to explore the intersection of music and literature, bridging the gap between reading (in Braille) and writing, celebrating perfect pitch and the way passion overcomes all barriers.

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#timewitnesses #arts

**Time 12.30 – 13.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***In Search of Lost Pleasure***

With **Giuseppe Culicchia** and **Giordano Bruno Guerri**

Moderated by **Luciano Lanna** (Centro per il libro e la lettura)

What happened to pleasure? One hundred and thirty-five years ago, in 1889, Gabriele D'Annunzio's *The Child of Pleasure* was published. Written when he was just 25, this youthful, sensual and provocative novel introduced a "feral note," as Benedetto Croce described it, into Italian literature, which was then largely dominated by Verga's verismo. What remains today of that 'pleasure'? And who shall continue to nurture it through a narrative of the twenty-first century that seems increasingly attuned to the theme of 'discomfort'? The response is offered by Giordano Bruno Guerri, a leading expert on D'Annunzio, historian and president of the Vittoriale, and by Giuseppe Culicchia, curator of the new *Radici* festival and author of a striking début from 30 years ago, where the notion of pleasure seems to wane into a fleeting mirage: *Tutti giù per terra*.

#literaryprogramme #fiction

**Time 12.30 – 13.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Translations. Bridging Cultures and Connecting Nations***

With **Nicola Genga** (Centro per il libro e la lettura), **Stefano Melloni** (SEPS - Segretariato Europeo per le Pubblicazioni Scientifiche) and **Laura Pugno** (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation)

Moderated by **Bruno Giancarli** (AIE - The Italian Publishers Association)

A comparative exploration of how contemporary public institutions support the internationalisation of Italian publishing through the reciprocal exchange of rights, cross-lingual translations and active involvement in international book fairs.

#professionalprogramme

**Time 13.00 – 13.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**Inauguration of the exhibition "Face Value. 60 Italian Writers of the Twentieth Century"**

Conceived by **The Italian Literary Agency**

Curated by **Alberto Saibene**

Exhibition design by **Francesco Dondina**

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In collaboration with **AIE**, with the support of **Italy Guest of Honour 2024 Frankfurter Buchmesse**  
With **Cristiana Chiumenti** (project coordinator), **Alberto Saibene** (curator) and **Marco Vigevani**  
(The Italian Literary Agency)  
*#literaryprogramme #arts*

**Time 13.30 – 14.20 | Caffè letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**Inauguration of the exhibition “From Illustration to Comics. Pencils in Talented Young Hands”**

Curated by **Drosselmeier Academy**, organised by **Bologna Children's Book Fair**

In collaboration with **AIE**, with the support of **Italy Guest of Honour 2024 Frankfurter Buchmesse**  
With **Ivan Canu** (illustrator), **Grazia Gotti** (Drosselmeier Academy/Giannino Stoppani Children's  
Bookshop), **Elena Pasoli** (Bologna Children's Book Fair) and **Silvana Sola** (Drosselmeier  
Academy/Giannino Stoppani Children's Bookshop)

In a world of images, illustration is above all communication, the creation of imagery. But what does it mean to be an illustrator today and what are the reasons that drive a young person to pursue this career? The new challenges of a constantly evolving profession, between different training paths, masters and increasingly international and differentiated markets. Elena Pasoli, director of the Bologna Children's Book Fair, promoter of the exhibition; Grazia Gotti and Silvana Sola, co-founders of the Giannino Stoppani Children's Bookshop and the Drosselmeier Academy, curators of the exhibition; Ivan Canu, illustrator, director of Mimaster, member of the selection committee, talk about this.

*#literaryprogramme #arts*

**Time 13.30 – 14.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

**Italian Books: Fiction**

With **Gianluca Foglia** (*Giangiaco Feltrinelli Editore*), **Paola Gallo** (*Giulio Einaudi Editore*) and **Antonio Sellerio** (*Sellerio Editore*)

Moderated by **Piero Salabè** (*Carl Hanser Verlag*)

In recent years, fiction penned by Italian authors - whether literary or genre - has been growing at a faster pace than translated fiction. It is the culmination of an extensive process involving literary scouts, the transformation and enhancement of authorship, editing and communication on the part of publishers. A comparative analysis based on data compiled by the AIE research department.

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*#professionalprogramme #fiction*

**Time 13.30 – 14.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Regione Lombardia**

**Community of readers. Policies for the dissemination and promotion of books**

Welcome from **Massimo Darchini**, Consul General of Italy

With **Francesca Caruso** (Regione Lombardia/Four Motors for Europe) and **Tom Erben** (German Publishers and Booksellers Association) e **Edgar Garcia** (ICEC - Catalan Institute of Cultural Enterprises)

Conclusions by **Mauro Mazza** (Extraordinary Commissioner of the Government for the Frankfurter Buchmesse 2024)

Moderated by **Paolo Verri** (Fondazione Arnoldo e Alberto Mondadori)

Video contribution by **Sergio Dogliani** (Idea Store)

Lombardy Region promotes a debate to discuss reading promotion policies and exchange best practices and successful projects.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 14.00 – 14.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**Between Naples and Europe: Celebrating the 800th Anniversary of Università di Napoli Federico II**

With **Matteo Lorito** and **Enrico Schleiff**

Moderated by **Christiane Liermann Traniello** (Villa Vigoni)

On 5 June 1224, Holy Roman Emperor and King of Sicily Frederick II sent a letter from Syracuse designating Naples as the seat of the kingdom's 'studium generale.' This was 800 years ago, and the result was the establishment of the world's first secular and state university which remains one of the largest in Europe today. In Frankfurt, not far from historic Swabia, the ancestral realm of Frederick II's dynasty, a celebration will be held to mark the notable anniversary of the Neapolitan university. This international event will feature a dialogue between Matteo Lorito, Rector of Federico II, and Enrico Schleiff, President of Goethe University Frankfurt.

*#timewitnesses #Italy-Germany*

**Time 14.30 – 15.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**Two Hearts So Many Stories**

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With **Teresa Radice** and **Stefano Turconi**

Moderated by **Paola Colombo** (Cosmo/Westdeutscher Runfunk)

Stories are important. Teresa Radice, a scriptwriter, and Stefano Turconi, an illustrator, partners in both creativity and life, remind us of this in their latest graphic novel, *Il Contastorie*, published at the close of 2023. Set in the Amazon, this represents a new and thrilling phase in the journey that started over a decade ago with *Globetrotting Viola* and has since ventured through forbidden ports and mysterious forests, amid fleeing soldiers and the 'enigmatic Orlandi'. Eternally sustained by the restorative powers of the imagination.

*#literaryprogramme #illustration #childrensfiction #youngadultfiction*

**Time 14.30 – 15.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

**Italian Books: Non-fiction**

With **Andrea Angiolini** (Società editrice il Mulino), **Giovanni Carletti** (*Editori Laterza*) and **Roberto Revello** (Mimesis Edizioni)

Moderated by **Susanne Simor** (Verlag C.H. Beck)

In Italy, the non-fiction sector has seen an increase in market share, characterised by a rising interaction between academic publications and mainstream content. It introduces emerging authors and themes, presenting new ways for writers to connect with readers eager to explore contemporary changes and historical events. A comparative analysis based on data compiled by the AIE research department.

*#professionalprogramme #science #history #spirituality #non-fiction*

**Time 15.00 – 15.50 | Arena | Italian Pavillon (Forum 1)**

**The Great Piazza of Books and Ideas**

With **Giovanni Agosti** and **Stefano Boeri**

Moderated by **Luigi Mascheroni** (journalist)

The Italian Guest of Honour Pavilion in Frankfurt will be a grand piazza, uniting publishers, authors and their readers in a vibrant convergence of books and ideas. Narrating the birth of the pavilion and reflecting on how Italian piazzas serve as the spatial matrix for such concepts as open community and free cultural exchange will be architect, urban planner and designer of the pavilion, Stefano Boeri, alongside art historian and critic Giovanni Agosti.

*#timewitnesses #arts*

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**Time 15.30 – 16.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**My Home is Where I Write**

With **Olga Campofreda** and **Igiaba Scego**

Moderated by **Shelly Kupferberg** (DeutschlandfunkKultur, RBBKultur)

Olga Campofreda, originally from Caserta, has traversed diverse landscapes both in her writing (as evidenced in her 2019 narrative reportage *A San Francisco con Lawrence Ferlinghetti*) and in her personal life, as she now lives in London and works as a researcher in Italian and Cultural Studies. Her experiences are also woven into her novel *Ragazze perbene*. Born in Rome, Igiaba Scego has utilised her books and articles as a platform to explore themes related to Somali heritage, the experiences of migrant children and post-colonialism. Her work ranges from the 2010 autobiography *La mia casa è dove sono* to her latest publication, *Cassandra a Mogadiscio* (2023). Two distinct yet contemporary narratives where the kaleidoscope of horizons and identities is seamlessly connected by the enduring thread of writing.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 15.30 – 16.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Travels in Italy. Travels in Germany. Exchanges between the two publishers***

With **Isabella Amico Di Meane** (Translator), **Alessandra Ballesi-Hansen** (NonsoloVerlag), **Annette Kopetzki** (Translator) and **Marina Pugliano** (Translator)

Moderated by **Viktoria von Schirach** (Agenzia Scouting Schirach)

In collaboration with **Associazione Italiana Traduttori e Interpreti** and **StradeLab**

The evolving relationship between Italian and German publishing, as related by some of the key protagonists in the field. Translators and editors recount the chapters of a lengthy history and the intricate web of relationships between publishers and countries. Speculating on how they might transform in the wake of this Book Fair, marking Italy's return as Guest of Honour after a 36-year absence.

*#professionalprogramme #Italy-Germany*

**Time 15.30 – 16.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Regione Lazio**

***Promoting the artistic-cultural heritage of Lazio through publishing: a global challenge***

Con **Alberto Gremese** (Gremese international) e **Roberto Marcucci** (L'Erma di Bretschneider)



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The themes of dance and the performing arts have found solid support in Lazio through various publishing houses and specialised magazines. Publications dedicated to dance in Lazio act as a bridge between artists and the public, offering a privileged look behind the scenes of theatres, academies and dance companies in the region.

*#professionalprogramme #arts*

**Time 16.00 – 16.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***On the Edge of the Abyss. Artists, Writers and intellectuals on the Eve of the Second World War***

With **Marina Valensise** and **Uwe Wittstock**

Moderated by **Christiane Liermann Traniello** (Villa Vigoni)

In 1938, Europe started to understand that the peace it had come to know was now nothing more than an illusion, as the continent was swiftly descending toward the brink of war. Some of the first to recognise this, though not all, were intellectuals, artists and writers. Marina Valensise has dedicated *Sul baratro* to them. *Città, artisti e scrittori d'Europa alla vigilia della Seconda Guerra Mondiale* is a passionate exploration of the anxieties, torments and even indifference that permeated the artistic and cultural circles of Europe's capitals on the eve of the Second World War. The book spans from Vienna to Budapest, Berlin to Paris, Prague to Moscow, and Rome to Brussels. As unsettling questions about the future and peace arise, the Roman author and German essayist Uwe Wittstock, renowned for his work *February 1933. The Winter of Literature*, which chronicles the devastating effects of Hitler's rise to power on Germany's literary and artistic spheres, delves into the position, role and fate of intellectuals amidst historical upheavals.

*#literaryprogramme #history*

**Time 16.30 – 17.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Experiencing Books to the Full***

With **Antonio Franchini** and **Chiara Valerio**

Moderated by **Anna Vollmer** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

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Some authors, in addition to their esteemed writing careers, immerse themselves deeply in the world of publishing through a variety of roles. As series curators, editors and contributors to literary magazines and radio programmes, they are thoroughly engaged with books, grasping their intricacies from every angle. Their holistic approach to literature resonates with the tradition of many distinguished figures in Italian literary history. Antonio Franchini (*Il fuoco che ti porti dentro*), and Chiara Valerio (*Chi dice e chi tace*) belong to this category. Fresh from their personal successes as authors, they are also key figures in an open dialogue about the facets and implications of contemporary Italian publishing.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 16.30 – 17.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Promoting Literature: A Comparative Exploration of Italian and European Strategies***

With **Laura Ballestra** (AIB - Associazione Italiana Biblioteche), **Renata Gorgani** (Il Castoro), **Miha Kovač** (Ljubljana Reading Manifesto) and **Adriano Monti Buzzetti** (Centro per il libro e la lettura)  
Moderated by **Giovanni Solimine** (Fondazione Maria e Goffredo Bellonci)

In collaboration with **Centro per il libro e la lettura** and **AIB - Associazione Italiana Biblioteche**  
Historically, Italy has ranked lower in terms of reading rates compared to other European countries. This underscores the importance of policies aimed at promoting books and reading among adults, children and young people: a comparison of the most successful Italian and European initiatives.

*#professionalprogramme #childrensfiction #youngadulthoodfiction*

**Time 17.00 – 17.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Culture That Unites. From Manuzio to the ebook***

With **Massimo Bray**, **Alessandro De Pedys** and **Umberto Vattani**

Moderated by **Luciano Lanna** (Centro per il libro e la lettura)

The strength of the book lies in its universal appeal and immediate nature: a medium that is easy to understand, produce and use, accessible in any place and by all people. Yet this simplicity is a testament to human genius - an achievement of those who, over the centuries, have perfected the art of merging beauty with functionality. From Aldo Manuzio's Venetian typography in the 15th century to the innovations of the digital revolution, this captivating journey is guided by art diplomat Ambassador Umberto Vattani, cultural historian and politician, former minister and Treccani general director, Massimo Bray and the Director General for Public and Cultural Diplomacy (Alessandro De Pedys).

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*#timewitnesses #arts*

**Time 17.00 – 17.50 | Room Venice International University - Manuzio and the book revolution | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Reading in the Dark®***

Welcome address from **Cristina Mussinelli** (Fondazione LIA – Libri Italiani Accessibili) and **Umberto Vattani** (Ambassador, President of Venice International University)

With **Viola Ardone, Giuseppe Culicchia, Alessandro Marzo Magno** and **Clara Ori**

Moderated by **Elisa Molinari** (Fondazione LIA – Libri Italiani Accessibili)

Curated by **Fondazione LIA - Libri Italiani Accessibili**

With the support of **Italy Guest of Honour 2024 Frankfurter Buchmesse**

A Reading in the dark© is a highly experiential and engaging format to address themes as digital accessibility and the socio-cultural inclusion of people with visual disabilities. Through the absence of light, a Reading in the dark cancels any distinction between those who read with their eyes, those with their hands, and those with their ears. Famous writers and blind or visually impaired readers alternately read the same book, revealing the different ways of using it.

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 17.30 – 18.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***In this World of Ogres***

With **Ginevra Lamberti** and **Alice Urciuolo**

Moderated by **Maïke Albath** (Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Süddeutsche Zeitung, Die Zeit)

Enigmatic characters, religious leaders, dystopian worlds and neo-realist landscapes, alongside physical and psychological addictions, these are the elements that characterise the latest works by Ginevra Lamberti (*Il pozzo vale più del tempo*) and Alice Urciuolo (*Adorazione, La verità che ci riguarda*). Their books depict a world where slipping into the darkness appears almost inevitable. How can one escape such a downward spiral? Could writing, reading and imagination offer a sturdy rope to cling to? Are younger generations more vulnerable to falling, or do they have the most effective tools and the greatest energy to rise again?

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER**

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**Time 10.00 – 10.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

## ***Reading Nurtures Growth***

With **Davide Calì**, **Beatrice Masini** and **Patrizia Rinaldi**

Moderated by **Marlene Zöhrer** (Centro KiJuLit, kinderundJugendmedien.de)

Well begun is half done, says the old proverb. And those who start reading early have an even greater advantage. The format dedicated to children's publishing opens with a dialogue among three very different authors: Davide Calì, known for his work in comics and illustration; Patrizia Rinaldi, an educator and mystery writer and Beatrice Masini, who is an editor and translator, among other roles. Despite their varied backgrounds, they are united in their passion to promote a love of reading in young audiences. On the importance of books as a means to begin exploring the world, to keep dreaming and to foster personal growth.

*#literaryprogramme #childrensfiction #youngadulthoodfiction*

**Time 10.30 – 11.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

## ***In Search of the Great European (and Italian) Novel***

With **Maike Albath** and **Vincenzo Latronico**

Moderated by **Maria Carolina Foi** (Università degli Studi di Trieste)

Americans understand this well: that while labels may be an inconvenience, they often prove effective. Proof of this is the publishing success of the "great American novel" - the coveted achievement that many authors across the Atlantic aspire to write and that readers (and critics) around the world eagerly anticipate. What if something like that were needed in the Old Continent, perhaps in Italy? Writer (and keen observer of the publishing world) Vincenzo Latronico, journalist and essayist Maike Albath and Germanist and German-Italian cultural transfer expert Maria Carolina Foi.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 10.30 – 11.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

## ***Artificial Intelligence: new rules, challenges and opportunities for Innovation***

Welcome address from **Innocenzo Cipolletta** (AIE - The Italian Publishers Association) and **Ricardo Franco Levi** (FEP - Federation of European Publishers)

With **Elisabeth Crossick** (RELX) and **Quentin Deschandelliers** (FEP - Federation of European Publishers)

Moderated by **Maria Pallante** (AAP - Association of American Publishers)

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In collaboration with **FEP - Federation of European Publishers**

Generative Artificial Intelligence has triggered a rapid transformation of the technological and regulatory environment for the book world. With the AI Act, Europe has established clear rules for the transparency of generative AI and the possibility of reserving rights and licensing copyrighted content, while other parts of the world are exploring different solutions. In this context, publishers are challenged to rethink their practices and to reflect on the future impact of AI on the sector.

*#professionalprogramme #science*

**Time 10.30 – 11.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Regione Lazio**

***Publishing in Lazio: successful small and medium enterprises tell their stories***

With **Raffaello Avanzini** (Newton Compton), **Emanuele Di Giorgi** (Tunuè), **Simona Telese** (Fras4kids) e **Tiziana Triana** (Fandango Libri)

A meeting dedicated to publishing in the Lazio region through the testimonies of publishing houses at Buchmesse 2024.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 11.00 – 11.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***When Words Transform into Image***

With **Pupi Avati** and **Simona Ercolani**

Moderated by **Gianvito Casadonte** (journalist)

Sometimes, words are no longer content to remain confined to the page and must venture onto the big screen. A dialogue that crosses the boundaries of stories, languages and media, with features film director Pupi Avati (a world traveller of the arts, who began as a jazz clarinetist and has also become a celebrated novelist), beginning with his film *Parola che si fa immagine*, which explores Dante. Joining him is author and television producer Simona Ercolani.

*#timewitnesses #arts*

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Literature that Heals and Endures***

With **Francesca Melandri** and **Fabio Stassi**

Moderated by **Lothar Müller** (Süddeutsche Zeitung)

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A book holds many superpowers. It can offer solace, as Fabio Stassi demonstrates through the adventures of the 'bibliotherapist' Vince Corso and in essays such as the recent *E d'ogni male mi guarisce un bel verso. Breve discorso su Dante, la poesia e il dolore*. And it can help us remember, as demonstrated in Francesca Melandri's eagerly anticipated new novel *A piedi freddi*, set to be released simultaneously in Italy and Germany. This memoir of significant civic value recounts, through the lens of war, the crucial importance of individual responsibility and the choices each person makes. A declaration of love for literature and its boundless potential to enrich, improve and to explore the soul of humanity and society.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Small and Medium-Sized Publishers in Italy and Europe***

With **Lorenzo Armando** (Lexis/AIE), **Daniel Beskos** (Mairisch Verlag/Kurt Wolff Stiftung), **Nicolas Filicic** (Les Belles Lettres) and **Jordi Nadal** (Plataforma Editorial)

Moderated by **Annamaria Malato** (Più libri più liberi)

In collaboration with **Più libri più liberi - Fiera nazionale della Piccola e media editoria** [Italian Independent Publishers Book Fair]

Small and medium-sized publishers in Italy represent over half of the trade market. For 23 years, Rome has hosted a unique exhibition dedicated to these independent publishing houses, a rare event among European countries. A comparison between the state of affairs in Italy and that of other European countries with the aim of exploring opportunities and challenges.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 12.00 – 12.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Culture That Unites. Nation and Country, Right and Left. The Rationale for Dialogue***

With **Alessandro Campi** and **Andrea Romano**

Moderated by **Tommaso Ricci** (journalist)

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



ITALY

GUEST OF HONOUR 2024  
FRANKFURTER BUCHMESSE  
16-20 OCTOBER 2024

In a bipolar system marked by contrasts between opposing - or simply different - forces, how should politics respond? How are its role, nature and definitions evolving as the 21st century progresses? Are the categories of 'Right' and 'Left' still relevant? And in their relationship with the themes of nation and country, are the expected contrasts stronger, or do surprising affinities emerge? Beginning with the Italian context, writer and historian of political doctrines Alessandro Campi, author of *Il fantasma della nazione. Per una critica del sovranismo*, and politician and historian Andrea Romano, whose *Patrioti (di sinistra)* is forthcoming in September, will explore these themes.

*#literaryprogramme #non-fiction #history*

**Time 12.30 – 13.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Living on the Edge of the Line***

With **Mauro Covacich** and **Paolo Rumiz**

Moderated by **Tilman Spreckelsen** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

In Trieste, everything seems to challenge your boundaries. From the rush of the bora wind sweeping down from the mountains and propelling you toward the sea, to the local surnames with their distinctive final consonants that lend a unique twist to traditional Italian names. To its position, precariously balanced on a line that both man and history have repeatedly shifted. What exactly is the nature of such boundaries? We consulted Mauro Covacich and Paolo Rumiz, two authors who, beyond their Triestine roots, are known for their tendency to traverse boundaries - be they fictional, linguistic, real or imaginary - in their pursuit of understanding others and valuing diversity as a form of enrichment.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 12.30 – 13.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Italian Publishing Goes abroad: More than Rights***

With **Sandro Ferri** (*Edizioni e/o*), **Andrea Ferro** (*Casalini Libri*), **Roberto Gilodi** (Reiser Literary Agency/ADALI) and **Fiammetta Giorgi** (*Mondadori Libri*)

Moderated by **Porter Anderson** (Publishing Perspectives)

In collaboration with **ADALI**

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



ITALY

GUEST OF HONOUR 2024  
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How the presence of Italian authors and publishers in international markets has evolved. Not only through the sale of rights but also through co-editions, book exports and the establishment of overseas subsidiaries. The results of the survey carried out by AIE, The Italian Publishers Association, on the sale of publishing rights and internationalisation.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 13.30 – 14.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Italian Books: Publishing for Children and Young Adults***

With a welcome address from **Elena Pasoli** (Bologna Children's Book Fair)

With **Paolo Canton** (Topipittori), **Carlo Gallucci** (Gallucci Editore), **Edmund Jacoby** (Jacoby & Stuart) and **Gaia Stock** (Edizioni EL)

Moderated by **Martina Russo** (*Rivista Andersen*)

In a country with a birth rate nearing 'zero', publishing for children and young adults continues to exhibit significant rates of growth, from early childhood and beyond. This may be attributed to a strong emphasis on innovation in writing, language, storytelling, characters, graphics and illustrations. A comparative analysis based on data compiled by the AIE research department.

*#professionalprogramme #childrensfiction #youngadultfiction #comics*

**Time 14.00 – 14.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Discourse on Methodology***

With **Viola Ardone**, **Gianrico Carofiglio** and **Mauro Covacich**

Led by **Loretta Cavaricci**

Even in writing, a method is essential. Yes, but which one? The Italian authors attending the book fair will share all with journalist Loretta Cavaricci and the audience. They will be taking part in a interview series delving into their writing habits, examining the interplay between rules and discipline, talent and freedom, as well as their tools of the trade and their own unique idiosyncrasies.

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 14.00 – 14.50 | Room Venice International University - Manuzio and the book revolution | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Reading in the Dark®***

With **Pierdomenico Baccalario**, **Giulia Caminito**, **Paolo Rumiz** and **Clara Ori**



# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



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Moderated by **Elisa Molinari** (Fondazione LIA - Libri Italiani Accessibili)

Curated by **Fondazione LIA - Libri Italiani Accessibili**

With the support of **Italy Guest of Honour 2024 Frankfurter Buchmesse**

A Reading in the dark© is a highly experiential and engaging format to address themes as digital accessibility and the socio-cultural inclusion of people with visual disabilities. Through the absence of light, a Reading in the dark cancels any distinction between those who read with their eyes, those with their hands, and those with their ears. Famous writers and blind or visually impaired readers alternately read the same book, revealing the different ways of using it.

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 14.30 – 15.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**Comics and Animation: Intersecting Worlds of Paper and YouTube**

With **Luca Enoch** and **Pera Toons**

Moderated by **Tilman Spreckelsen** (*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*)

How is the portal to imagination evolving? Just how wide is the gap between paper, the realm of popular comics where Luca Enoch has crafted the remarkable fantasy worlds of Gea, Lilith, Dragonero and Morgana going back to the 1990s, and digital media, the domain embraced by Pera Toons (aka Alessandro Perugini) which he uses to connect with hundreds of thousands of followers through his engaging animations? Are they separate realms or interconnected worlds? A convergence at the crossroads of analogue and digital fantasy, blending the power of paper with the allure of screens.

*#literaryprogramme #comics*

**Time 14.30 – 15.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

**Italian Books: Art and Design**

With **Pietro Corraini** (Corraini Edizioni), **Roberto Koch** (Contrasto Books) and **Chiara Savino** (Sole 24 Ore - Cultura)

Moderated by **Moritz Kirschner** (*Verlag Antje Kunstmann*)

The Italian landscape of illustrated books is distinguished by a strong emphasis on graphic and printing excellence. It is also marked by highly specialised topics, extending beyond traditional catalogues and art monographs to include photography, food and beverage, fashion, lifestyle, design and architecture. A comparative analysis based on data compiled by the AIE research department.

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



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*#professionalprogramme #illustration*

**Time 14.30 – 15.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

***The BEIC, a next generation library for Milan, Lombardy and Italy***

With **Stefano Parise** (Comune di Milano), **Tommaso Sacchi** (Comune di Milano) and **Andrea Zanderigo** (Studio Baukuh)

In Milan, thanks to funding arranged by the Ministry of Culture under the National Complementary Plan to the Italian Recovery and Resilience Plan, the City of Milan and the BEIC Foundation are building the Biblioteca Europea di Informazione e Cultura (European Library of Information and Culture). With a total area of about 30,000 square meters, it will be a large international cultural hub able to offer the citizens of Milan, the Metropolitan Area and Lombardy opportunities for access to knowledge and digital cultures, proposing itself as a reference point for creating facilitated circuits with Europe. The BEIC will be a place of access to contemporary knowledge, a public learning space open to all, a place of active participation and cultural production. The presentation will outline the architectural and service features of the project.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 15.00 – 15.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. Era of Words and the Words of Our Era***

With **Claudio Magris**

What are the most significant words of our time? And how do they differ from those of other times? A free exploration of literature, reality, life, and the words that help us to comprehend, connect and narrate them. At the forefront of this exploration today is Claudio Magris, the acclaimed novelist, essayist and Germanist, renowned for his seminal works in contemporary European literature and thought, including *Danube* and *Microcosms*.

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 15.30 – 16.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Typewriter of Time***

With **Viola Ardone**, **Donatella Di Pietrantonio** and **Gian Marco Griffi**

Moderated by **Shelly Kupferberg** (Deutschlandfunk Kultur, RBB Kultur)

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The past is an irresistible magnet. It draws us in and captivates us with thrilling, fantastical and harrowing tales that carry timeless messages. Similar to the story in Viola Ardone's *Il treno dei bambini*, which follows a train of hope in 1946 as it travels across Italy from South to North, an international bestseller; or the tale set against the backdrop of World War II's Piedmont province, which inspired the recent publishing sensation *Ferrovie del Messico* by Gian Marco Griffi; or the narrative emerging from a 1990s crime on the Abruzzo Apennines, as depicted in Donatella Di Pietrantonio's latest novel, *L'età fragile*. A discussion on the intricate threads of history and that extraordinary time machine - writing - that often allows us to uncover them.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 15.30 - 16.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

**Italian Books: Sports**

With **Vittorio Anastasia** (Ediciclo Editore), **Giovanni Di Giorgi** (Lab DFG - Premio Invictus) and **Isabella Ferretti** (66thand2nd)

Moderated by **Karin Plötz** (LitCam)

Books about sports and athletes have evolved into a versatile cross-genre field in recent years. From fictional accounts and biographies of legendary champions to practical manuals on pursuing amateur or semi-professional endeavours and even photographic collections by authors. A comparative analysis based on data compiled by the AIE research department.

*#professionalprogramme #non-fiction*

**Time 15.30 - 16.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**The Future of Memory. Fondazione Mondadori Under the Test of Artificial Intelligence**

Introduction by **Luca Formenton** (Fondazione Arnoldo e Alberto Mondadori)

With **Angela Ida De Benedictis** (Paul SacherStiftung), **Louise Dutertre** (Imec), **Pierluigi Ledda** (Archivio Storico Ricordi), **Nathalie Léger** (Imec) and **Michele Patella** (Audio Innova)

Moderated by **Paolo Verri** (Fondazione Arnoldo e Alberto Mondadori)

Curated by **Fondazione Arnoldo e Alberto Mondadori**

The *Fondazione Arnoldo e Alberto Mondadori* showcases the heart of its historical archival heritage using the latest and most innovative technologies, enhanced by the support of artificial intelligence. Case studies from Italian and European foundations and conservatories illustrate the challenges and opportunities presented by digital advancements.

*#professionalprogramme #history*

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**Time 16.00 – 16.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Classics Beyond the Confines of Time***

With **Alessandro D'Avenia**

Moderated by **Thomas Geiger** (Literarisches Colloquium Berlin)

"A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say," as the quote from Calvino reminds us. Perhaps this is also why Alessandro D'Avenia has delved deeply into an ancient classic, Homer's *Odyssey*, in his recent work *Resisti, cuore. L'Odissea e l'arte di essere mortali*. A (re)discovery that, for the author, is ongoing and evolves daily through his engagement with students, who might either be inspired by or detached from the 'canon'. A discussion on the role of classics in the literary and cultural landscape: are they lost or rediscovered?

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 16.30 – 17.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***That Kind of Violence***

With **Silvia Avallone e Giulia Caminito**

Moderated by **Karen Krüger** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

Feminine, feminism, femicide. Three words, united by a common root, that permeate contemporary cultural discourse, social struggles and linger in the shadows of crime news. A conversation exploring the intersections of gender and violence and the roles of writing in both condemning and redeeming, featuring Silvia Avallone, renowned for her powerful female characters in recent Italian fiction, and Giulia Caminito, a young writer dedicated to addressing gender-based violence. Caminito is a board member of *La Società Italiana delle Letterate* and a member of the Centro Studi Alma Sabatini, which focuses on sexism in the Italian language.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 16.30 – 17.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Booksellers of the Future: Ideas and Projects for the Training of European Booksellers***

Welcome address from **Paolo Ambrosini** (Associazione Librai Italiani - Confcommercio)

With **Aldo Addis** (Scuola librai italiani), **Luis Gonzalez** (Fundacion Germán Sánchez Ruipérez),

**Judith Hoffmann** (Mediacampus Frankfurt) and **Caroline Meneghetti** (L'École de la Librairie)

Moderated by **Lorenzo Dall'Omo** (EIBF)

Curated by **Associazione Librai Italiani - Confcommercio**

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How can the bookseller's role as a guide be strengthened in the digital age? Across Europe, training is becoming increasingly strategic, with growing need for coordination among different countries to share projects, ideas and expertise. Even to the extent of envisioning a future European School of Booksellers.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 16.30 – 17.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano Alto Adige-Südtirol**

***Public financing and publishing. Autonomous Province of Bolzano South Tyrol: a law to support publishing projects linked to the territory***

With **Luca Bizzarri** (Ufficio Educazione permanente, biblioteche e audiovisivi, Cultura italiana)

In 2015, a special provincial law (P. l. 9 of 27 July 2015) was established to support publishing projects related to the culture, history or geography of the South Tyrolean territory, as well as literary translations of works from Italian into German and from German into Italian, the official languages of the Autonomous Province of Bolzano South Tyrol. The fund, which is managed by the Office for Lifelong Learning, Libraries and Audiovisuals for the Department for Italian Culture, makes it possible to stimulate authorial looks at the specificity of the South Tyrolean territory and to support publishing projects which, precisely because of this specificity, might have limited circulation or risk not being published. In order to guarantee the quality of the works, publishing houses are the recipients of the funding.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 17.00 – 17.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Duties of Culture***

With **Francesco Borgonovo**, **Giacomo Marramao** and **Marco Tarchi**

Moderated by **Tommaso Ricci** (journalist)

The role of culture in the current era. Navigating the landscape of duties and rights, values and ethics, pluralism and intolerance. Echoes of the 20th century and visions of the future.

*#timewitnesses #non-fiction*

**Time 17.30 – 18.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**Between Ethics and Happiness**

With **Gianrico Carofiglio** and **Emanuele Coccia**

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Moderated by **Cinzia Sciuto** (MicroMega)

Is it possible to find happiness without overlooking ethical considerations? Can we pursue collective and shared well-being without compromising individual ambitions? Such are the dilemmas that have tormented and fascinated writers and philosophers over the centuries. As will be explored in this meeting, where a globally translated author (Gianrico Carofiglio, recently back in bookstores with a morally charged adventure featuring his lawyer Guerrieri, *L'orizzonte della notte*) and a philosopher (a professor at the *Écoles Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales* in Paris and an explorer of the interconnected realms of our quest for happiness - vegetal, animal and domestic, as seen in *Filosofia della casa*, recently translated into German) will delve into these topics.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction #non-fiction*

**Time 17.30 – 18.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***How does literary talent change?***

With **Maike Albath** and **Antonio Franchini**

*By the authors who signed the open letter*

It seems that new authors and their works, in order to be published, have to convince a mixed parterre of subjects, including art, society, communication and industry. What nourishes our idea of artistic value today? How is literary talent recognised and valued? And what are the differences with the past?

*#literaryprogramme #Italy-Germany*

**Time 17.30 - 18.20 Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Regione Piemonte**

***The publishing cluster in Piemonte: an Italian success story***

Con **Guido Bolatto** (Camera di Commercio di Torino), **Carlo Emanuele Bona** (Unione Industriali Torino), **Erika Manis** (Ceipiemonte), **Stefano Nigro** (Ceipiemonte), **Giovanni Pischedda** (Camera di Commercio di Torino) e **Gabriella Serratrice** (Regione Piemonte)

Presentation of the “PublishInPiemonte” programme.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 18 – 21.30 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Award Ceremony for the 30<sup>th</sup> ENIT Award. The journalism award for Destination Italy***

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



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ENIT celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Award. With this prestigious award ENIT rewards every year, as part of the Frankfurter Buchmesse, the best German-language media contributions with Italy as a travel destination. The competition, reserved for journalists, authors and bloggers from Germany, Austria and Switzerland, includes six categories: travel guides, print media reports, television reports, radio programmes, podcasts and travel blogs.

The ENIT Award is organised under the patronage of the Italian Embassy in Germany.

*#literaryprogramme #ENIT24Award*

## FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER

**Time 10.00 – 10.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Adventures, Mysteries and Spells: the Secret Formula behind Children's Bestsellers***

With **Pierdomenico Baccalario**, **Elisabetta Dami** and **Elisabetta Gnone**

Moderated by **Marlene Zöhrer** (*Centro KiJuLit, kinderund Jugendmedien.de*)

Captivating the imagination of young readers with a well-crafted book or character can pave the way for great success. The speakers at the second event, which is dedicated to children's publishing, are well-acquainted with this. They will delve into every facet of crafting global bestsellers, from creative writing to marketing strategies. Joining the discussion are Elisabetta Dami, creator of the mouse journalist Geronimo Stilton; Pierdomenico Baccalario, author of the popular Ulysses Moore series and founder of the storytelling agency Book on a Tree; and Elisabetta Gnone, journalist and writer behind the comic strip 'W.I.T.C.H.' and the Fairy Oak saga.

*#literaryprogramme #childrensfiction #youngadulthoodfiction #youngadulthoodfiction*

**Time 10.30 - 11.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Scent of Flowers and Kisses***

With **Cristina Caboni** and **Kira Shell**

Moderated by **Paola Colombo** (*Cosmo/Westdeutscher Runfunk*)

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In the beginning there is a scent. The scent of leaves and flowers that emanated from the letter from her Italian teacher, which Valeria (not yet Kira Shell) received as a young girl, wishing her a successful future as a writer. A prediction that would turn into reality years later with the *Kiss Me Like You Love Me* series of novels. And also the scent of honey and bees that shape Cristina Caboni's life, as a beekeeper and début author of the 2014 bestseller that celebrates the sense of smell in its very title: *The Scent of Flowers*. Where does this path lead? Do scents really know who you are, as another novel by Caboni suggests? And what do kisses and love smell like?

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 10.30 - 11.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

### **Accessible Publishing**

With **Andrea Angiolini** (*Società Editrice il Mulino*), **Irene Enriques** (Zanichelli) and **Alessandro Magno** (Giangiacomo Feltrinelli Editore)

Moderated by **Cristina Mussinelli** (*Fondazione LIA - Libri Italiani Accessibili*)

Curated by **Fondazione LIA - Libri Italiani Accessibili**

Accessibility has emerged as a critical factor in shaping the digital strategies of publishing houses. For over a decade, the *Fondazione LIA*, together with Italian publishers, anticipating the implementation of the European Accessibility Act, have been dedicated to producing and distributing accessible e-books, establishing themselves as an international benchmark.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 10.30 – 11.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

### **The Excellence of the Italian Supply Chain in Premium Book Design and Printing**

With **Emanuele Bandecchi** (Rotolito S.p.A.), **Sandro Berra** (Grafiche Antiga), **Emanuele Bona** (Federazione Italiana Carta e Grafica), **Michele Lanzinger** (ICOM Italia), **Alessandro Nardelli** (Cartiere del Garda-Lecta Group SA) and **Erik Spiekermann** (Graphic designer)

Moderated by **Michela Pibiri** (PRINTlovers)

Curated by the **Federazione Italiana Carta e Grafica**



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The Federazione Italiana Carta e Grafica (the Italian Paper and Graphics Federation) is the industry association in Italy representing companies involved in the book production chain, from paper manufacturing to printing and finishing of publishing products, in a pioneering and integrated manner. This seminar will explore the unique features that define the high-end book market segment, including Coffee Table Books, art catalogues, and various illustrated works. It will also highlight why the Italian supply chain leads the way in these processes.

*#professionalprogramme #illustration*

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***What Women are Telling Us. The Feminine Side of Art and Literature***

With **Annalena Benini** e **Karen Krüger**

For centuries, art and literature have been predominantly male-dominated fields. Or at least that is what we have been told. In recent years, however, the experiences of female artists and writers have increasingly come to the forefront. Often battling against the prevailing environment and challenging conventions, they have played a significant role in the history of human creativity. Annalena Benini, who this year assumes the role of director of the Turin International Book Fair, becoming the first woman to hold this position.

and journalist Karen Krüger talk about it.

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Books in the piazza. Meeting and Engaging with Writers at Literary Festivals***

With **Ruggero Cappuccio** (Fondazione Campania dei Festival), **Antonella Ferrara** (TaoBuk Taormina Book Festival), **Luca Formenton** (BookCity Milano), **Oliviero Toscani** (Milanesiana) and **Gian Mario Villalta** (Pordenonelegge)

Moderated by **Cristina Giordano** (Cosmo/Westdeutscher Runfunk)

Italy is home to a large number of literary festivals and the organisers of some of the country's major events share their efforts to bring prominent international writers to Italy, to connect them with their readership and to create new promotional opportunities.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia**

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



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## ***Crossing Boundaries: Redefining Publishing Frontiers***

With **Elisa Copetti** (Bottega Errante Edizioni), **Dario De Cristoforo** (Italo Svevo), **Alberto Gaffi** (Italo Svevo), **Erika Hornbogner** (Wieser e Drava Verlag), **Mitja Ličen** (GOGA) and **Ivan Sršen** (Sandorf)  
Moderated by **Diego Marani**

Collaboration between publishing entities from different countries opens new opportunities to share ideas and authors on an international scale. This kind of synergy helps to broaden cultural dissemination and enhance different perspectives, fostering greater circulation of works and thoughts. Bringing together multiple voices allows for the enrichment of publishing offerings and the creation of meaningful connections between readers and authors, transcending geographic boundaries.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 12.00 – 12.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

### ***Let me tell you a story***

With **Alessandro Barbero** e **Aldo Cazzullo**

Moderated by **Christoph Cornelissen** (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt)

Stories are important. Yet, perhaps even more significant is the ability to weave a narrative that reaches directly to the heart and mind of the listener through the power of words. Two masters of popularisation - one renowned for delving into the depths of history (Alessandro Barbero), the other for capturing and conveying the essence of the present (Aldo Cazzullo) - both acclaimed authors of numerous bestsellers, come together for one major event.

*#literaryprogramme #history*

**Time 12.30 – 13.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

### ***Brooklyn, Bavaria, Italy: A World to Narrate***

With **Claudia Durastanti** and **Helena Janeczek**

Moderated by **Markus Messling** (Käte Hamburger Kolleg CURE)

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In this encounter, we'll explore a unique, elongated triangle with multicultural appeal: Brooklyn, Munich and Italy. This dynamic triangle, with its shifting starting points and evolving horizons, reflects the ever-changing stories, languages and literary visions of these vibrant locales. Navigating this triangle are two authors in constant motion: the American Claudia Durastanti, born in New York, raised in Basilicata, who ventured as a 'foreigner' in London and has now returned to delve into the enigmatic South of *Miss Italia*; and the German Helena Janeczek, Bavarian-Polish, who began her literary career in the 1980s with poems in German, won the Strega Prize in 2018 with a novel in Italian and recently re-emerged with *Il tempo degli imprevisti*, offering a multifaceted view of the early 20th century. Two voices, each offering a unique perspective on a world to explore, experience and narrate.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 12.30 – 13.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

***Accompanying Publishers Abroad***

With **Antonella Fabbrini** (IT Publishing), **Paolo Grossi** (NewItalianBooks) and **Matteo Masini** (ITA – Italian Trade Agency )

Moderated by **Samuele Cafasso** (AIE - The Italian Publishers Association)

How to promote Italian authors and books to foreign publishers? What strategies are used for promoting and communicating abroad? What support can be provided to a network of small and medium-sized publishing houses? This is explored through a comparison of three Italian experiences: institutions, companies and publishing initiatives.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 13.30 – 14.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***A beautiful madness, the highest alert***

With **Laura Accerboni** and **Marko Miladinović**

Moderator **Magda Mandelli**

Curated by **Fondazione svizzera per la cultura Pro Helvetia**

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Poetry, like thoughts and other things of nature, happens in the shortest time, without any special knowledge, questions the existing totally, is self-fulfilling and remains secret even when one understands it. Precisely by virtue of its language, it is not called upon to give explanations of itself, but rather is an invitation for anyone to cross that open field of every lived and living experience where 'there is no inch / that cannot collapse / from one moment / to the next'. Laura Accerboni and Marko Miladinović are not even sure whether the floor is left or not, but they know no other way than this special attitude, this sublime claim of the word, to live freely.

*#literaryprogramme #poetry*

**Time 14 – 14.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Giving voice to stories***

With **Loretta Cavaricci**

Curated by **Audible**

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 14 – 14.50 | Room Venice International University - Manuzio and the book revolution | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Reading in the Dark®***

With **Marco Balzano, Paolo Nori** and **Clara Ori**

Moderated by **Elisa Molinari** (Fondazione LIA – Libri Italiani Accessibili)

Curated by **Fondazione LIA - Libri Italiani Accessibili**

With the support of **Italy Guest of Honour 2024 Frankfurter Buchmesse**

A Reading in the dark® is a highly experiential and engaging format to address themes as digital accessibility and the socio-cultural inclusion of people with visual disabilities. Through the absence of light, a Reading in the dark cancels any distinction between those who read with their eyes, those with their hands, and those with their ears. Famous writers and blind or visually impaired readers alternately read the same book, revealing the different ways of using it.

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 14.30 – 15.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Having it All and Other Small Miracles***

With **Marco Missiroli** and **Valeria Parrella**

Moderated by **Thomas Geiger** (Literarisches Colloquium Berlin)

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



ITALY

GUEST OF HONOUR 2024  
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The dynamics between parents and children, the pulse of their desires and fears and the delicate equilibrium between hope and discontent. What does it mean to exist in the 21st century? And how does this existence unfold on the written page, amidst generational clashes and restless obsessions? Two leading figures in contemporary Italian fiction, Marco Missiroli (*Avere tutto*) and Valeria Parrella (*Piccoli miracoli e altri tradimenti*), engage in an intense dialogue about the elusive nature of the present and the uncertain contours of the future.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 14.30 - 15.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

## ***Italian Books: Comics***

With **Giovanni Ferrara** (Coconino Press), **Caterina Marietti** (Bao Publishing) and **Stefania Simonini** (Panini Comics)

Moderated by **Dirk Rehm** (Reprodukt)

Between 2019 and the present, the Italian book market for comics has expanded almost threefold. This growth has been driven by the popularity of *manga* as well as a rising number of Italian-authored titles that attract new audiences, affirming the place of comics as a significant segment of the publishing landscape. A comparative analysis based on data compiled by the AIE research department.

*#professionalprogramme #comics*

**Time 15 – 15.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

## ***Literature and civic engagement***

With **Alessandro Baricco**

A free exploration of literature and civic engagement led by Alessandro Baricco, grand master of stories and narratives, who in 2024 celebrates the 30th anniversary of two of his most famous creations: the monologue-book *Novecento* and the Holden school of creative writing in Turin.

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 15.30 – 16.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

## ***The Grammar of Illustrated Fantasy***

With **Beatrice Alemagna** and **Olimpia Zagnoli**

Moderated by **Stefan Trinks** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



ITALY

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One name connects Beatrice Alemagna and Olimpia Zagnoli: Gianni Rodari. Both have drawn inspiration from the stories, fairy tales, nursery rhymes and characters created by this renowned writer to illustrate works like *The Girl of Glass* and *The Little Man of Nothing*. Beginning with Rodari, a deep and passionate discussion on the 'grammar of illustrated fantasy' unfolds, exploring the interplay of curved and broken lines, vivid and subtle colours and the art of creating images that captivate both children and adults alike through books and posters.

*#literaryprogramme #childrensfiction #youngadulthoodfiction #illustration*

**Time 15.30 – 16.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Regione Veneto**

***Recounting Marco Polo's extraordinary journey***

With **Giovanni Montanaro** (writer and lawyer)

On the occasion of the 700th anniversary of Marco Polo's death, on the suggestion of one of the most famous and fabled journeys in the history of literature, Italian writer Giovanni Montanaro recounts *Il Milione. The Travels of Marco Polo*, and thus the history of Venice, the trade routes, the life of the great explorer, the missed marriages, poverty and wealth, the encounter with Kublai Khan, and with another world. A rendezvous to discover real and imaginary journeys on the suggestion of one of the most famous and fabled journeys in the history of literature. Marco Polo lived an extraordinary story, through his journey he forged links between distant peoples, opening up new horizons of knowledge and exchange. His figure embodies the courage of discovery and openness to the unknown, leaving an indelible mark on the history of exploration and cultural connections.

*#professionalprogramme #anniversaries #history*

**Time 16 - 16.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Importance of Being "Strega"***

With **Donatella Di Pietrantonio** and **Stefano Petrocchi**

Moderated by **Cristina Giordano** (Cosmo/Westdeutscher Runfunk)

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



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"It is a book that tells of pain and heals it, because it is written by a woman who knows the miracle of words and the blood of wounds". This is how writer and psychoanalyst Vittorio Lingiardi described the novel that won the seventy-eighth edition of the Strega Prize last January: *L'età fragile* by Donatella Di Pietrantonio. Together with Stefano Petrocchi, director of the Bellonci Foundation, the author will explore the 'fragile ages' of human existence, the right words to describe them and the role of the Strega Prize, which has been a cornerstone of contemporary Italian literature since 1947. This prestigious award acts as both a compass, guiding new literary directions, and a pantheon honouring distinguished authors (from Flaiano and Pavese to Moravia and Bassani, Morante and Buzzati, Ginzburg and Ortese, Levi and Eco, up to the voices of our time). It also serves as a significant commercial force, influencing national book sales and boosting translations abroad.

#literaryprogramme #fiction

**Time 16.30 – 17.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

**More in Translation**

With **Marco Balzano** and **Paolo Nori**

Moderated by **Maïke Albath** (*Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Süddeutsche Zeitung, Die Zeit*)

Exploring the subtleties that can slip through the cracks when moving between two languages, Sofia Coppola crafted one of her most celebrated films nearly twenty years ago: *Lost in Translation*. But what if the opposite were also true? What if something is gained in the act of translation? Paolo Nori, author translator and passionate admirer of Russian literature, and Marco Balzano, whose novel *I'm Staying Here* has been so successfully translated into German that it even inspired a new theatrical adaptation, delve into the search for that elusive 'something more'.

#literaryprogramme #fiction

**Time 16.30 - 17.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

**Accademia della Crusca and Accademia dell'Arcadia, from History into the Future**

With **Maurizio Campanelli** (Accademia dell'Arcadia), **Rosario Coluccia** (Accademia della Crusca) and **Bernhard Huss** (Italienzentrum di Berlino)

Moderated by **Harro Stammerjohann** (*Accademia della Crusca*)

Curated by **Accademia della Crusca** together with **Accademia dell'Arcadia**

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



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Two long-established institutions with a global reach, devoted to the study and preservation of Italian language and literature, discuss their mission and the impact of their work as they engage directly with individuals, communities and institutions.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 17 – 17.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Science of the Future: in Search of the Perfect Balance between Freedom and Responsibility***

With **Guido Barbujani** and **Massimo Sandal**

Moderated by **Stefan Klein** (Writer)

In a world increasingly shaped and transformed by advancements in science and technology, and driven by critical issues such as combating the climate crisis, the rise of artificial intelligence, and the resurgence of high-tech warfare, there is a growing focus on the roles of researchers, computer scientists and scientists. Navigating the terrain between the drive for progress and ethical dilemmas, balancing freedom with responsibility and weighing scientific independence against political and economic pressures, an internationally acclaimed geneticist and a leading science communicator engage in a crucial discussion about one of society's most pressing future challenges.

*#literaryprogramme #science*

**Time 17.30 – 18.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Poems of Love and Humanity***

With **Vivian Lamarque** and **Asmus Trautsch** (philosopher and poet)

It is never too late to pen words of love, nor too early to infuse them with humanity. In a century shaken by turbulence that appears to overshadow its romantic dimensions while magnifying irrational and inhumane violence, a poetic dialogue takes shape. This exchange features the esteemed Italian poetess Vivian Lamarque, who, as her latest book's title reveals, persistently seeks and celebrates *L'amore da vecchia (love later in life)*, and the German philosopher, poet and musician Asmus Trautsch, renowned for his research on the Anthropocene Epoch and his exploration of the human condition in the context of contemporary planetary crises.

*#literaryprogramme #poetry*



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**Time 17.30 – 18.20 | Room 1 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (A22)**

## ***The return of the ghosts***

With **Donatella Di Pietrantonio, Helena Janeczek, Katja Lange-Müller** and **Birgit Schönau**

*By the authors who signed the open letter*

In the political news of recent years, themes and forces that were thought to be buried by history are returning, and yet literature has never stopped interrogating them. How are the narrative of the present and collective memory intertwined in Germany and Italy?

*#literaryprogramme #Italy-Germany*

## SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER

**Time 10 -10.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

## ***The Flying Carpet of Fantasy***

With **Chiara Carminati, Davide Morosinotto** and **Marta Palazzesi**

Moderated by **Anna Vollmer** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

Books are the flying carpet of imagination, a magical tool opening up new horizons for children. In this gathering, three distinguished authors, all winners of notable awards in children's literature (*Andersen, Strega Ragazzi*), will guide us on a remarkable journey. We will start in the early 20th century with Chiara Carminati, who explores the lives of 'children of war' in *Nella tua pelle*. We will then delve into the twists and turns of a mysterious murder with Davide Morosinotto in *Il mio gatto ha visto l'assassino*. The final stop will be the Far East with Marta Palazzesi, who takes us on an exotic literary adventure through Japan in *Kurofuno*.

*#literaryprogramme #childrensfiction #youngadulthoodfiction #youngadulthoodfiction*

**Time 10.30 - 11.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

## **Seaside Towns and Ancient Villages**

With **Vins Gallico** and **Sacha Naspini**

Moderated by **Giulio Galoppo** (Cosmo/Westdeutscher Rundfunk)

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



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For Vins Gallico, writing often unfolds in a novel of the *noir* genre with a view of the sea: from the blue expanse separating Messina from his hometown Reggio Calabria, featured in *The God of the Strait*, to the Mediterranean backdrop of his literary passions explored in the essay *In Marseille with Jean-Claude Izzo*. When he is not venturing into imaginative alternate universes (as in *Errore 404*), Sacha Naspini enjoys exploring the Tuscan countryside, delving into the hidden alleys, homes and secrets of the ancient villages in his beloved Maremma, such as the Roccatederighi of *Villa del seminario*. Two distinct horizons within the vast Italian landscape to which the narrative gaze might be welcomed.

#literaryprogramme #fiction

**Time 11.00 – 11.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Culture That Unites. Russia and Europe***

With **Luca Beatrice** and **Luciano Mecacci**

Moderated by **Pierfranco Bruni** (poet and writer)

The clash of weapons, the silence of culture. Has the aggression in Ukraine truly carved an irreparable chasm between Europe and Russia? Might culture, perhaps, preserve the connections between peoples that, through the interplay of literature, music and architecture, have over the centuries enriched our shared artistic heritage? A dialogue between journalist Luca Beatrice and psychologist and Soviet history expert Luciano Mecacci.

#literaryprogramme #history

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Author in the Mirror***

With **Daniele Mencarelli** and **Annette Kopetzki**

“In the beginning was the Word,” the Logos, the divine principle of creation. The flow of syllables that build the line, then the paragraph, then the chapter and finally the novel. A sequence navigated first by the writer and then by their trusty counterpart, the translator. Join Daniele Mencarelli and Annette Kopetzki, the voices behind Mencarelli’s novels and many other Italian works, in a discussion on the art of writing and translating. From the genesis of a work - echoed in Mencarelli’s latest book, *Brucia l’origine* - to its rebirth in another language.

#literaryprogramme #fiction

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**Time 12 – 12.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Return Journey: Root Tourism***

With **Riccardo Giumelli** and **Luigi Maria Vignali**

Moderated by: to be confirmed

Over a span of a century and a half, from the mid-19th to the end of the 20th century, it is estimated that more than twenty million Italians emigrated in search of better opportunities. They travelled to nearby lands such as Switzerland, France and Germany, or ventured to distant destinations like the Americas and Australia. Many of these emigrants settled in their new countries, and today, their descendants are increasingly making the journey back, even if only temporarily, to explore their ancestral roots. This phenomenon, known as ‘root tourism,’ reflects the growing economic significance of reconnecting with one's place of origin. This will be the topic of discussion when Riccardo Giumelli, who explores this subject in *Scoprirsi italiani*, comes together with Luigi Maria Vignali, Director General for Italians Abroad at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

*#timewitnesses #history*

**Time 12.30 - 13.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Of Uncertain Genesis***

With **Erri De Luca** and **Guido Tonelli**

Moderated by **Stefan Klein** (Writer)

In the beginning was... what exactly? The origins of the universe (and Creation) remain shrouded in a veil of uncertainty that humanity has sought to lift for millennia through faith and science, religious texts, philosophical musings and scientific research. It is a theme both universal and profound, as evidenced by the writer Erri De Luca, who, adopting a stance of neither belief nor atheism, has devoted years to studying and translating the Bible, and by the physicist Guido Tonelli, author of *Genesis. The Story of How Everything Began*.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction #science*

**Time 14 – 14.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Discourse on Methodology***

With **Elisabetta Dami**, **Felicia Kingsley**, **Nicola Lagioia** and **Daniele Mencarelli**

Led by **Loretta Cavaricci**

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Even in writing, a method is essential. Yes, but which one? The Italian authors attending the book fair will share all with journalist Loretta Cavaricci and the audience. They will be taking part in a daily interview series delving into their writing habits, examining the interplay between rules and discipline, talent and freedom, as well as their tools of the trade and their own unique idiosyncrasies.

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 14 – 14.50 | Room Venice International University - Manuzio and the book revolution | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Reading in the Dark®***

With **Erin Doom, Erri De Luca** and **Clara Ori**

Curated by **Fondazione LIA - Libri Italiani Accessibili**

With the support of **Italy Guest of Honour 2024 Frankfurter Buchmesse**

A Reading in the dark® is a highly experiential and engaging format to address themes as digital accessibility and the socio-cultural inclusion of people with visual disabilities. Through the absence of light, a Reading in the dark cancels any distinction between those who read with their eyes, those with their hands, and those with their ears. Famous writers and blind or visually impaired readers alternately read the same book, revealing the different ways of using it.

*#literaryprogramme*

**Time 14.30 - 15.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Everything is Illustrated***

With **Lorenzo Mattotti** and **Alessandro Sanna**

Moderated by **Stefan Trinks** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

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In a career spanning fifty years, Lorenzo Mattotti has frequently pushed the boundaries of illustration, intertwining it with the classics of literature (both on paper and in film, as seen in the animated adaptation of Buzzati's *The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily*). He has adorned the covers of prestigious international magazines and has merged his art with the stories, rhythms and movements that were the focus of his recent retrospective exhibition in Brescia. Of a later generation, Alessandro Sanna has continued in a similar vein, reinterpreting the works of Rodari and Calvino, engaging with music (as seen in the book *Crescendo*, accompanied by compositions from jazz musician Paolo Fresu), and illustrating the covers of major magazines as well as the pages of books. His work reconnects with his roots, exemplified by the forthcoming *Saltafossi*, set for release this autumn. These two figures are leading voices in Italian illustration, each exploring the diverse potentials of language, expression and storytelling.

*#literaryprogramme #illustration*

**Time 15.30 - 16.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Every Story is a Place***

With **Paolo Cognetti** and **Nicola Lagioia**

Moderated by **Andreas Platthaus** (*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*)

How decisive is the environment in shaping the development of a story? Can a murder take place only within the confines of the house where it is depicted? Is a character born before or after the landscape that envelops them? And how do the new digital realms, virtual yet omnipresent, which we navigate daily, influence literary creation? These questions prompt a comprehensive exploration - perhaps something even more - between two of the leading figures behind the 21st-century Italian novel. Both writers are so intimately connected to 'places' that they frequently incorporate them into their book titles: Paolo Cognetti (*The Eight Mountains*, *Giù nella valle*) and Nicola Lagioia (*The Lying Game*, *The City of the Living*).

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 15.30 - 16.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Regione Puglia**

***Puglia and its museums. A sentimental journey***

With **Ferdinando Bossis** (Casa editrice Sfera) and **Mimma Gattulli** (Regione Puglia)

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



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The reality of museums in Apulia is so varied that it is difficult to say how many can be defined as such today. The ninety percent of museums in Apulia is made up of small archaeological collections, reconstructions of the processes of anthropization that have affected this strip of land that stretches out into the Mediterranean, exposed to disembarks, conquests, migrations, landings, shipwrecks, of which museums preserve an intangible echo; principals of identity adrift in a world that runs in the opposite direction from the urge to recover a relationship with the soul of places. In view of the fragmented nature of Apulian museum reality, what connotes a museum as such, whether large or small, rich or poor, beautiful or ugly, antique or contemporary, is the sentimental relationship it manages to establish with the community and the measure to which it is perceived as an agent of change of reality and how attuned it is to the dreams and hopes of the society in which it operates. The poets of sentimental dynamics understand this, and Franco Arminio is a poet intimately connected with the spirit of places and with the feeling of Southern countries and with what connects the South to the East. This is the reason why we asked him to undertake a very personal journey through Apulia and its museums, a sentimental itinerary capable of returning us to the sense of whole and at the same time leading us to the essence of things. A journey not as an expert but as a poet, precisely, with the capacity that poetic language has to become an instrument of investigation, as Ezra Pound reminds us. Writing about poetry is a way of thinking about one's time, Antonio Prete taught us, and paraphrasing the poet from Salento, we can say that, like poetry, museums are a point of distance from which to look at our time.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 16 – 17 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Every Shade of Crime Fiction***

Moderated by **Alf Mayer** (Cultur Mag)

In Italy, crime and detective fiction are often associated with a single shade of yellow, as a result of a historical publishing tradition. Yet this colour is far from singular. Indeed, its shades have expanded over the years, as have the influences and literary models that have shaped it. This dynamic evolution will be illustrated through an engaging dialogue with two leading figures who have crafted some of the most cherished fiction over the past three decades.

At **16.00: Maurizio de Giovanni** will present his Neapolitan-style *noir*, transporting the atmosphere of Naples to Frankfurt. He brings with him the world of Sara, former policewoman facing a new investigation recounted in *Sorelle*, and The Bastards of Pizzofalcone, the protagonists of his latest chapter, *Pioggia per i Bastardi di Pizzofalcone*.

At **16.30: Antonio Manzini**, creator of the Rocco Schiavone character, will present his contemporary detective story, inviting us to reflect on the delicate balance between law and justice - a central theme in his latest book, *Tutti i particolari in cronaca*.

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*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 16.30 – 17.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***You write Romance, You Read Bestsellers***

With **Erin Doom** and **Felicia Kingsley**

Moderated **Thomas Sachsenmaier** (BookToker)

Once upon a time, romance novels were written by authors with such quintessentially Italian pen names that would even have made D'Annunzio recoil with envy (think Liala). Today, the genre is dominated by bestsellers from young female writers whose pseudonyms reveal their international flair. These authors generate vibrant online buzz and top the bookshop charts. This guide to contemporary Italian romance offers a glimpse into the genre through the voices of its leading figures: the "dark princess" Erin Doom, whose *Fabbricante di lacrime* was Italy's best-selling book of 2022, and the "queen of comedy" Felicia Kingsley, the most widely read author of 2023.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 17 – 17.50 | Arena | Italian stand (Forum 1)**

***Homage to Andrea Camilleri***

Prologue by **Antonio Sellerio**

Readings by **Massimo Venturiello**

In view of the centenary of Andrea Camilleri's birth (1925-2019), celebrations in honour of the great Italian writer are starting at the Buchmesse. Actor Massimo Venturiello, who was a pupil of Camilleri's and who lent his voice to the audio books in the Commissario Montalbano series, will read a preview of a selection of the unpublished letters that from 1949 to 1960 the man who was to become one of the most popular, best-read, best-translated Italian writers wrote, holding uninterrupted conversations with his family and himself, and composing a sort of autobiography of his early years. The letters will later be published in a volume, and it is to Antonio Sellerio, Andrea Camilleri's publisher, that the prologue to this preview reading is entrusted.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction*

**Time 17.30 – 18.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Poems of Sea and Hills***

With **Giuseppe Conte** and **Davide Rondoni**

Moderated by **Pierfranco Bruni** (poet and writer)

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"Mare, la tua misura è l'infinito / e l'abisso, l'alto e il basso," writes Giuseppe Conte, originally from Imperia, in a work that, from its very title, makes a solemn vow of love and devotion: "I will never stop writing about the sea". For Davide Rondoni, it is the hills of Romagna which always served as a vantage point from which he has been able to observe both nature and humanity. This unique geographical and poetic contest - curated by Pierfranco Bruni - compares the soulful and verbal realms of these landscapes: the ceaseless motion of the waves versus the profound solidity of roots, the intimacy of close landscapes against the expansiveness of distant horizons.

*#literaryprogramme #poetry*

**Time 17.30 – 18.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia**

***Friuli Venezia Giulia: a place of words and stories***

With **Dario De Cristoforo** (Italo Svevo), **Antonella Fiaschi** (FVG Writers' Association), **Alberto Gaffi** (Italo Svevo), **Diego Marani**, **Mariaelena Porzio** (FVG Writers' Association)

Friuli Venezia Giulia is a fertile land for writers and readers: here cultural richness and local traditions are intertwined with international influences. This territory offers ever new inspiration to those who create stories thanks to its unique and multifaceted identity; readers, too, find here an ideal place to discover new voices and perspectives, making the Region a point of reference for literature that knows how to look beyond borders.

*#professionalprogramme*

**SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER**

**Time 10 – 10.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Neighbours in Culture and Context***

With **Mario Anzil** (Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia) and **Rodolfo Ziberna** (Comune di Gorizia)

Frankfurt played a significant role in the shared journey towards Nova Gorica and Gorizia becoming European Capitals of Culture in 2025. A year ago, it was here that Slovenia and Italy passed the 'baton' for the role of Guest of Honour at the Book Fair. Amidst diverse identities and many shared connections, this is how two nations and two cities are gearing up to take centre stage in Europe's cultural landscape.

*#timewitnesses*



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**Time 10.30 – 11.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Genius, Passions and Mysteries of Art and Music***

With **Rita Charbonnier**, **Luigi De Pascalis** and **Carlo Vecce**

Moderated by **Giulio Galoppo** (Cosmo/Westdeutscher Runfunk)

From where did Leonardo da Vinci's genius originate? What unfolds when a renowned writer and an extraordinary pianist fall in love? And what secrets lie behind the Caravaggio seal? The history of art and music offers not just remarkable masterpieces, which millions admire in museums and concert halls today, but also reveals hidden journeys of creativity, intense struggles, exaltations and mysteries. This enchanting realm is explored and rediscovered in books through various lenses: monumental biographies (such as Carlo Vecce's *Su Leonardo da Vinci*), captivating accounts of extraordinary musical and literary lives (by Rita Charbonnier), and thrilling detective stories set against an artistic backdrop (by Luigi De Pascalis).

*#literaryprogramme #fiction #art*

**Time 10.30 – 11.20 | Room 2 | Italian Collective Stand Hall 5.0 (B44)**

**National Library of Rome**

***Calvino unpublished: Italian politics in 1976***

With **Stefano Campagnolo** (BNCR) and **Eleonora Cardinale** (BNCR)

The presentation illustrates the activities of the BNCR in relation to the 20th century collections, starting with the curatorship of Italo Calvino's unpublished text *Il sorpasso* (Mondadori, 2024), a long article on the Italian political situation in 1976 written for 'The New York Review of Books'.

*#professionalprogramme*

**Time 11 - 11.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Power of Queens and Lions***

With **Stefania Auci** and **Alessandra Necci**

Moderated by **Anna Vollmer** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

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FRANKFURTER BUCHMESSE  
16-20 OCTOBER 2024

History is often centred on power and dynasties. Stefania Auci and Alessandra Necci are keenly aware of this. In their novels, they explore the theme of power and dynasties from diverse perspectives: Auci's saga, *The Florios: The Lions of Sicily*, examines it through the lens of entrepreneurship and industry, while Necci's biographies focus on the aristocratic and monarchical dimensions, featuring notable figures such as Catherine de' Medici, the "Sun King" Louis XIV, and the Habsburgs Maria Theresa and Marie Antoinette. Between reality and fiction, historical portrait and social analysis, command dynamics and family relationships.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction #history*

**Time 11.30 – 12.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Hunger, Modesty and Other Boundless Emotions***

With **Maddalena Fingerle** and **Anna Giurickovic Dato**

Moderated by **Andreas Pfeifer** (ORF Berlin)

In Anna Giurickovic Dato's latest novel, *La Divoratrice*, hunger pervades a profound exploration of eating disorders, addictions and compulsions. Meanwhile, Maddalena Fingerle's new work, titled *Il Pudore*, delves into the transformative journey emerging from the pain of separation. These narratives of obsession and estrangement, transformation and new-found insight, are crafted by two contemporary authors. Both share an Italian mother tongue and surnames with cross-border significance: Fingerle, rooted in Bolzano with its Germanic ties, and Giurickovic Dato, from Catania with Serbian echoes.

*#literaryprogramme #fiction #Italy-Germany*

**Time 12 – 12.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***The Culture that Unites. Religion and Roots***

With **Rav Scialom Bahbout** and **Monsignor Francesco Moraglia**

Moderated by **Nico Spuntoni** (journalist)

As the third millennium nears its first quarter-century and the European Constitution, drafted in 2004 and succeeded by the Lisbon Treaty, marks its first two decades. A time for reflection, assessment and reconsideration of a key question: what is the optimal balance between tradition and modernity? Can Europe in the 21st century forge a path forward while remaining true to its roots? With Rav Scialom Bahbout, former chief rabbi in Naples, Bologna and Venice and author of *Ebraismo. La storia, i profeti, la cultura*, and Monsignor Francesco Moraglia, Patriarch of Venice, President of the Triveneto Bishops' Conference and author of numerous publications.

# ROOTS IN THE FUTURE



ITALY

GUEST OF HONOUR 2024  
FRANKFURTER BUCHMESSE  
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*#timewitnesses #spirituality*

**Time 12.30 – 13.20 | Caffè Letterario | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Women and the World: Life and Adventure (Re)Drawn Through the Lens of Comics***

With **Milo Manara**

Moderated by **Andreas Platthaus** (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

Milo Manara stands as testament to the boundless nature of comics. Manara hails from South Tyrol and has ventured through a world of unlimited imagination, crafting a universe filled with dreams, desire, adventure and enchanting women. He has both brought his own stories to life and adapted others', such as his recent adaptation of Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose*. A dialogue with German journalist Andreas Platthaus on the art and vision of a master of contemporary Italian comics.

*#literaryprogramme #illustration #comics*

**Time 16 – 16.50 | Arena | Italian Pavilion (Forum 1)**

***Handover Ceremony with Philippines***

With **Alessandro Sanna**

*#literaryprogramme*