

PROFESSIONAL DAY in ITALY
April 7th, 2024
Salaborsa Library / Biagi Auditorium,
Piazza del Nettuno 3, Bologna

L'occhio del mondo

Picture books, reading, school and publishing

The professional day will be an important part of the project *L'occhio del mondo*: a full day of studies for teachers, librarians, authors and all lovers of children's literature in order to reflect on the relationship between picture books, education and publishing and to discover international experiences of publishing and promotion of reading.

On the occasion of BOOM! Growing up in books and Bologna Children's Book Fair.

L'occhio del mondo, the Italian edition of *L'œil du monde*, is co-financed by the "Creative Europe" project of the European Union, stems from an impulse given by éditions MeMo, and is curated by Topipittori and Hamelin. In collaboration with the Libraries and Cultural Welfare Sector of the Municipality of Bologna.

PROGRAM OF THE DAY

H 9.30

Opening and greetings

Veronica Ceruti, Head of Libraries and Cultural Welfare of the Municipality of Bologna
Christine Morault, co-founder and publishing director of éditions MeMo, creator of the project *L'œil du monde*

Morning session. Reading picture books at school

H 10.00

The reading of picture books as an aesthetic experience

In this first part, the use of picture books at school will be discussed, with some related issues, such as the risk of not actually reading them, the difficulty in reading the pictures and the increasing demand of theme-specific books.

With:

Martino Negri, professor of Children's Literature at the University of Milan-Bicocca
Hamelin Cultural Association

H 10.45

Many picture books, many experiences: voices from the schools

In the second part of the morning, a comparison of concrete teaching experiences of non-occasional use of the picture book in schools in Italy, France and Spain. With discussion.

With:

Antonella Capetti, primary school teacher

Arianna Squilloni, founder of the publishing house A buen paso

Sofie Epelboin, insegnante di scuola primaria, association "Citeratures"

Meeting moderator:

Nicoletta Gramantieri, Salaborsa Children's Library

H 12.00

Question time

Afternoon session. Picture books and their publishers

The afternoon the focus will be the relationship between picture books and the publishing houses that produce them, the birth and creation of books mentioned during the morning session, and the choices and identities of publishers.

H 15.00

Premiere screening of the documentary movie *La vocazione di perdersi*

Title / *La vocazione di perdersi*

Directed by Francesco Clerici and Mattia Colombo

production and executive production by SpazioB**K

supported by Topipittori, Vànvere edizioni, Edizioni Fioriblù e Loredana Farina

Duration 35/45 minutes

Hundreds of people of all ages and professions moving, watching, reading and sharing choices, interpretations, reflections, ideas and questions. Lots of different spaces: libraries, museums, associations, workshops and bookshops, in the city, at the lake, at the sea and in the countryside. The vocation to get lost is documented in a poetic and experimental way in these encounters between picture books, readers and spaces through the educational reading experiences devised by the SpazioB**K bookshop around Italy between September and November 2023. The journey focuses on picture books as multifaceted devices for the development of attention, concentration, care, listening, sharing and imagination, moving from a private to a collective dimension of reading where the words and images chosen and interpreted by all the people encountered intersect with the gaze of those who designed the encounters and those who filmed them.

Introduces:

Diletta Colombo, bookseller at Spazio B**k

H 15.45

The publishing of picture books between independence and militancy

Editorial choices concerning the link between themes/styles and militancy will be discussed in this roundtable. The significance of an editorial policy based on coherence, both visual and thematic, and an investigation into one's own identity as a publisher and the world around us will be explored.

With:

Isabel Minhós Martins and Magdalena Matoso, Planeta Tangerina

Tereza Horváthová, Baobab

Meeting moderator:

Hamelin Cultural Association

H 16.30

Cooperation and community

The research work by an independent publisher is closely linked to personal tastes, cultural identity, belonging to a specific context, and target audience.

With:

Peggy Espinosa, Petra Ediciones

Gita Wolf, Tara Books

Meeting moderator:

Paolo Canton, Topipittori

H 17.15

Question time

H 17.45

Closing of the day

Christine Morault, éditions MeMo

Paolo Canton, Topipittori

H 18.30

At the end of the professional day will be inaugurated the exhibition *L'occhio del mondo*

PARTICIPANTS

Veronica Ceruti

Veronica Ceruti is Head of the Libraries Sector of the Municipality of Bologna - Department of Culture and City Promotion. She manages and coordinates integrated projects of cultural welfare and urban regeneration through activities for the enhancement of the municipal heritage based on art and culture. She was Head of the Educational Department of the Istituzione Bologna Musei, where she worked for twenty years. Author of numerous essays on art and education for children and teachers, she was a lecturer at the Accademia di Belle Arti in Bologna.

Christine Morault

Christine Morault is co-founder and editorial director of éditions MeMo. After studying art and travelling several years between the United States and Latin America, she founded the French publishing house together with Yves Mestrallet. Since 1993, she has been researching, selecting and publishing quality titles to offer to young readers, as well as to all art and book enthusiasts, including unpublished works and reprints of famous 20th century picture books. The first version of the project L'Oeil du monde was conceived and launched last year by éditions MeMo in Nantes.

Martino Negri

Martino Negri teaches at the University of Milan-Bicocca. His field of research is children's literature and its teaching, in particular his focus is the picture book's narrative form. He

collaborates with the magazine 'Hamelin. Storie, figure, pedagogia'. He has published "Viperetta. Storia di un libro" (Scalpendi, 2010) and edited, with Francesco Cappa, the edition "Figure dell'infanzia. Education, literature, imagination" by Walter Benjamin (Raffaello Cortina, 2012).

Antonella Capetti

Antonella Capetti was born in Grosio (Sondrio) in 1967. At 20 years old, she started teaching at kindergarten, where she continued to work for 17 years. Then she moved to primary school, where she has taught Italian since 2004. Her work is strongly influenced by her passion for reading and picture books. Every day since 2013 she documents the activities carried out with her students on the blog Apedario, where she tells about her particular method of teaching reading and writing through the use of picture books. In 2018 she published the essay "At school with books" (Topipittori).

Arianna Squilloni

Arianna Squilloni was born and raised in Italy. She moved to Spain, where she continued to live for more than thirteen years. In her town Mataró, near Barcelona, she founded the publishing house A Buen Paso, which publishes children's books in Spain and Latin America. Passionate about linguistics, in her free time she studies foreign languages (now she's learning Chinese), writes articles, organises workshops, and participates in conferences. She has published some books in Spain and abroad.

At the afternoon session of the Professional Day, Arianna Squilloni will talk about the Leer project, which proposes to rural schools to read the territory they live in as if reading a picture book.

Sofie Epelboin

Sofie Epelboin is a primary school teacher in Paris. She works with various associations that promote reading for children, such as "Citeratures".

Nicoletta Gramantieri

Nicoletta Gramantieri is a librarian responsible for the Salaborsa Children's Library in Bologna. Her special gaze on children's literature and her commitment to the promotion of reading are mediated and directed by her daily experience at the library and her graduation in Pedagogy and Social Psychology. She deals with training on reading and literature for children. She collaborates with the magazines Hamelin and LiBer.

Diletta Colombo

Graduated in Contemporary History, Diletta Colombo worked for ten years with the Libraccio group until, in December 2012, she and Chiara Bottani opened Spazio B**K in Milan. This is an independent bookshop and laboratory specialised in books with pictures and images of all kinds and which offers workshops and conferences about books, art and craft techniques, and the language of images in general. In 2009 she started to organise "Alle 9 da Babar", a reading group about children's picture books, and has since collaborated with Topipittori publishing house.

Isabel Minhós Martins

After studying Fine Arts in Lisbon, Isabel Minhós Martins, born in Lisbon in 1974, devoted herself to writing, which has now become her favourite artistic field: texts for illustrated books, scripts for comics and cartoons, pedagogical texts. But she continues to live, at home and at work, surrounded by illustrators and graphic designers, who have taught her the importance of images and the place of words in picture books. For her, text and images should not elbow each other, but walk arm in arm between the pages, without quarrelling.

She has published several illustrated books with Planeta Tangerina publishing house, of which she is one of the founders.

Madalena Matoso

Madalena Matoso was born in Lisbon in 1974 and studied graphic design at the Fine Arts College of the University of Lisbon. As a student, she attended illustration summer courses directed by Stepan Zavrel in Sarmede (TV). After graduating, she lived in Barcelona, where she studied editorial graphics at the Fine Arts School of the University of Barcelona. In 1999, with three friends, she founded Planeta Tangerina, a studio specialising in communication for children, later turned into a publishing company. The studio gave her the opportunity to work on children's books and magazines, devoting herself to both graphic design and illustration. Since then, she has published dozens of books. In 2009, she won the 13th Prémio Nacional de Ilustração established by the Portuguese government (DGLB).

Tereza Horváthová

Tereza Horváthová is a publisher, translator, writer and cultural events organiser raised in Tábor, Czech Republic. In 2000, she and Juraj Horváth founded the children's books publishing house Baobab. In 2011, she organized Tabook, the first international festival for small publishers of good quality. Besides working in a publishing house, she writes books for young adults, prose and poetry, and she translates and writes film scripts. She received the Golden Ribbon Award for 2005 for her book "The Blue Tiger", on which Petr Oukropec based his animated film.

Hamelin

Hamelin is a cultural association based in Bologna, which has been involved in reading education for over twenty years. The association's activities revolve around children's literature, comics and illustration. It operates in Italy and abroad with children, young adults and people who live and work with them. Since 2019, in collaboration with the Libraries and Cultural Welfare Sector of the Municipality of Bologna, Hamelin has been curating the festival "BOOM! Growing up in books", that takes place in Bologna during the Bologna Children's Book Fair. The association participated in several European projects, such as Transbook - Children's Literature on the Move and Invisible Lines. Also the "BilBOLbul" international comics festival and the event "Ad occhi Aperti" are curated by Hamelin.

Peggy Espinosa

Peggy Espinosa is a translator, graphic designer and editorial director of the Mexican publishing house Petra Ediciones. She pays careful and rigorous attention to the quality of words, images and graphic design. Her publishing house is known for the extraordinary work of graphic research and experimentation.

Gita Wolf

An award-winning author of around fifteen books for adults and children, Gita Wolf graduated in English and Comparative Literature. She left her academic career for the world of literary and visual communication and in 1994 founded Tara Books, an independent publishing house based in Chennai, India.

Paolo Canton

Paolo Canton graduated in Political Economy at the Bocconi University, with a thesis on the periodical publishing sector. Since 1985 he has worked in publishing. In 1997, together with Giovanna Zoboli, he founded Calamus, a communications company that is still active. In 2004, he and Zoboli created Topipittori, a publishing house of children's picture books, which today counts around 350 titles in its catalogue, some of which translated into twelve

languages. In 2011 he was named Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the Ministry of Culture of the French Republic. Until 2020, he taught Book Design at the "Stepan Zavrel" International School of Illustration, and History of Books and Illustration and Design Methodologies for Visual Communication at the IED in Turin; and held a workshop every year at the HAW in Hamburg.