



Festivaletteratura

4 • 8 September 2019 MANTOVA

ABRIDGED ENGLISH PROGRAMME





Each year Festivaletteratura attracts increasingly international writers and artists and an ever more cosmopolitan audience. Available for the first time this year, the abridged English version of the programme is our token of welcome to those coming to Mantova from far away. This essential guide covers all the events accessible to those who do not speak Italian - conversations, readings, films, shows and itineraries. It includes an indication of the language in which the event is conducted, together with all the information useful for getting the most out of your time during the five days of the Festival. You will find over a hundred events, and even more big international literary names to choose from. We realise it's not going to be easy to decide so all we can say is enjoy!

Festivaletteratura will soon be off the blocks. Hundreds of writers and artists from all over the world will be joining an increasingly varied audience of readers and inquisitive minds. Since the very first edition, the Festival has offered a forum for open dialogue, where no one can stay out of reach behind a glass screen or on a pedestal. The relationship between our public and the authors they come to see is a special one. And for each of the Festival's many events, the authors are very much part of the team. We spend months finding - or more often devising - the dynamics best geared to fulfil their wish of sharing stories and thoughts here in Mantova. The bonds forged last far longer than the five days of the Festival, bringing unexpected spin-offs and new prospects that prompt us each year to strive for just that little bit more than we envisaged the last time round. This year's Festival, the 23rd, offers over 300 events where a range of different voices will be heard - some of them well-known and readily recognisable, but also new voices bringing a note of freshness, challenging received ideas and refusing to be written off as nondescript or anonymous. The familiar voices and distinctive new ones will all provide a wonderful cue for spectators to interact in response to the different authors' often contrasting stories, ideas and visions. We can't wait for the party to start! If you're here to share the experience with us, please accept our warmest welcome.

**THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

Thanks to:



Conservatorio di Musica  
«Lucio Campiani» - Mantova



## ASSOCIAZIONE FILOFESTIVAL (FRIENDS OF FESTIVAL LETTERATURA)

Mantova-based Associazione Filofestival (Friends of Festivaletteratura) began as a grassroots initiative during the run-up to the very first Festival in 1997, to help make a dream come true: the aim was to bring authors and their readers together in a truly festive and wonderfully different setting, where everyone could enjoy getting to know each other.

Friends of Festivaletteratura currently has over 3,000 members, not only nationwide but internationally. Annual enrolments open at the very start of the calendar year and, as a new or returning member, you can play your part in making those five days in early September even more special. Once you join, you can take part in the various activities the group organises throughout the year, and receive up-to-date news about Festivaletteratura by e-mail. Other benefits are special discounts on Festival tickets and early bird booking.

Annual membership costs only € 25, € 15 for 15-to-25-year-olds, € 6 for under-14s, and € 20 for those aged 65 and over. If you want, you can top up the membership fee with a sum of your choice and become a supporting member.

**You can take out or renew membership for 2019 online**

([www.festivaletteratura.it](http://www.festivaletteratura.it)), by credit card, **until 18 August**.

If you are in Mantova, you can enrol in person **until 19 August**

**at the Festival offices** (Via Castiglioni, 4) or the Libreria Coop Nautilus bookshop (Piazza 80° Fanteria, 19). Payments by postal order can be accepted only from January to June each year.

# BOOKINGS AND TICKETS

The Festivaletteratura Box Office is at:

LOGGIA DEL GRANO DELLA CAMERA DI COMMERCIO – VIA SPAGNOLI

from **Wednesday 28 August** to **Tuesday 3 September** **9 - 13, 15 - 19**  
**Sunday 1 September** **9 - 13**  
from **Wednesday 4** to **Saturday 7 September** **9 - 20** (non stop)  
**Sunday 8 September** **9 - 17** (non stop)

## GENERAL INFORMATION ON BOOKING

Bookings and tickets available starting from

9.00 on **Wednesday 28 August**

9.00 on **Friday 30 August**

for **FILOFESTIVAL MEMBERS**

for the general public

Bookings can be made as follows:

**at the Festival Box Office** (see above for dates and opening times)

by phone **0376 223989**

online **www.festivaletteratura.it**

Please provide personal details (name, town/city, phone number for possible changes of venue/time).

## ADVANCE SALES ONLINE AT GETICKET <sup>PRE</sup>

From **Thursday 1 August** to **Sunday 25 August**, some tickets for a selection of events will be available to the general public through the geticket.it portal. For Unicredit current account holders only, this service will also be available on the Unicredit website. The events with advance ticket sales are:

- 11** Elif Shafak and Michela Murgia **THE WORDS WE HAVE**
- 18** NAPUCALISSE written and performed by Mimmo Borrelli
- 19** Marco Presta **A VOLTE RITORNANO**
- 23** Corrado Augias and Giovanni Filoramo **I PERSONAGGI DELLA BUONA NOVELLA**
- 41** Amin Maalouf and Donald Sassoon **THE ORIGINS OF THE EUROPEAN CRISIS**
- 58** Margaret Atwood and Alberto Manguel **WHEN REALITY OUTDOES FANTASY**
- 65** **MURO IO TI MANGIO, IN MUSICA!** written and performed by Carlo Bava and Maria Cristina Pasquali
- 67** **MESSIA E RIVOLUZIONE** by Angelo Baselli and Miriam Camerini, featuring Wlodek Goldkorn
- 113** **ALZATI, MARTIN** written and performed by Roberto Piumini
- 124** Elina Duni **PARTIR**
- 126** Gioele Dix **BIBLIODIX**
- 186** Carlo Annese and Federico Buffa **UNA GARA PER RESTARE UMANI**
- 225** Dacia Maraini and Marta Bacigalupo **MI PIACE LA PAROLA LIBERTÀ**

Tickets bought online can be picked up directly at the event venue (Filofestival members will have to show their card), with a presale fee of 10%. Filofestival members will have a 10% discount on the total price.

## BOOKING FOR FILOFESTIVAL MEMBERS

Filofestival members can book and purchase tickets **from 9.00 on**

**Wednesday 28 August.**

**The Filofestival card is strictly for personal use.**

Each individual member can book:

**only 1 ticket per event**

**not for events that are too close together** (at least 2 hours between starting times)

**for themselves and no more than three other members** when booking by phone or at the Festival Box Office in the Loggia del Grano.

Filofestival members are entitled to a **discount of approximately 10%** on the total price.

## PURCHASE AND COLLECTION OF TICKETS

Tickets booked must be picked up from the Festival Box Office **at least two hours before** the first event booked, and in any case **no later than 20.00** for evening events or for those scheduled early the following morning (before the Box Office opens). All tickets booked must be picked up in a single batch from the Festival Box Office.

**Any changes** to bookings will be accepted subject to availability.

**All remaining unsold tickets** will be placed on sale at the event venue about half an hour beforehand.

**Children's and teenagers' events** are clearly marked in the programme (with a green background or a green strip at the edge of the page), specifying the target age range. Accompanying adults can book and buy tickets for children's events as they would for any other event. Participation in **workshops** is limited to the age range specified in the programme.

For the three performances in the *Se questo è Levi* trilogy (Friday 6 September **91, 106** and **112**; Saturday 7 September **150, 166** and **170**) and the three parts of the *I microrganismi attorno a noi* workshop (**20, 83** and **138**), a three-in-one ticket can be purchased for € 18.

Tickets for Hidden pages events and to access the *Merry-Go-Round* and *Scienceground* spaces can be purchased **only at the venue**. Tickets for the *Scienceground* space are valid for the entire day and for all activities taking place there, except limited capacity workshops for which a separate ticket must be purchased.

## CHANGES AND REFUNDS

Refunds can be given only for **cancellation** of an event. The Festival reserves the right to award refunds for any other changes (e.g., time, venue) at its sole discretion, with prior notice in good time through SMS INFORMA and other channels.

Refunds for any events cancelled will be available **only** at the Box Office, **by 17.00 on Sunday 8 September.**

# CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

## FESTIVALETTERATURA SECRETARIAT

Via Castiglioni, 4 - 46100 Mantova  
tel. 0376.223989 fax 0376.367047  
segreteria@festivaletteratura.it

## FESTIVALETTERATURA ARCHIVE

Via Accademia, 47 - 46100 Mantova  
tel. 0376.223989 archivio@festivaletteratura.it

## PRESS OFFICE

Mara Vitali Comunicazione  
Piazzale Susa, 1 - 20133 Milano  
tel. 02.70108230 fax 02.87385794 stampa@mavico.it

## 4-8 September:

Festivaletteratura Press Office  
Piazza Leon Battista Alberti Mantova  
tel. 334.3643456 ufficiostampa@festivaletteratura.it

## INFORMATION

For up-to-date information, the Festival website [www.festivaletteratura.it](http://www.festivaletteratura.it) gives details of any late changes to the programme (like changes of venue for reasons such as bad weather) and of any events postponed, sold out or cancelled. You can also check in real time by enquiring at our Information Point, calling the **SECRETARIAT (tel. 0376 223989)**, registering for sms updates on **SMS INFORMA**, using the Festivaletteratura **APP**, or by sending an email to [info@festivaletteratura.it](mailto:info@festivaletteratura.it)

The Information Point in **PIAZZA SORDELLO** will be open during the whole of the Festival.

Tourist information can be obtained from **infopoint in Lombardia in Mantova** - piazza Mantegna, 6 (tel. 0376.432432, [info@turismo.mantova.it](mailto:info@turismo.mantova.it); [www.turismo.mantova.it](http://www.turismo.mantova.it)): from Monday to Thursday, 9.00 - 17.00; Friday and Saturday, 9.00 - 18.00; Sunday, 9.00 - 17.00.

## SMS INFORMA

Receive Festivaletteratura sms updates (in Italian) on your mobile phone

Festivaletteratura activates a free sms update service for all events on the programme. Just **text the message 'Festival On'**, to this number: +39 353 3364700. The service, which is already active, is free of charge and will terminate on the evening of 8 September 2019. To disable the service before that, just text 'Festival Off' to the same number. Check your mobile phone plan to see if your provider applies a charge for the sms you send to activate or deactivate the service. For details of Festivaletteratura's data protection policy, see [www.festivaletteratura.it](http://www.festivaletteratura.it)

## FESTIVALETTERATURA APP

All the information you need on Festivaletteratura (in Italian), instantly available on your Smartphone:

- real-time programme updates, with all changes;
- a chance to set up your own itinerary, taking in all the events you don't want to miss;
- comprehensive information on all the authors at this edition;
- all the Festival venues, but also where to eat, sleep and shop.

You just have to download the Festivaletteratura app (developed for us by Global Informatica srl): for OSTM devices (iPhone, iPad), get it from App Store; for Android devices, go to the Google Play download area. For all other devices, a web app version can be downloaded from [APP.FESTIVALETTERATURA.IT](http://APP.FESTIVALETTERATURA.IT).

## 2019 FESTIVAL BOOKSHOP WITH LIBRERIE.COOP

In collaboration with **Cooperativa Librai Mantovani**, with grateful acknowledgment of financial support from **UNIPOL**

The bookshop, in **PIAZZA SORDELLO**, is open from Saturday 24 August.

**Opening times: 9.30 - 13.00; 15.30 - 23.00**

**During the Festival, open non-stop 9.30 - 24.00**

Books by authors appearing at the Festival will be available at the bookshop, and also at their events. Info: 366 6209132.

## LEGEND

### scheduled events

#### 1 FESTIVAL EVENTS

#### 1 EVENTS FOR CHILDREN

#### 1 EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

#### 1 EVENTS FOR TEENAGERS

#### ACCENTS

#### MERRY-GO-ROUND

#### BLACKBOARDS

#### COMMON THOUGHTS

#### READ ON ACTIVITIES

#### SCIENCEGROUND

#### A CITY IN BOOKS

#### HIDDEN PAGES



READ ON



SCIENCEGROUND



GREEN AWARENESS



EVENTS NOT IN ITALIAN, AND NOT INTERPRETED



OPEN FESTIVAL



EARLY BOOKING POSSIBLE

### The Festivaletteratura Organising Committee reserves the right to modify the published programme.

Any changes of venue and time, or cancellations, will be announced immediately by the Festivaletteratura Secretariat: details will be given by the Box Office, our Information Points, the Festival bookshop, the sms Informa service and the Festival app, as well as online.

Events with authors last on average about an hour and a half; workshops, about 2 - 2½ hours. Latecomers may be refused admission, even if they have a ticket.

Spectators give their consent and authorisation for all present or future use of any audio and video recordings or photographs, in which they may feature as members of the public at the events and workshops they attend. In particular, purchasing tickets for children's and teenagers' events entails release of rights for present and future use of any audio/video/photographic material in which ticketholders under the age of 18 may feature as members of the public at the events or workshops they attend.

## FESTIVALETTERATURA AT YOUR OWN PACE

If you come to Mantova without booking anything beforehand, or just fancy taking time to look around, you'll have plenty of opportunity to enjoy yourself at Festivaletteratura and to indulge your love for books. In the programme, look out for the symbols in square brackets – that's the **INTERMEZZI**, a medley of brief events and attractions catering for all tastes. But there's plenty more to enjoy as you wander around the various parts of the city involved in the Festival. Let's take a glance, venue by venue, at what's going on...

### \* PIAZZA SORDELLO

Piazza Sordello will once again be the main attraction if you can't make it early, or don't have anything booked beforehand and just want to soak up the Festival atmosphere. There's lots going on in the two marquees. One of them, Tenda Sordello, will be the venue for *Accents*. The other, Tenda dei Libri, will be hosting the latest in our *A city in books* series (this year it's the turn of Tirana) and the local public library network's **READING CIRCLE** – that's where to ask for information on related initiatives like reading groups and reading lists. Under the arches of the Palazzo del Capitano, six antiquarian booksellers will again be exhibiting and selling rare books. Starting from Wednesday 4th, they'll be there right through the entire Festival, from early morning to late evening. There'll be two more great activities in the courtyard of Palazzo Castiglioni. One is *La panchina epistolare*, where you can join in a reading of Virginia Woolf's correspondence with Vita Sackville-West. The other must be *Per un museo della lingua italiana*, where you'll get a chance to submit your own suggestions about things to include in the planned museum of the Italian language and will also find an interactive workstation set up by **HERA.COM**.

### \* PIAZZA ALBERTI

If you've been to the Festival, you'll remember that Piazza Alberti is the hub for the press office and the editorial team beavering away on the website. The square hosts plenty of events with free admission, where you can be in on the action as literature and journalism engage. You might find yourself discovering about the challenges of a *pitching* journalist in *Meglio di un romanzo*, or perhaps listening to the cutting-edge debate of *Common thoughts*. At the **EDICOLA 518 ITINERANT NEWSSTAND**, you can catch up on cultural and alternative journalism from international sources. Or, if you never tire of interviews with authors, come along any afternoon to the open marquee in Piazza Alberti for **RADIOTRE FAHRENHEIT**'s live broadcasts. And if you fancy trying your hand as a poet in exchange for a coffee, **JULIUS MEINL-PAY WITH A POEM** is back for this year's Festival!

### \* CASA DEL MANTEGNA

For children and families, you can rest tired legs or just enjoy a change of air at Casa del Mantegna. You'll find activities and workshops galore – and all the fun of the fair at the *merry-go-round* on the first floor. The garden's perfect for a break at the **HORTUS-AGRICOLTURA SOCIALE** refreshments stand.

### \* CONSORZIO DI BONIFICA

In the Consorzio di Bonifica courtyard, a big attraction is the **LIBRERIA DI SCAMBIO**, a book exchange where you can browse in search of non-mainstream reading and pick up a book of your choice by swapping one of your own or leaving a small sum in the kitty. (There'll be another book exchange at the Festival Box Office.) On the first floor, the **LIBRARY at Read On Station** is a must for teenage readers, who'll enjoy browsing through the books chosen by their peers during the *Read More* and *Anthology* projects. Use the workstations to interact online with the web community who took part in the projects, or choose among other relatively informal activities linked to Read On.

# SCIENCEGROUND

GROUNDS FOR EXCHANGE OF IDEAS  
IN THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD

1.5  
microbes

organised by **Piccola Comunità Scientifica ExTemporanea**

«When you try to observe microbes or viruses, you end up finding links that are part of what people call “society”. They are two sides of the same coin. This is why it is not necessary to get out of science to explain its social aspects. We need to enter into the various disciplines – and then it will be the connections between the scientific objects themselves to define society, for you and us.»

**Bruno Latour, interviewed for Scienceground in 2018**

If we had to rebuild Palazzo Te now and decide the subjects to depict, how would we fresco the walls? We could certainly dedicate a room to the microorganisms that populate our environment and bodies – even larger in number than our own cells! So, just as the rooms of Palazzo Te are dedicated to giants, emblems and metamorphoses, the **Liceo Isabella d'Este** will host the **BACTERIA HALL, THE MOULD ROOM, THE YEAST ATRIUM** and **THE VIRUS CLOISTER**.

For the entire duration of the Festival **ExTemporanea** will be using microscopes and books, culture media and voice recorders to fertilise the terrain for scientific comparison. What fruits are we expecting? Critical and shared tools that will help to unravel a tangle of clichés and over-simplifications and to reveal the close relationship between scientific progress – with its methods, myths and controversies – and the social context in which science moves.

Each day will start with a **discussion by the reading groups**, in their search for traces of microbiology in literature. The **workshops** will bring us closer to the microorganisms that populate the world outside and inside us (events **1, 20, 29, -12, 83, 138, 157, 199**), but the instruments to “sense” them will be available in a **permanent exhibition**. Researchers of international status will discuss their knowledge on the issues of antibiotic resistance, access to scientific literature, microbe anthropology, and more. At the end of the day, **mingling with the authors** at the Festival will provide an opportunity for greater insight into scientific topics of social relevance.

Above all, Scienceground is an open space in which to exchange sourdough and specialist articles, kefir granules and reading tips. The ExTemporanea community behind it is made up of students, researchers and enthusiasts, on hand to help participants get themselves some bacterial culture while making a scientific culture.

For the latest information see **www.festivaletteratura.it** and **scienceground.it**. With a daily 2 Euro ticket, you can participate in all the Scienceground activities, apart from the numbered workshops (see the programme).

# WEDNESDAY

## 4 September 2019

11:30 • TENDA SORDELLO

### inaugural cocktails

As the Festivaletteratura 2019 ship sets sail with its crew of authors from all over the world, the piazza Sordello “docks” will see friends, guests and supporters gathering joyfully, glass in hand, to wave them off.

**In collaboration with Consorzio Garda Doc, Consorzio Parmigiano Reggiano and For.Ma.**



15:00 > 20:00 • LICEO “ISABELLA D’ESTE” • daily ticket € 2,00

### SCIENCEGROUND 1.5 - MICROBES

We eat them, but we don't know what they taste like. We touch them, but we can't see them. They are an essential part of our body but we are hardly aware of it. How do we perceive them then? And what do we make of them? Scienceground will give us the opportunity to narrow the gap between our world and the world of microbes: listening to them, observing them under a microscope, exchanging bread yeasts and getting some reading tips for scientific articles.

*Entrance included in the daily Scienceground ticket.*



15:00 > 20:00 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 5,00

### MERRY-GO-ROUND

ages (4) to (12)

The carousel is back! Writers' games designed for children and their families on the first floor of Casa del Mantegna, with all new attractions. Seven rooms, eight activities to explore on your own, with the help of an instruction booklet and the fairground staff-volunteers. This year there will be drawings by giants, teachers hanging from the ceiling, animal assemblages and a round the clock printing shop. You can spend as much time as you want on each game as long as everyone gets to play (see pp. 50-51).



16:00 > 20:00 • TENDA DEI LIBRI • free admission

### A CITY IN BOOKS: TIRANA

In an eccentric and brutal way Tirana, seemingly foreign to everything, reflects the intricate history of the European continent. Existing side by side in the Albanian capital are the collapse of twentieth-century history and opposing totalitarisms, the proud claim for national identity and the infinite diaspora, Christianity and Islam, Italy and the East. The temporary library curated (as always) by Luca Scarlini is dedicated to this city, now projected towards the future and experiencing a surge of cultural ferment. Over two hundred publications by authors such as Dritëro Agolli, Elvira Dones, Ismail Kadare, Alexander Langer, Indro Montanelli, Mario Rignoni Stern and dozens of historical films made available by the Albanian National Film Archive are waiting to accompany the public on this literary journey across the Land of the Eagles. In the library, a group of young researchers and PhD students is on hand to help readers explore Tirana in books.

**With the support of the Ministry of Culture of Albania and the Municipality of Tirana.**



16:00 &gt; 20:00 • CONSORZIO DI BONIFICA • free admission

**READ ON STATION**

*Read On Station* is a transit station, an activity centre, a test circuit and an info point for all those interested in the hive of Read On activities (see box on pp. 52-55). Besides being the HQ for *Blurandevù* and the EU Dreamers workshop in Passports, as well as the *My Life in Strips* workshops and *Diredilibri* factory, Read On Station has a library for adolescents and a series of workstations for participating on the spot in *Book Review*, *Fanfiction Lab* and other activities on the readon.eu site. It's the place to get your *Anthology!2018* books and exclusive Read On 2019 gadgets, and where teachers can go to find out more about bringing Read On in to their schools.



16:00 • CONSORZIO DI BONIFICA • free admission

Steven Guarnaccia

**THE STRIP FACTORY**

cartoon lab

**READ ON MY LIFE IN STRIPS**

ages 12 to 19

How to tell your whole life story in five cartoons. Or if not your whole life, what happened yesterday morning – or one of those little habits that tell us who we are. *The strip factory* is a workshop for mass producing short cartoon autobiographies. Every day a renowned cartoonist will lead the way, showing you how to develop ideas, adapt the stories and build up the characters, all while having a really good time. Coming off the production line will be *My Life in Strips 2020*: green revolution-related topics.

**The workshop will be in Italian.**

1 0 17:30 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

Siegmond Ginzberg and Donald Sassoon with Andrea Ranzato

**SYMPTOMS OF THE CRISIS**

A series of worrying signs has seen an increase in recent months: a rise in sovereign and xenophobic movements, the total loss of confidence in supranational institutions, an escalation of the inequalities between rich and poor and progressive collective rage. It is hard not to find in the phenomena of today a sinister echo of what happened at a time of crisis in the not so distant past. Siegmond Ginzberg (*Sindrome 1933*) and Donald Sassoon (*Morbid Symptoms*) discuss whether it makes sense to identify analogies with the confused times in which totalitarianism managed to make inroads in Italy and Germany between the Wars and to what extent this can help interpret the present. Moderated by Andrea Ranzato.

**The event will be in Italian.**

1 1 18:00 • PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00 PRE

Elif Shafak and Michela Murgia

**THE WORDS WE HAVE**

What is the role of the intellectual, and what their responsibility within a society, and a nation? And how do art and power interact? Elif Shafak will try to answer these questions. One of the most important writers of contemporary fiction (*The Bastard of Istanbul*, *The Forty Doors*), in her recent *10 Minutes and 38 Seconds in this Strange World* Shafak gives voice once more to a female character emblematic of the history of her country and, more broadly, addresses the role of women and what literature can do to change the world. The Turkish writer will talk to Michela Murgia, author of *How to be a fascist* and a leading light on the Italian political and cultural stage.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

18:45 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

**hidden pages****WORLDS OF URSULA K. LE GUIN**

by Arwen Curry, USA, 2018, 68 mins. (English with Italian subtitles)

**introducing the film Chiara Codecà**

Known for innovative science-fiction and fantasy works such as *The Left Hand of Darkness*, *The Lathe of Heaven* and *The Dispossessed*, the feminist writer Ursula K. Le Guin stubbornly kept herself on the margin of “major” literature, until the excellence of her work forcibly decreed her role as a master of fantasy literature. Created over the course of a decade, *Worlds of Ursula K. Le Guin* is a journey through the career of the writer and her world, real and fantastic, accompanied by the reflections of colleagues such as Margaret Atwood, Neil Gaiman and Michael Chabon. The audience will join the writer on her journey of self-discovery, during which she opens new doors to the imagination and inspires generations of marginalised women and writers.



20:45 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

**hidden pages****THE MIRACLE OF THE LITTLE PRINCE**

by Marjoleine Boonstra, The Netherlands, 2018, 89 mins. (various languages with Italian subtitles)

**Italian preview**

A documentary about Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's much-loved classic and the dedicated translators who fight for the preservation of languages on the brink of extinction. Along with the Bible, *The Little Prince* is the most translated book in the world, with versions in over 300 languages. Why do people from different cultures choose this book in particular to keep their languages alive? From the Moroccan desert to the lands of the Sami, from Central America to the heart of Africa, the words of the *Little Prince* stretch a line across the world along which the notions of comfort and hope, at the heart of the book, find an echo in the translators' commitment: no matter how different their cultures are, what unites them is the belief that it is essential for people to continue to think, dream and speak in their mother tongue.



1 6 21:00 • PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

Ali Smith and Teresa Franco

**ANTIDOTE TO OUR DIFFICULT TIMES**

Among the most original and influential voices of contemporary British literature, Ali Smith (*How to be Both*, *The Accidental*) deftly describes Britain through a filter of allegory, alternating references to dramatic current events - from Brexit to climate change - with reflections on language and erudite literary allusions. Awarded numerous honours and several times a finalist for the Man Booker Prize, the author of *Autumn* and *Winter* casts a masterly eye “always open to hope” on a world in which everyday life is often tinged with bitterness. *The New York Times* comment that “there are few writers in the world that produce such original and seductive literature” comes as no surprise. She will be talking to Teresa Franco of the University of Oxford.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

# archivio

## Festivaletteratura

The Festivaletteratura Archive was created in 2010, so that the material collected over the years by the Festivaletteratura Organising Committee and by Associazione Filofestival-Friends of Festivaletteratura could be made more widely available. In 2014, the Lombardy Region's Superintending Body for Archives recognised the major cultural value of this vast collection. As reorganisation and cataloguing continue, the Archive remains open to the general public by appointment: visitors might simply want to re-experience a vividly remembered event, or to use the wealth of available material as the basis for new projects.

This year we celebrate our first ten years of activity with a new portal, born as a joint venture between the Festivaletteratura Archive and Promemoria Group. Promemoria has made this possible thanks to a bespoke update of its Archiui.com platform, with innovative graphics and enhanced functional features. Its faster, more intuitive search function now lets you start exploring as soon as you're on the home page, where you can look up past editions, guests, venues and all events from 1997 to date. We've also added a special area for our press reviews and featured topics, as well as a news and information section.

The Archive's newly updated collection of over 2,000 audio recordings, spanning the various editions of the Festival and a vast array of topics, can be accessed online ([archivio.festivaletteratura.it](http://archivio.festivaletteratura.it)) and enjoyed one by one. And you can expect a treasure trove of further surprises – videos, photos, graphic art and related material, all providing a vivid record of an adventure that's still in full swing after more than twenty years.

**ARCHIVE STATISTICS:** **22** editions / over **5,300** events / more than **4,000** guests from Italy and abroad / **200** places in the city used as venues / more than **3,500** audio files, including almost **2,000** already available online / more than **500** sections and subsections for the various categories (administrative records, graphic art and press reviews are just a few examples) / over **195.000** analogue and digital photos / about **2,800** analogue and digital videos

Archivio di Festivaletteratura / Via Accademia 47, Mantova / 0376225768  
For information about appointments and consultation of the archive material:  
[archivio@festivaletteratura.it](mailto:archivio@festivaletteratura.it) / [archivio.festivaletteratura.it](http://archivio.festivaletteratura.it)

**archiui** The new online Festivaletteratura digital archive, launched this year, was implemented with **Archiui**, a platform for organising and giving access to historic, artistic and corporate collections, developed by Turin-based IT company **Promemoria**.

# THURSDAY

## 5 September 2019

SPACES OPEN ALL DAY • 10:00 > 20:00



### SCIENCEGROUND 1.5 – MICROBES

LICEO "ISABELLA D'ESTE" • day ticket € 2,00 🌟 • SEE P.11



### A CITY IN BOOKS: TIRANA

TENDA DEI LIBRI • admission free • SEE P.11



### MERRY-GO-ROUND

CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 5,00 🌟 • SEE P.11

ages (4) to (12)



### READ ON STATION

CONSORZIO DI BONIFICA • admission free 🌟 • SEE P.12

ages (12) to (19)

3 1

14:30 • CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA • € 6,00 🌟

Jane Sautière

### DE LA TERRE DES PLEURS UN GRAND VENT S'ÉLEVA

"Infin che l'mar fu sovra noi richiuso". Ceci est le récit de la présence d'exilés en Europe, dans une grande ville riche d'un pays riche, Paris. Il est possible que ce soit pire ailleurs. Jane Sautière parle à partir de ses propres observations au fil des jours, subjectives. Il s'agit d'un relevé des traces que les réfugiés laissent de leur passage, de leur empreinte, de leur ombre, qu'elle tisse avec des textes qui sont, pour elle, la barque qui les contient encore. Elle dit que c'est sans doute le seul pouvoir de la littérature.

The event will be in French without interpretation.

3 2

14:30 • TEATRO BIBIENA • € 6,00

Steven Guarnaccia and Gabriele Monti

### WAS THE EMPEROR REALLY NAKED?

What do a dynamic illustrator and a serious fashion scholar have in common? In the case of Steven Guarnaccia, designer and lecturer at the Parsons New School of Design in New York, and Gabriele Monti, professor at the IUAV University of Venice, it is a powerful sense of clothes as a form of communication.

The event will be in Italian.

3 3

14:30 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 6,00

Janne Teller and Daniele Aristarco

### STORIES ABOUT THE WORLD

CHILDREN AND ADULTS age (12) up

Janne Teller writes novels that are not easily forgotten. In *War: what if it were here?* the map of the Mediterranean is abruptly turned upside down. Now, exposed to suffering and prejudice, it is the children of Europe, fleeing with their families to the shores of the Maghreb. Talking with her will be Daniele Aristarco, author of *E tu da dove vieni?*

The author will speak in English, consecutive interpretation into Italian.

With the support of the Danish Arts Foundation.

ever  
LIFE DESIGN

Betoi Sport  
2 RUOTE DAL 1900

3 5 14:45 AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00

**Rawi Hage** and **Christian Elia**

### UNDER THE BEIRUT MOON

The Bus Massacre marked the start on April 13, 1975 of the Lebanese civil war. Lasting over fifteen years, the conflict was to radically alter the political and social structures of the Middle Eastern nation, and its violence to give voice to profound reflections in the works of authors touched by the corrosive effects of that war, including Elias Khoury, Lamia Zadié, Wajdi Mouawad and Rawi Hage. The descriptions in Hage's novels (such as *De Niro's Game*, which earned him the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award in 2008) of the Beirut of the period, so skilful "that you can taste the dust in the air" (*The Financial Times*) can perhaps be attributed in part to his lengthy experience as a photographer in the US and Canada. Together with the journalist Christian Elia, author of *Come la rabbia al vento*, Rawi Hage will talk about how memories filter through his pages in the form of images and why he prefers "to hang out with [his] old taxi driver friends".

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**With the support of the Canadian Embassy.**



3 6 15:00 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

**Jonas Hassen Khemiri** and **Lorenzo Pavolini**

### THE BLANK PAGE CAN BE MY ENEMY

When Jonas Hassen Khemiri speaks of the great authors who have fired his passion for words, it may come as something of a surprise to see alongside those of Kafka and Faulkner the name of rapper Nas, who perhaps most of all has taught him the unlimited possibilities of storytelling. The topic of language and its contradictions is often central to the work of the young Stockholm writer, one of the most celebrated Scandinavian contemporary authors and the first Swede to have a story published in *The New Yorker*. Convinced of the tragic-comedy of life, the author of *Everything I Don't Remember* and *The father clause* will talk to Lorenzo Pavolini about society in Europe today, interpreting in his unique style "the feelings of those who live under the skies of the old continent".

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**With the support of the Swedish Arts Council.**



3 7 15:00 MUSIC CONSERVATORY "CAMPIONI" • € 6,00

**Patrice Nganang** and **Marcello Flores**

### GIVING A VOICE TO AFRICAN HISTORY

"I wanted to speak of the complexity of the events and the ties that unite Africa to Europe, even in crucial moments such as those of the Great Wars, starting from an African point of view". With these words, Patrice Nganang summarises some of the themes at the heart of his novels (*The plum season*, *Mont Plaisant*), in which the history of Cameroon is intertwined with little-known pages from the past of a continent where the wounds left by world wars and colonialism are still open. Imprisoned and then expelled from his country for criticising the president currently in power, he continues his political and social commitment from abroad, demonstrating how the intellectual history of Cameroon dates to way back before the anti-colonial movement. He talks to historian Marcello Flores.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



3 8 15:00 MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00

**Tom Gauld** and **Chiara Valerio**

### COMICS AND PROUSTIAN NOVELS

The cartoons by Tom Gauld that appear every week in the Guardian literary supplement have for years been objects of worship and devotion among readers, book lovers and insiders. They have the rare virtue of speaking of complex issues (The mysteries of poetry! The role of the writer! The perverse mechanisms of the publishing industry! Machiavelli's plans for the summer holidays!) with disarming simplicity, a surreal vein and, above all, a magnificently humorous touch. Gauld is a master of wit who treats his characters with tenderness and empathy, whether they are the ephemeral figures in a strip cartoon or the melancholy lunar cop in his graphic novel *Mooncop*. The author of *Baking with Kafka* will be talking to devoted fan Chiara Valerio about robots and Jane Austen, the risks of being a writer and policemen on the moon.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



4 1 16:00 PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00 PRE

**Amin Maalouf** and **Donald Sassoon**

### THE ORIGINS OF THE EUROPEAN CRISIS

With its repercussions on our continent, the unprecedented crisis in which the Arab world finds itself is deeply rooted in history. According to the great French intellectual Amin Maalouf (*In the name of identity*, *Le Naufrage des Civilisations*), the origin of everything can be traced back to the Iranian Islamic revolution of 1979. For over half a century the author has been observing our world, working on the meeting between different civilisations and the confrontation between religions, so much so that the Académie Française has awarded him seat 29, previously reserved for Claude Lévi-Strauss, the anthropologist who led Europe in its understanding of other cultures. Convinced of the indispensability of books that address the world and its ills, he analyses with supreme clarity of vision the abyss he believes we are on the edge of today, where the European dream risks "sinking like the Titanic". He talks to historian Donald Sassoon (*Morbid symptoms*).

**The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



4 3 16:30 CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 6,00

**Frida Nilsson** and **Pino Costalunga**

### SO WHAT?

ages (8 to 12)

The great Swedish children's writer Frida Nilsson, author of *The Ice Sea Pirates*, *Jag, Dante och miljonerna* and *Apstjärnan*, meets Pino Costalunga to talk about books and writing for young readers. Imagination and humour are the keywords, each a constant in her compelling and outlandish stories. Leaving behind all the taboos that children's literature is often a victim of, her stories equip the reader to deal with any topic. The big questions, pain, friendship, death and love: there is nothing that can't be broached if one just finds the right way.

**The author will speak in Swedish. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**With the support of the Swedish Arts Council.**



4 5 16:45 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

Simon Schama and Giulio Busi

### FINDING LIGHT IN DARKNESS

As Riccardo Pacifici said in 2016, hoping that a greater interest in the culture of the Jewish population would make headway through greater collectivity: "The story of the Jews is not just the Holocaust". A history that spans millennia and continents including Europe, Africa and the East consists not only of oppression and threats, but is – as British historian Simon Schama recalls – above all a story of resistance and of the affirmation of life over the most horrifying adversities. Authoritative contemporary essayist and media academic, Schama has successfully combined his exceptional communication skills with scientific rigour, taking on the task of investigating the epic story of the Jewish people from their origins to the present day (The first two volumes of the *Story of the Jews* have already been published). Shunning the often-Eurocentric canons of the textbooks, he focuses on events in the lives of ordinary people, poets, rabbis and merchants. He will be talking to scholar of Judaism, Giulio Busi.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

4 7 17:00 SEMINARIO VESCOVILE • € 6,00

DERMAGIB  
Cosmetics

Alex Capus and Bruno Gamberotta

### MY CHARACTERS CHASE ME

That Alex Capus likes stories and history is undeniable. Rather than stay "simply in his room to write" he opened a bar in the village of Olten, where he lives in Switzerland, to enjoy its social and communicative advantages and to isolate himself – when needed – upstairs, where his novels come to life. The beginning of the last century appears recurrently in his books (*Léon and Louise, A price to pay, A matter of time*), above all because the stories of the past "offer an archetypal meaning that can also apply to the present". And a search for eternal themes and timeless *topoi* is one of the main stylistic features of this author-bartender. Capus likes to delve into historical material and transform it into fiction: between rooting about in archives and carrying out research around the world, he has learned to follow his literary flair "like a truffle dog". He will be discussing his work with Bruno Gamberotta.

The author will speak in German. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

4 8 17:00 MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00

FIORDILOTO

Meg Wolitzer and Marco Magnone

### WHAT WE DON'T KNOW

ages (14) to (18)

American writer Meg Wolitzer, author of the much-loved *Belzhar*, meets her young readers, along with Marco Magnone, author of *La mia estate Indaco*. At the heart of the discussion are adolescents and their secrets – because what we show the world is not always who we really are. Each of us may experience differently an unquantifiable, lurking pain and, above all, that pain should not need to be explained or justified to anyone. We may just need someone to be there with us through it all.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

17:30 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

Camera di Commercio  
Mantova

hidden pages

### THE FINAL ADVENTURE OF KAKTUS KID

by Đorđe Marković, Serbia, 2018, 62 mins. (Serbian with Italian subtitles)

Aleksandar Zograf's comic books and graphic novels are published worldwide. During the NATO bombing of Serbia, the cartoonist kept a famous comic book diary, writing from his hometown, Pančevo, one of the hardest hit. Also a keen collector of comics, one day Zograf came across a rare issue dating back to the Second World War. The hero of the comic, Kaktus Kid, was a small anthropomorphic cactus reminiscent of Mickey Mouse. Intrigued, Zograf did some research into the life of its creator, a little known artist by the name of Veljko Kockar. It didn't take long to discover that Kockar, accused of being a Gestapo agent, had been arrested immediately after the liberation of Belgrade in 1944. He was then executed. Zograf's investigations revealed an even more complex reality...

18:45 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

Camera di Commercio  
Mantova

hidden pages

### THE INVENTED BIOGRAPHY

by Nicolás Lasnibat, Chile/France, 2018, 95 mins. (Spanish with Italian subtitles)

Italian preview

Roberto Bolaño was a Chilean novelist and poet. This documentary follows the story of Arturo Belano, alter ego of the famous author of *The savage detectives, Nazi Literature in the Americas* and *2666*, who shares much of his biography with his creator. The director receives an anonymous letter stating that he knows where Belano is, accompanied by a plane ticket to Mexico. Thus begins a search among the places where Bolaño's stories and novels are set that reveals real and imaginary characters, and moves in territory where reality merges with fiction. A new form of literary biopic, in which the writer and his character become one and the same.

5 5 19:00 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

Unipol  
GRUPPO

Navid Kermani and Valerio Pellizzari

### IDENTITY IS NOT JUST A PASSPORT

When German publishers awarded him the International Peace Prize in 2015, Navid Kermani was introduced as "one of society's major voices". An Orientalist and expert on Islamic mysticism, the author of *State of emergency: travels in a troubled world* and *Upheaval: the refugee trek through Europe* has often combined his passion for academic life with that of reporter in war zones or on the Balkan refugee route. With characteristically eloquent simplicity, he captures the dignity of each individual encountered along the way, sketching a careful portrait of a fraught world and photographing with great humanity the turning point the European continent is currently undergoing. Kermani talks on the subject to reporter Domenico Quirico, describing how a crisis we once considered far removed has suddenly erupted into our world.

The author will speak in German. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

5 8 19:15 • PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00 **Margaret Atwood and Alberto Manguel**  
**WHEN REALITY OUTDOES FANTASY**

A childhood spent in the forests of Canada must have left an indelible mark on the heart of Margaret Atwood (*The year of the flood, The door*), who in the early 2000s helped build a sanctuary for migratory species in the Point Pelee National Park and who still feels passionately about protecting the environment. With over fifty awards (including the Booker Prize for *The Blind Assassin*), during her long career her writings are evidence of a multifaceted commitment to analysing the problems of the individual in Western society, and above all the dynamics of power between men and women. An icon for readers all over the world thanks to the enormous success of the television series *The Handmaid's Tale*, Atwood meets author Alberto Manguel, to whom she will talk about her battle with those who attempt to turn back the clock.

**The authors will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

*With the support of the Canadian Embassy.*

6 0 19:15 • AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00

**Bergsveinn Birgisson and Alessandro Vanoli**  
**KING OF THE ATLANTIC**

With his Mongolian looks and dark complexion, the 9th century navigator, hunter and merchant Geirmundur Heljarskinn, part legend and part reality, still keeps historians scratching their heads. After decades of on the spot research, the Icelandic writer and philologist Bergsveinn Birgisson, already author of the intense *Reply to a letter from Helga*, set about uncovering his identity in his splendid *The black viking*, a book about Scandinavian history more gripping than any novel or TV series and which the author discusses with expert of seas, routes and migrations Alessandro Vanoli (*Quando guidavano le stelle, L'ignoto davanti a noi*).

**The author will speak in Icelandic. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

*With the support of the Icelandic Literature Centre*

6 1 19:30 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

**Benjamin Taylor and Gabriele Romagnoli**  
**THE DAY THAT CHANGED AMERICA**

November 22, 1963 is a date that made history with the murder of John Fitzgerald Kennedy. On that very day, the young Benjamin Taylor had gone to listen to a speech in Fort Worth, only to learn a few hours later of the dramatic assassination of the US president. That tragic event led years later to a memoir (*The hue and cry at our home. A year remembered*) in which the author's family life becomes a lens through which to analyse the events that were shaking North America, among which the Vietnam War and the fight against racial segregation. Attentive in equal measure to major historical events and the smaller ones of everyday life, the Texan writer and academic combines reflections on youth and the nature of time, shifting in a splendidly literary way from the universal to the specific. With him, Gabriele Romagnoli, who in his role as writer and journalist has spent considerable time writing about President Kennedy and the US.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

20:45 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00 

hidden pages

**YOURS IN SISTERHOOD**

by Irene Lusztig, Stati Uniti, 2018, 101 mins. (English with Italian subtitles)

italian preview

Between 2015 and 2017, hundreds of strangers in communities across the United States were invited to read aloud and respond to letters sent in the 1970s to the editorial staff of *Ms. Magazine*, the first popular feminist magazine in the US. The intimate, provocative and sometimes harrowing conversations that emerge from these spontaneous performances make us think critically about the past, present and future of feminism. *Yours in Sisterhood* is a collective portrait of feminist conversation and an exercise on the meaning of listening and on the lost art of epistolary writing.

6 3 21:00 • CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA • € 6,00 

Simon Schama

**REMBRANDT'S EYES**

350 years ago. Rembrandt van Rijn died in poverty but not obscurity, having sublimely reinvented every genre of art that he touched. Twenty years after the publication of *Rembrandt's Eyes*, Simon Schama asks what it is that makes his work so deeply moving and how he recreated the image of humanity.

**The event will be in English without interpretation.**

21:00 • PIAZZA LEON BATTISTA ALBERTI • free admission 

Tom Gauld and Alessandro Sanna

with the editorial staff of **Polpettas On Paper****WORDS ARE VERY UNNECESSARY**

common thoughts

A line from a Depeche Mode song offers the title for a reflection on the hierarchy of words and drawings in illustration and comics. What keeps a picture story together? Is it the text that really provides the lead and the rhythm, or does the drawing follow its own course, soon forgetting the writing? Starting from their own personal experience, Tom Gauld (*Mooncop*) and Alessandro Sanna (*Come questa pietra*) focus on the elementary mechanisms, the potential and limits of picture narrative.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

*Common thoughts: Festivaletteratura has kept a space for some of the most dynamic and courageous Italian cultural magazines, on paper and digital. A space to compare different ideas and to generate new ones.*



6 1 19:30 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

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**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



6 6 21:15 • PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

Pilar del Río and Silvio Perrella

**"TO PILAR, TILL THE LAST INSTANT"**

When Nobel laureate José Saramago passed away in 2010, no one expected the volume he had suggested he was working on ever to see the light. Yet, the last of the Lanzarote Diaries was found almost by chance by his wife Pilar del Río. Hidden away in a car no one used anymore, it was buried in a file on a computer that hadn't been seen since 1998. Alongside Silvio Perrella, who interviewed the Portuguese writer at Festivaletteratura that very year, Pilar del Río takes the occasion of the publication of *Último caderno de Lanzarote: o diário do ano do Nobel* to remember – amid travel notes, politics and domestic life – her late husband, a genius of literature and "a man who never gave up until the end and continued to write because it was his reason to live".

**The author will speak in Spanish. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



Cosmik Tours

6 8 21:30 • SEMINARIO VESCOVILE • € 6,00



Nadeem Aslam and Francesca Caferri

### MY NATIONAL FLAG HAS TWO COLOURS

"Working inna de factories/ Sometimes sweeping de floor/Unsung heroines an heroes/ Yes they open de door" sang Asian Dub Foundation in 2000 about the earliest groups of Asian immigrants to settle in England. A few years later writer Nadeem Aslam was to draw a detailed picture of the living conditions of the Pakistani communities in the UK (*Maps for lost lovers*), and depict how Islam was reconstructed in a European country. Speaking out courageously on social and inter-generational injustices, the author of *The Blind Man's Garden* and *The Golden Legend* has a masterly gift of capturing a reality contaminated by religious fundamentalism, hatred towards minorities and violence against women; a reality that all too often makes those who live in the place they now call home feel foreign and unwanted. He talks to journalist Francesca Caferri.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

7 0 21:30 • AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00

Nora Krug and Francesco M. Cataluccio



### AN INTIMATE STORY OF NAZISM

Although Nora Krug was born several decades after the end of Nazism, the events of the Second World War cast a shadow - through silences, banned words and questions it was better not to ask - over her childhood and over that of many other children of her generation. After many years of living abroad, she began to feel the need to come to terms with the identity and history of Germany, but also with that of her own family. Returning to her homeland, she undertook a long and fascinating search among archives, libraries and personal documents - interviewing family members and acquaintances, digging deep into the recesses of German traditions and language - until she brought to light a story filled with grey areas, connivance and ambiguity, and at times even enthusiastic approval. Through her graphic memoirs - halfway between a graphic novel and an illustrated book, replete with materials collected during her research - Nora Krug investigated the imaginary in which she had been brought up, in an attempt to come to terms with the past of her country and family. The author of *Heimat. A German family album* will be talking to writer Francesco M. Cataluccio.

The event will be in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

7 1 21:30 • PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00



Jeffery Deaver and Carlo Lucarelli

### GAME WITH THE DEVIL

"And though you fight to stay alive - recites the persuasive voice of the legendary Vincent Price - Your body starts to shiver/For no mere mortal can resist/The evil of The Thriller". The leap from Michael Jackson's super hit to the thrillers by master of suspense Jeffery Deaver is short, especially if crime writer Carlo Lucarelli is there with the American author to lend a hand. From the East Coast to California, the blood-soaked America that bestselling author Deaver describes is populated with morbid serial killers and memorable detectives, such as Lincoln Rhyme and Amelia Sachs, John Pellam, Kathryn Dance and newcomer Colter Shaw, a "reward-seeker" who in *The Never Game* finds himself up against a series of mysterious disappearances at the heart of Silicon Valley.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

# FRIDAY

## 6 September 2019

SPACES OPEN ALL DAY • 10:00 &gt; 20:00



### SCIENCEGROUND 1.5 - MICROBES

LICEO "ISABELLA D'ESTE" • day ticket € 2,00 • SEE P.11



### A CITY IN BOOKS: TIRANA

TENDA DEI LIBRI • admission free • SEE P.11



### MERRY-GO-ROUND

CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 5,00 • SEE P.11

ages (4) to (12)



### READ ON STATION

CONSORZIO DI BONIFICA • admission free • SEE P.12

ages (12) to (19)

7 2 10:00 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

Navid Kermani and Francesco M. Cataluccio

### WHAT CHRISTIAN ART TELLS US

It may initially seem strange that one of the best-known German writers, a Muslim of Iranian origin, should embark on a journey of exploration through the world of Christian art. Yet Navid Kermani, Orientalist, novelist and active mediator between religions looks with new eyes at masterpieces of the history of art, the cross and the resurrection. Cain and St Francis, ancient icons, Caravaggio and Veronese all come under his attentive scrutiny. *Wonder beyond belief* is the result of this fascinating study, which, using wit and often brutal honesty, focuses on the psychological interpretation of faces, and examines how *topoi* consolidated over the centuries in art can produce unexpected meanings. Beauty can and must be a meeting point to promote dialogue between cultures. He talks to writer Francesco M. Cataluccio.

The author will speak in German. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.



7 3 10:00 • AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00



Felwine Sarr and Andrea de Georgio

### FOR A NEW AFRICAN THOUGHT

"I went through a mimetic imaginary, obstructed, inhabited by others, (...) that of an entire generation that sees as the only way of salvation the fact of landing on Western soil and living a Western life. This means that the offer is a poor one, the future they are offered, too little". In the view of sociologist and economist Felwine Sarr, author of *Écrire l'Afrique-monde: Ateliers de la pensée, Dakar et Saint-Louis du Sénégal*, Africa must begin again to produce its own categories of meaning and to elaborate new metaphors for the future, rejecting the narratives of others that see it either as a continent adrift, or a neighbouring Eldorado able to attract hefty international investments. Faced with the irremediable crisis of democracy and technocratic capitalism, Sarr proposes the search for a different perspective for social life, open to the utopia of an ordinary, balanced, harmonious and meaningful existence. He believes that if we are able to think other places we can make them part of the plot. The author of *Afrotopia* will be talking to journalist Andrea de Georgio (*Altre Afriche*).

The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.



7 7 10:30 • SEMINARIO VESCOVILE • € 6,00

**Burhan Sönmez** and **Andrea Grisi**  
**THE MEMORY AND THE LABYRINTH**

"In our society the duty of memory has become a slogan [...]. But is that the way it really is? If remembering is necessary, how is it that we increasingly know less about our respective countries, and know less well"? Burhan Sönmez is known throughout the world as an intellectual whose activism came at a high price. In his tough and moving novels *Sins and innocents* and *Istanbul Istanbul*, the Turkish author made memory one of the distinctive traits of his writing, recovering the mythical-poetic dimension of childhood as a counterpoint to an adulthood made up of political struggles and broken dreams. *Labyrinth* marks a radical departure, with the author adopting the point of view of a blues musician who wakes up in a dreamlike Istanbul after having lost his memory. Burhan Sönmez will be talking to bookseller Andrea Grisi.

The event will be in English with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

11:00 • TENDA SORDELLO • free admission



Joshua Cohen

**PAY SOME ATTENTION!**  
**accents**

Have Internet and technology changed the human mind? The American novelist and essayist Joshua Cohen discusses how we became so fundamentally distracted, the economy of attention and a revolutionary concept in Western philosophy: the attention span.

The event will be in English without interpretation.

8 0 11:00 • PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00



**Howard Jacobson** and **Bruno Gambarotta**  
**FIVE O'CLOCK WIT (NO SUGAR, THANKS)**

If one thinks that *The Finkler Question* (2010) was the first comic novel to win the Man Booker Prize, it isn't hard to imagine how naturally it comes to British writer Howard Jacobson to use wit as a key through which to interpret the world. Combining British humour and Jewish comedy, his apparent lightness conceals profound thinking and analysis on the social mechanisms and the collective dimension of the question of Judaism. The author of *J* and *Live a Little* talks on the subject to Bruno Gambarotta (*Quando tutto questo sarà finito*), who knows a thing or two about the ingredients of humour and the importance of timing.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

8 1 11:00 • MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00



**Frida Nilsson** and **Vera Salton**  
**SERIOUS CHALLENGES**

age 14 up

Can we talk about death to children and how is it best to go about it? Popular writer for young readers Frida Nilsson does it masterfully in her latest book *Det tunna svärdet*, an epic tale of a journey to an island inhabited by the souls of the dead. Eventually dealing with Death in person, the author uses a combination of reality and fantasy to confront the experience of death and the pain of mourning, the fear of detachment and the search for meaning in a life that accommodates the idea of dying. She discusses the question with Vera Salton, bookseller, anthropologist and a scholar of children's literature.

The author will speak in Swedish. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

With the support of the Swedish Arts Council.

8 5 12:15 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

**Narine Abgarjan** and **Donatella Di Pietrantonio** **AMONG THE ARMENIAN GORGES**

Uniting the poetics of Narine Abgaryan and Donatella Di Pietrantonio (*A Girl Returned*) are their tales of remote and rugged, often earthquake-ridden places, where rocky terrain provides a counterpoint to expanses of green grass. Now living in Russia, the Armenian writer is a much-appreciated author of literature for the very young with a strong autobiographical flavour. With consummate skill, she describes the daily existence of the communities whose ancient stories she gleaned raptly from the mouths of their grandmothers. In her book *Three Apples Fell from the Sky* (2015) she blends memory and legend, past and present to tell the story of a remote and scarcely populated village – not so unlike many Italian villages – where the border between reality and magic is often porous: lives clinging to a mountain, where the identity of a people is kept alive.

The author will speak in Russian. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

8 6 12:15 • AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00



**Harald Gilbers** and **Luigi Caracciolo**  
**THE BERLIN SCARS**

Fantasy set in a historical context as precise as possible. The modus operandi of German thriller-writer Harald Gilbers may sound obvious, but this is just the tip of the iceberg as regards his extremely meticulous research into historical facts and painstaking preparation for his novels. The author of *Endzeit*, *Odins Söhne* and *Totenliste* brilliantly describes the spirit of a conflict-stricken Germany, in whose capital a most unlikely investigator is at work. An anti-hero, Jewish, to boot, he survives thanks to his exceptional investigative skills and incredible good fortune. Luigi Caracciolo aims to shine a light on Gilbers' world in a way that will bring the pages of his novel to life right in the heart of Berlin... *im Herzen Berlins*.

The author will speak in German. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

9 0 14:45 • MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00



**Alberto Manguel** and **Chiara Valerio** with **Simonetta Bitasi**  
 and **Alice Torreggiani**

**ANTHOLOGY!2019 - LOVE**

**READ ON ANTHOLOGY**

ages 14 to 19

Part of the Read On project, Anthology is back again. For its second edition, adolescents from all over Italy were asked to think of the best lines about love they have come across and would like to see in an anthology. About two hundred entries flocked in and, after tough selection by the teenage editors, we are ready to hand the shortlist over to the public and let them decide, with the guidance of special guests Chiara Valerio and Alberto Manguel. What makes a passage, a poem or a cartoon so special? Which books do young people turn to in search of love? Which authors are best at talking about love? Over to you.

The event will be in Italian.

With the support of the Canadian Embassy.

15:30 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00



hidden pages

## DER BAUER ZU NATHAL: KEIN FILM ÜBER THOMAS BERNHARD

by David Baldinger and Matthias Greuling, Austria, 2018, 90 mins. (German with Italian subtitles)

Renowned Austrian writer Thomas Bernhard moved to a farm in Ohlsdorf in the Upper Austrian countryside in the 1960s, filling out his passport application with "farmer" as his job title. Was he really one of them though? Could the famous writer really become a simple rural worker, or was he forever a stranger despite his attempts to participate in village life? What were the links between the intellectual and the community, and how does Ohlsdorf relate today to its most illustrious citizen? *Der Bauer zu Nathal* is not a film about Thomas Bernhard, but rather about who we are and the places we live in, and how they contribute to our way of life and what we create. The poet as a seismograph of society is an outmoded but still valid metaphor, especially in this case, when the friction with Bernhard still illuminates the depth of the Austrian soul.

9 6 16:00 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

Uwe Timm and Lorenzo Pavolini

## THE DANGER OF IDEOLOGY AS AN ALIBI

With an aesthetics linked to the importance of the small details of everyday life, in his long literary career Uwe Timm has shifted effortlessly between essays, adult and children's fiction. What has never been lacking, especially in his production of the last twenty years, is a systematic approach to German history, even when awkward and complex, sustained by a combination of biographical detail and historical research. Timm's narrative touches on the tragic adventure of colonialism (*Morenga*), as well as the riots of the sixties (*Der Freund Und Der Fremde*), and confronts the dark years of Nazism (*In my brother's shadow*). His recent *Icaria* draws inspiration from the figure of Alfred Ploetz, father of the eugenics project to select the pure Aryan race. The Hamburg author will discuss politics and its responsibilities, the abyss of racism and the role of intellectuals with journalist Lorenzo Pavolini (*Accanto alla tigre*).

The author will speak in German. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

9 9 16:45 • MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00

Janne Teller and Teresa Franco

## EVERYTHING NOTHING SOMETHING

age 14 up

Janne Teller has accustomed her readers to philosophical stories with a sting in their tail, ruthless in their authenticity and ability to grasp that element of human bestiality that resides in every human being. In *Nothing* the characters asked themselves what they were willing to sacrifice to show that life is worth living and that there is a point to existence. Her latest novel *Kom*, instead, investigates the limits of our responsibility towards others. The reader will once again be caught up in a tangle of doubts and questions about morality and freedom, and an awareness of how it is far easier to survive what is done to us than what we do to others. She talks to Teresa Franco, essayist and lector in Italian at the University of Oxford.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

With the support of the Danish Arts Foundation.

1 0 1 17:00 • CONSERVATORIO DI MUSICA "CAMPIONI" • € 6,00

Philip Schultz and Paola Splendore

## BLACK EYES DELIQUESCENT

"My poems poach nearly everything, my fears, schemes, conjectures and astonishments (...)" These are the clear, measured verses of Philip Schultz - poet and writer, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in poetry in 2008 - whose poems are filled with "heartbreaking tenderness that goes beyond mere pity" (Gerald Stern). The depth of Schultz's reflections on memory, parental figures, happiness and time, passes intact from one poetic world to another, while the translations of Paola Splendore render with supreme flair the balance between the little enigma that his words conceal and the sense of familiarity they arouse in even the less expert reader.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

1 0 4 17:15 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 6,00

Andrew Clements and Annalisa Strada

## CLASSMATES

ages 10 to 13

If only Andrew Clements' characters could be our classmates! We can still have them at school somehow though by reading his books. The American author loves the world of school and knows how to highlight some of its most entertaining contradictions. And like Nick Allen, the main character in his award-winning *Frindle*, Clements is always full of ideas and ways of using them. The classroom is the ideal setting for his intense and intelligent stories, from *The report card* to *No talking*. Together with teacher and writer Annalisa Strada, the author will talk to young readers about what happens and can happen in the classroom.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

1 0 5 17:15 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 8,00

Rasmus Bregnhøj

## MOUSE FACE!

workshop for making animals

ages 5 to 7

Think we're being rude? Not at all! Fun-loving Danish illustrator Rasmus Bregnhøj will help us create a host of little mice inspired by Mus, the ingenious character in *Opfindelser, strikkede huer og en dum kat*. All you need is to know how to use scissors and brushes and to have a good dose of mousy brainpower.

The author will speak in Danish. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

With the support of the Danish Arts Foundation.

17:30 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00



hidden pages

## ZURITA, YOU WILL SEE NOT TO SEE

by Alejandra C. Cannobbio, Chile, 2018, 75 mins. (Spanish with Italian subtitles)

Italian preview

Since the days of Pinochet's dictatorship, the great Chilean poet Raúl Zurita has always clung to art in order to heal his own wounds. Through poetry and his performances he has left the mark of his writings on his body, on the landscape and in the sky. Zurita has been suffering from Parkinson's disease for 17 years. In spite of this he manages to develop an extraordinary vitality, embracing life as he goes towards the sunset, unafraid to confront questions about his own death. His writing is the search for light from the dark, his large-scale interventions create poems that vanish in geography, like human beings on Earth. His poetry speaks of the transitory and ephemeral nature of our existence in an increasingly conflictual world.



**1 0 9** 18:15 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

**Dorothy Allison** and **Gaia Manzini**



### MOTHER AND DAUGHTER COURAGE

The women of Carolina who have left their mark on the life of Dorothy Allison seem straight out of the pages of Edgar Lee Masters or Sherwood Anderson. Responding in various ways to abuse from men, some trudge doggedly on until they fade away, others little by little make their gestures of rebellion. Part novel and part autobiography, Allison's writing recalls the women's stories – and her own – in stark detail, evoking lacerating abuse and moments of untold sweetness. Because behind the scream of love that permeates *Bastard out of Carolina* and her memoir *Two or three things I know for sure*, as Gaia Manzini writes, remains "the proud need not to forget. To save oneself, but above all to save a family of poor folk from oblivion".

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**1 1 0** 18:15 AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00

**Joshua Cohen** and **Claudio Bartocci**



### YOU HAVE TO BE A CHAMELEON TO WRITE

Home to H.P. Lovecraft and Norman Mailer and the setting for works by Arthur Miller and Harlan Ellison, the Brooklyn Red Hook neighbourhood has an almost magical literary past. Perhaps this explains why Joshua Cohen chose to live there. Among the most brilliant contemporary American writers, translator of Hebrew and German, the young New Jersey author has climbed the bestseller lists of the *New York Times* and *The Guardian*, always travelling on a different track from conventional narrative. One only has to read *Book of Numbers* to realise how Cohen loves to play with words, plunging into metaliterature with frequent changes of register, leaps in time, invented words and disorienting recursion, to the extent that Mark Sarvas compares his sentences to "wild music, an aural manifestation of Internet traffic". Talking to him is mathematician Claudio Bartocci (*Dimostrare l'impossibile*), whose "business" is numbers.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**1 1 5** 19:00 • CONSERVATORIO DI MUSICA "CAMPIANI" • € 6,00

**Jane Sautière** and **Elvira Seminarà**



### CLOTHES

With clothes as their literary *topoi*, Jane Sautière and Elvira Seminarà may dialogue at a distance but their *entente* is close indeed. In her witty memoir *Dressing*, the French writer shows with cosmopolitan awareness how clothes belong to us and define us. In *L'atlante degli abiti smessi* the Italian writer describes how clothes can repair a relationship between mother and daughter. The two writers have made literary success out of describing what we wear and reflecting on life and the past through the fabrics we use to wrap our bodies in every day.

**The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**1 1 6** 19:15 SEMINARIO VESCOVILE • € 6,00

**Slavenka Drakulić** and **Elvira Mujčić**

### TWO GENERATIONS, A WAR, A COUNTRY THAT IS NO LONGER

"We all noticed the signs, but none of us thought there would be a war, not even those in government at the time". Croatian writer and journalist Slavenka Drakulić is one of the most authoritative and respected voices of the former country of Yugoslavia. She masterfully describes the changes that have devastated the Balkans in recent decades, from the fall of the communist regimes to the war crime trials at The Hague after the tragic conflict that led to the dissolution of the region and the birth of new independent nations. The author of *Cafè Europa: Life after Communism*, *Frida's bed* and the recent *Mileva Einstein, a Theory of Sadness*, meets Elvira Mujčić (*Consigli per essere un bravo immigrato*, *Dieci prugne ai fascisti*) her translator. Mujčić herself was a witness of war – after surviving in Srebrenica she moved to Italy from Bosnia at the age of fourteen. Two generations exchange their views on the need to come to terms with the past.

**The author will speak in Croatian. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**1 1 8** 20:45 • AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00

**Natascha Wodin** and **Alessandro Zaccuri**

### IN SEARCH OF THE PAST

Natascha Wodin's books delve back in time into history and memory. In *She came from Mariupol* the great German writer miraculously finds on the Internet a trace of her mother, who has been dead for decades. There begins a thrilling investigation into the fate of her own family, dispersed by the politics and wars of the twentieth century, and highlighting the diaspora of millions of Slavs who were uprooted and made stateless. In conversation with Alessandro Zaccuri, Natascha Wodin looks for an explanation for this need to find her own origins and history.

**The author will speak in German. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



20:45 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00



hidden pages

### BADIOU

by Rohan Kalyan and Gorav Kalyan, USA/France, 2018, 83 mins. (in English and French with Italian subtitles)

Italian preview

Nietzsche wrote that every philosophy is always a biography of its thinker. The life of Alain Badiou suggests that the opposite can also be true: from his birth in Morocco to the events of May 1968 in Paris, up to his last years as a nomadic intellectual, Badiou's own biography is perhaps his most complex and stimulating work. The Kalyan brothers have made the first feature film on one of the greatest living philosophers. Facing the contradictions in Badiou's life through film, the directors confront the intrinsic ambivalences of cinema itself: thought and action, interiority and exteriority, presence and absence. To add a sense of empathy, clarity, and criticism to their complex subject, they must also ask themselves a question as old as the medium itself: can cinema think?

1 2 0 21:00 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 6,00



Pino Costalunga with the participation of Virgijl Muçi

**THE EVENING TALE**

Albanian fairy tales

ADULTS AND CHILDREN age 4 up

When the sun goes down, everything is quiet at Casa del Mantegna... Everything? Perhaps not. A little light goes on in a room on the ground floor, and a voice begins "Once upon a time...". Three long-suffering readers take turns in telling a last story to children not quite ready to turn out the light.

**The event will be in Italian.**

**With the support of the Ministry of Culture of Albania and the Municipality of Tirana.**



21:00 • PIAZZA LEON BATTISTA ALBERTI • free admission



Caspar Henderson and Telmo Pievani

with the editorial board of **Il Tascabile****STORIES OF NATURE**

common thoughts



The impact of the human being on the health of the planet is now global and risks being irreversible in many respects. In the era of the Anthropocene, what should our relationship with the environment and animals be? What is our place in a world of such rapid change? Covering history, biology and literature, the conversation between Caspar Henderson (*The book of barely imagined beings*) and Telmo Pievani (*Homo sapiens*) will address the question of how our gaze on nature has changed, from Alexander von Humboldt to the present.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

*Common thoughts: Festivaletteratura has kept a space for some of the most dynamic and courageous Italian cultural magazines, on paper and digital. A space to compare different ideas and to generate new ones*

1 2 2 21:00 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

Colson Whitehead and Stas' Gawronski

**REINVENTING AMERICA**

"Colson Whitehead's novels - wrote *The New York Times* - are rebellious creatures: each one of them goes to great lengths to break free of the last one, of its structure and language, of its areas of interest. At the same time, they all have one thing in common - the will to work within a recognizable tract of popular culture". This certainly also applies to *The underground railroad*, a work that in 2017 earned the American author the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, and to the recent *The nickel boys*. Cleverly interweaving real and imagined events, Whitehead reinvents the America of slavery, segregation and racial conflict, and the yearning for equality that pervade the country. Whitehead's books provide compelling metaphors of a nation marked by constant tension and raw, open wounds. He talks to journalist Stas' Gawronski.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

1 2 4 21:30 • TEATRO BIBIENA • € 12,00 PRE

Elina Duni

**PARTIR**

concert

Farewells are shot through with themes old and new: from Albania to Italy, from Macedonia to Portugal, the voices of those who leave bear uncompromising witness to the heartrending pain of abandonment. The popular songs of Albania, Kosovo and other Balkan regions inform the vast repertoire of the Albanian multi-instrumentalist and jazz singer Elina Duni. One of the most intense voices on the new European music scene, albums like *Matanë Malit* and the recent *Partir* rework these melodies. Her most recent project *Partir* features Elena as a soloist. Consolidating her highly personal search for expression in a continuous play of references and beauty, it blends tradition with classic hits like *Amara terra mia* and *Meu amor*.

**With the support of the Ministry of Culture of Albania and the Municipality of Tirana.**





## Pagine Nascoste

i film di Festivaletteratura

## Hidden Pages

ON TOUR\*

The collection of documentary films about books, writers and writing that over the years has become one of the most popular events at Festivaletteratura is now finally available all year, all over Italy.

CineAgenzia and Festivaletteratura provide a catalogue of films screened at the most recent editions of Hidden pages. These are available for hire by cinemas, associations, libraries, schools, universities, and other cultural organisations.

Part of the Festivaletteratura programme for fifteen years, turning a love of literature, reading and writing into images, the **Hidden pages** documentaries appeal to both experienced readers and younger audiences.

Titles range from biographies of great authors to the discovery of unrecognised writers, from a celebration of the classics to the exploration of some of the most singular contexts in which the written word has originated.

Documentaries available include the inspiring biographies, *Regarding Susan Sontag and Vita Activa - The Spirit of Hannah Arendt*; fascinating portraits like *End and Beginning - Meeting Wislawa Szymborska*, *Lawnswood Gardens: A Portrait of Zygmunt Bauman*, or *Dreaming Murakami and The Poetess*, as well as the long-awaited films of the 2019 edition, including *The Miracle of the Little Prince* on the book's translators and *The Invented Biography* about the great novelist *Roberto Bolaño*.



### For information

**CineAgenzia**  
info@cineagenzia.it  
T 049.8162220  
T 347.5781713

**Festivaletteratura**  
segreteria@festivaletteratura.it  
T 0376.362575

# SATURDAY

## 7 September 2019

SPACES OPEN ALL DAY • 10:00 > 20:00



### SCIENCEGROUND 1.5 - MICROBES

LICEO "ISABELLA D'ESTE" • day ticket € 2,00 • SEE P.11



### A CITY IN BOOKS: TIRANA

TENDA DEI LIBRI • admission free • SEE P.11



### MERRY-GO-ROUND

CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 5,00 • SEE P.11  
ages (4) to (12)



### READ ON STATION

CONSORZIO DI BONIFICA • admission free • SEE P.12  
ages (12) to (19)

1 2 7

10:00 • PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

Valeria Luiselli and Michela Murgia

### THE ECHO COLLECTOR

Appearing on the Bogotá39 list of the thirty-nine most promising Latin American authors under the age of 39, with her novel *Lost Children Archive* Valeria Luiselli rightly earns a place among the major voices of contemporary literature. She describes the marriage of a young couple of documentary filmmakers who leave for a long work trip from New York to Arizona with their respective children, in a way that manages to be both ruthless and empathic. Valeria Luiselli successfully adapts and individualises the narrative form of the novel to speak of present day dramas (children held in detention centres on the border between Mexico and the United States) and those of the past (the extermination of Native Americans), while at the same time addressing the complex web of feelings that make a family and the relationship between parents and children. The Mexican writer discusses with Michela Murgia (*Chirù, Noi siamo tempesta*) how this deeply moving and meaningful novel came about and how the potential of literature is infinite.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.



NOVELLINI

1 2 8

10:00 • PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00



Jonathan Safran Foer and Carlo Annessi

### WE ARE THE WEATHER

At a time when the spotlight is on the urgent question of climate change, we are obliged to radically rethink what, as individuals and as a community, we need to do to reverse the course of a situation that may already be out of hand. American author Jonathan Safran Foer holds the future of this world particularly dear and his earlier book - *Eating animals* - explored the relationship between eating meat and its impact on the environment. Convinced that we should not resign ourselves to the critical situation of our planet, but that we should actively participate in its preservation, Foer reflects once again on the issue in his latest book *We Are the Weather*, saving the planet begins at breakfast, and, together with journalist Carlo Annessi he will discuss the sacrifices necessary for the Earth to continue to be a hospitable home for all species.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

Smurfit Kappa  
Open the future

1 2 9 10:00 • CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA • € 6,00

Benjamin Taylor

### CAPRI REVISITED

Capri was a refuge in antiquity and again in modern times.

From Augustus Caesar and Tiberius on, a myth accreted: Capri was where you could be whom you chose to be. Capri was where the hidden self could be released. In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, especially, the island acquired its share of strange inhabitants, most in flight from a world that had become too much for them. And the story continues. The American author Benjamin Taylor will share his thoughts on this fascinating island.

The event will be in English without interpretation.

 Rangoni & Affini  
S.p.A.

1 3 5 10:30 • TEATRO BIBIENA • € 6,00

Wole Soyinka and Massimo Raffaeli

### VOICES OF DISOBEDIENCE

Two-hundred-and-seventy-six Chibok girl students were kidnapped in 2014 by the Islamic fundamentalists of Boko Haram. Leah, one of them, a fifteen year old Christian is still a prisoner of the jihadists. With a long history of fighting for civil rights, Nobel Prize winner Wole Soyinka returns to poetry with *Mandela comes to Leah* where two voices of disobedience - those of Leah and Nelson Mandela - reveal how potent a single 'no' can be to fundamentalism and violence. In these lines, Soyinka depicts how religion in thrall to power can be ferocious - capable of reducing men and women to slavery. He talks to literary critic Massimo Raffaeli.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

Julius Meinl 

1 3 6 10:30 • CONSERVATORIO DI MUSICA "CAMPIONI" • € 6,00

Éric Chevillard and Marcello Fois

### PLAYING WITH NARRATION

If you are struck by a desire to look at things from a different perspective, it may not be necessary to go and live upside down like the characters in Éric Chevillard's *On the Ceiling*. However, the French writer will certainly help you spend time in a world where normal takes on a whole new meaning. Master of the surreal - defined by some as the heir to Queneau and Jarry - Chevillard skilfully deals with complex themes with a bizarre humour, gleefully dissecting the inexhaustible potential of literature and distorting recurring motifs and stereotypes. Which shelf for the author of *On the Hedgehog*? The narrator from La Roche-sur-Yon will discuss with Italian Marcello Fois his polymorphic and unconventional identity, and his delight in playing with the reader.

The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.



10:30 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

hidden pages

### THE INVENTED BIOGRAPHY (SEE P.19)

by Nicolás Lasnibat, Chile/France, 2018, 95 mins.

 Camera di Commercio  
Mantova

1 3 7 11:00 • MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00

Annette Herzog and Rasmus Bregnhøj

with Stefania Bertola

### LOVE MAKES FOOLS OF US ALL

age 14 up

What fools we make of ourselves when we're in love! Which may be why writer Annette Herzog and illustrator Rasmus Bregnhøj have decided to explore the subject in their graphic novel. *Hjertestorm* tells the story of Storm and Viola who meet at school every day, have a soft spot for each other but lack the nerve to admit it. It is a love story - in fact, it is what happens before a love story. It is the behind the scenes of relationships between adolescents, what they think and feel when they realise they're in love and experiencing sexual attraction for the first time. The other person may be interested back, or they may laugh at them... But isn't that the beauty of falling in love? Italian writer Stefania Bertola joins the author and the illustrator.

The authors will speak in Danish. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

With the support of the Danish Arts Foundation.

12:15 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

hidden pages

### THE FINAL ADVENTURE OF KAKTUS KID (SEE P.19)

by Đorđe Marković, Serbia, 2018, 62 mins.

 Camera di Commercio  
Mantova

14:00 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

hidden pages

### WORLDS OF URSULA K. LE GUIN (SEE P.13)

by Arwen Curry, USA, 2018, 68 mins.

 Camera di Commercio  
Mantova

1 4 3 14:30 • PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

John Freeman and Valeria Luiselli

### MAP OF WONDERS

John Freeman, literary critic, editor and poet, as well as former president of the National Books Critics Circle and former editor of *Granta*, founded his magazine *Freeman's* four years ago. A point of reference among literary journals since September 2015, it has hosted contributions by authors Haruki Murakami, Colum McCann, Herta Müller, Patrick Modiano and Aleksandar Hemon, and many more. Freeman has helped new literary talents along their way and in one case, went even further: *Tell me how it ends, an essay in forty questions* by Valeria Luiselli originated as a short essay commissioned for the magazine which was then developed into a book. John Freeman will share the Festival stage to talk with her about his wonderful job, and how he is lucky enough to know, and work with, some of the greatest contemporary writers.

The authors will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

 Camera di Commercio  
Mantova

1 4 6 14:30 • MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00

Lorenzo Ghetti and Tony Sandoval with Chiara Codecà

**BRAVE CARTOONISTS**

**READ ON MY LIFE IN STRIPS**  
 ages (12) to (19)

It takes courage not to ignore the injustices we see around us and to decide to take them on. It also takes courage to pick up a pencil and tell it like it is, creating a story that touches the heart – and the intelligence – of those around us, while trying to be humorous or at least not banal. *Courage to care* is the theme of the *My life in strips* competition which has involved hundreds of young people throughout Europe in 2019. Two masters of the drawing board – Lorenzo Ghetti and Tony Sandoval – exchange ideas with some of the young people who have tried their hand at this challenge involving the everyday courage to write about themselves and the things they care about most. The event is coordinated by Chiara Codecà, an expert in cross-media and fantasy literature.

**Tony Sandoval will speak in Spanish. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



1 4 8 14:30 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 8,00

Andriy Lesiv and Romana Romanyshyn

**POSTCARDS FOR THE EYES**

relief printing workshop

ages (8) to (10)

Lights, shadows, shapes, colours: a sight for sore eyes! Andriy Lesiv and Romana Romanyshyn, authors of *I See That* take us on a short journey through the universe of the visible, among primary colours and colour pictures, mirrors and illusionism, binoculars, microscopes, telescopes, periscopes and everything that enhances and magnifies our ability to see. And as with any self-respecting journey, there will be the chance to make a picture postcard using the technique of relief printing. That way you can be sure to take at least one picture home to those who didn't see with their own eyes.

**The authors will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



1 4 9 14:45 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 6,00

Andrew Clements and Marco Malvaldi

**CHANGING THE RULES OF THE GAME**

ages (9) to (14)

His talent at giving a voice to young readers struggling with their anything but banal everyday lives is what has made Andrew Clements one of the most highly acclaimed and most read authors for teenagers. This brings us to Allen in *The Losers Club*, fighting against the strict rules at his school that stop him reading and Greta having to reconsider the dynamics of her friendship with Ellen in *The Friendship War*. The American author encourages us not to give up and to stay ourselves, perhaps changing instead the rules of the game. He talks to his great admirer Marco Malvaldi.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



15:30 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

hidden pages

**THE MIRACLE OF THE LITTLE PRINCE** (SEE P.13)

by Marjolaine Boonstra, The Netherlands, 2018, 89 mins.



1 5 3 16:00 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

Éric Vuillard and Siegmund Ginzberg

**IS HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF?**

We don't know what Éric Vuillard's favourite subject was

at school, but looking at his literary production might just give us some idea. Over the past decade, the writer and director from Lyon has adopted the line of historical research in novel form, in which – passing through pre-Columbian America and the conquest of the West – he uses black comedy to recount the past, comparing it to the current situation in France and Europe, between *gilets jaunes* and the rise of the new far-right. This is what happens for example in *The Order of the Day*, winner of the 2017 Prix Goncourt, where the background to the narration is the invasion of Austria by Nazi Germany, or in *The War of the Poor*, about to be published in English, which addresses the issue of anger generated by inequality, through the figure of revolutionary priest Thomas Müntzer. With him will be Siegmund Ginzberg, who in his recent *Sindrome 1933* examined the analogies that perilously unite the present with the past.

**The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

1 5 5 16:00 • AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00

Sally C. Davies and Angelo Pan

**IS WESTERN MEDICINE COMING TO AN END?**

When the highest medical authority warns that medicines no longer work, it's time to prick up our ears. What has changed since the discovery of penicillin in the 20th century and the medical revolution that came with it? The results of the investigation by Sally C. Davies – the first woman to hold the post of Chief Medical Officer for England and author of *The Drugs Don't Work* – speak for themselves: microbes counterattack, and the more we abuse anti-microbial drugs the more resistant they become to them. This is already a real global threat on a par with climate change, and it affects the daily life of those who unfortunately suffer from multi-resistant infections, often right inside the hospitals. She will be speaking to Angelo Pan, director of the Infectious Diseases Department at Cremona Hospital.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

1 5 8 16:45 • PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00

Abraham B. Yehoshua and Wlodek Goldkorn

**LISTENING TO THE SOUL AND NOT THE BRAIN**

"I am a novelist because I am convinced that literature allows us to express complex ideas, giving life and voice to real characters and narrating existential situations". One of Israel's most highly acclaimed authors, Abraham B. Yehoshua has left his mark on the last forty years of world literature, starting with *The Lover* – published in 1977 and now studied in Israeli high schools – right up to the very recent *The Tunnel*, examining the historical events of a land in constant conflict, with characteristically subtle irony and his own personal lay vision. Describing himself as a writer of "themes and not worlds", he has brought to life the great cities he has lived in, imbuing Jerusalem and Tel Aviv with powerful symbolic and surrealist elements that, as in the best Jewish tradition, offer ideas for multilevel interpretation. Almost fifteen years later Yehoshua returns to Festivaletteratura with journalist Wlodek Goldkorn (*La scelta di Abramo, Identità ebraiche e Post-modernità*), to talk about national identity, future projects and multiculturalism.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**With the support of the Israeli Embassy.**

**1 5 9** 16:45 • PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00



**Gilles Kepel** and **Azzurra Meringolo**  
**SEPARATE WORLDS INSIDE CITIES**

This is how French sociologist Gilles Kepel defines the “counter-communities” in which Islamic terrorism grows within the urban centres of our continent. A leading expert on the Arab world in Europe and the history of the Middle East, Kepel has long analysed what he himself calls “the rift”, an imaginary crack in European society that third-generation jihadists seek to magnify from within, while also taking advantage of the migration phenomenon which, although not directly related to terrorism, serves to fuel the flames of populism and the far-right movements. In conversation with journalist Azzurra Meringolo, the author of *Sortir du chaos. Les crises en Méditerranée et au Moyen-Orient* will discuss the consequences of the Arab spring, the political choices that await us and why the Mediterranean acting as a bridge between two cultures is crucial. “But the bridge is not an object in itself. The bridge starts from one point to arrive at another [...] the question is to define the point of arrival”.

**The event will be in Italian.**

**1 6 0** 16:45 • TEATRO BIBIENA • € 6,00



**Nawal Al-Sa'dawi** and **Elisabetta Bartuli**  
**HUMAN, WOMAN, WRITER, DISSIDENT**

Defined by the Guardian as “the leading spokeswoman on the status of women in the Arab world”, the name of the event is how the Egyptian activist and psychiatrist Nawal Al-Sa'awi describes herself. Outspokenly critical of the political and religious authorities of her country since the end of the sixties, Al-Sa'dawi has always challenged the conventions of a patriarchal world that has tried in every way to silence her, through prison, censorship and physical and psychological abuse. Dealing with the relationship between female sexuality and religion, her books speak out uncompromisingly about fundamentalism and gender inequalities, shedding new light on the power of women and resistance. For the first time a guest at the Festival, the author of the recent *Memoirs of a Woman Doctor* converses with expert on Arab literature Elisabetta Bartuli, retracing the fascinating stages of a life spent challenging the boundaries imposed by family and society, without ever losing hope... “because hope is power”.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**1 6 1** 16:45 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 6,00



**Huck Scarry** and **Sualzo**  
**SCARRY AND SON INC.**

**ADULTS AND CHILDREN** age 3 up

Huck Scarry hand draws the characters and settings created by his father Richard Scarry, whose books have given joy to generations of children. Telling stories of animals that live and behave like humans, his characters have names and nicknames, live in houses like ours, often in town. They go to work and have fun. So why don't you drop by and meet Lowly worm?

**The event will be in Italian.**

**1 6 2** 17:00 • MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00



**Jonathan Stroud** and **Licia Troisi**  
**WHEN THE FANS TAKE OVER**

**READ ON FANFICTION LAB**  
 ages 12 to 19

What if stories didn't belong just to their author but also to the readers who loved them? This is the challenge of the Read On Fanfiction Lab, which asks young readers aged 12 to 19 to take their favourite stories and imagine new developments, invent new adventures, characters and settings on the Read On website. Indispensable to this first edition is Jonathan Stroud, who offered up his *Bartimaeus Sequence* so that young European fanwriters could try their hand at developing new stories set in the fantasy world of the cheeky djinni Bartimaeus, the young apprentice magician Nathaniel and the mysterious Kitty Jones. To talk about fanfics and their relationship with the most creative of their fans, Jonathan Stroud will meet Licia Troisi, queen of Italian Fantasy and a fan of the British author's sagas.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

17:15 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00



**hidden pages**  
**YOURS IN SISTERHOOD** (SEE P.21)  
 by Irene Lusztig, USA, 2018, 101 mins.

**1 6 8** 18:15 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

**Gail Honeyman** and **Paola Saluzzi**  
**A DREAM LONG SOUGHT AFTER**



Perhaps one of the biggest publishing sensations in recent years, Scottish author Gail Honeyman could herself be the character of a story with a perfect plot – propelled from her job as an administrator at Glasgow University to being fought over by major publishing houses at the Frankfurt Book Fair. Her first book is Britain's best-selling debut novel of all time. Published in over thirty countries, it won the Costa First Novel Award and the film version is set to be released this year. An example of the new trend of feel-good literature or Up-Lit, as inspiring and uplifting literature is now termed, Honeyman's writing is however profound and touching, capturing accurately what loneliness is like and the impact small gestures of kindness can have on everyday life. TV anchor woman Paola Saluzzi meets the author of *Eleanor Oliphant Is Absolutely Fine*.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**1 6 9** 18:30 • AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00

**Nicolas Mathieu** and **Marco Filoni**  
**ALLONS ENFANTS**



Nicolas Mathieu's relationship with literature started when he was given a typewriter at the age of eight. In 2018 he won the Prix Goncourt with *The Children Who Came After Them*, a portrait of the young generation of a provincial and angry France, of lost jobs and hopes; a France that cannot foresee any future for itself. Not so unlike other provinces in Europe affected by the decline in industrialisation. Brilliantly authentic when describing relationships and the barriers between the different classes, Mathieu carves out “a social fresco that shines with tragic light”, where all too often the nation appears united only during major sporting events. He talks to journalist and philosopher Marco Filoni, an expert on France and French life.

**The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

1 7 3 19:00 • TEATRO BIBIENA • € 6,00

**Annalena McAfee** and **Gaia Manzini**  
**AGAINST THE BOREDOM VIRUS**

"Like many journalists I had always wanted to write a novel and the occasion presented itself while I was in a remote area of Scotland, without Wi-Fi and without television. The evening entertainment consisted of reading with my husband, so I started writing a story...". Passionate about journalism, where she worked for over thirty years, this is how Annalena McAfee remembers taking her first steps in the literary world while at the time writing for *The Guardian* and *The Financial Times*. Talking about a universe she knows well - whether it be Scotland or an editorial office - her first works for adults (*The Spoiler, Hame*) focus on the theme of identity and a return to roots, as she ingeniously manages to create fictitious worlds that become real characters in the story. She meets writer Gaia Manzini.

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.



1 7 6 19:15 • PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00

**Manuel Vilas** and **Donatella Di Pietrantonio**  
**PUTTING TOGETHER THE PARTS OF THE WRECK**

"We never tell the whole truth, because if we did we would shatter the universe, which works through what is reasonable, what is bearable". Is it possible to reconstruct through literature the fragments left over from the sinking of one's own existence? This is what Spanish writer Manuel Vilas did, turning the wreck of his life following the death of his parents and the breakup of his marriage into a sharp and painful (self) narrative. The result was a novel that became an unexpected literary sensation, first at home and then in Italy; a story so intimate and personal as to resonate powerfully with all its readers. Together with Donatella Di Pietrantonio, his devotee, the author of *Ordesa* will talk about what remains after the loss of one's affections and how literature can help us find a place in our present for the past.

The author will speak in Spanish. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.



19:15 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

hidden pages

**ZURITA, YOU WILL SEE NOT TO SEE** (SEE P.27)

by Alejandra C. Cannobbio, Chile, 2018, 75 mins.



1 7 7 19:15 • CONSERVATORIO DI MUSICA "CAMPIANI" • € 6,00

**Fatos Kongoli** and **Bruno Gambarotta**  
**STONE SOLITUDES**

"In the case of a writer, silence is hard if not impossible to follow. For a writer, not writing is like dying." Highly acclaimed Albanian author Fatos Kongoli began to receive huge critical success towards the end of the twentieth century. His work has been compared on more than one occasion to authors such as Kafka, Dostoevsky and Solzhenitsyn. His narrative is pervaded with the thrills of love, flashes of madness, and visions of life that are at once tragic and mocking. The whole is set against the backdrop of an Albania that from the fall of the dictatorship to the present, like the characters brought to life by this unique novelist, continues to reinvent itself, overcoming new and old wounds. Journalist and writer Bruno Gambarotta will be there to talk to him.

The author will speak in Albanian. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

With the support of the Ministry of Culture of Albania and the Municipality of Tirana.



1 7 8 19:30 • CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA • € 6,00

**John Freeman**

**RUNNING IN CITIES**

For the past 25 years, with some breaks in between, John Freeman has lived in cities. He has also spent a good portion of that time running. Some days it is only 5 kilometers, while other days he doesn't stop until nearly halfway to a marathon. This way of being in the world has completely altered his sense of time and space, and has taught him how to look at cities from the speed of a human animal, rather than a car, bus or subway. In his talk he will reflect upon what it means to move through a city at this pace, and what different cities have shown him.

The event will be in English without interpretation.



1 8 1 21:00 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

**Maryanne Wolf** and **Alberto Manguel**

with **Alessandro Zaccuri**

**HOW WE BECAME READERS**

Maryanne Wolf (*Reader, come home*) and Alberto Manguel (*Packing My Library*) have dedicated their lives and studies to reading, one analysing it from the scientific point of view, the other from a historical, cultural and sociological one. The cognitive neuroscientist and the "living library" meet in Mantova to tell us how books accompany our lives right from childhood, not only leaving us almost in love with certain pages, but even altering the neural networks in our brain. After all, reading is not natural to humankind but an invention. The challenge in today's society is to adapt to a digital world that is radically changing our approach to the way we use the written word, especially in the younger generations overwhelmed by the distractions and the immediacy of the Web. Learn more, along with writer and journalist Alessandro Zaccuri (*Come non letto*), about a phenomenon as ancient as it is extraordinarily complex.

The authors will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

With the support of the Canadian Embassy.



21:00 • TENDA SORDELLO free admission

**Amy Brady** and **Fabio Deotto** with the editorial staff of **la Balena Bianca**

**CLIMATE FICTION: DYSTOPIA ROUND THE CORNER accents**

Literature has often had the ability to predict danger and issue warnings to humanity through the surreal or science-fiction. *Climate fiction* is a recent example. Introducing this literary phenomenon applauded the world over are (via Skype) Amy Brady, Editor-in-Chief of the Chicago Review of Books, and Fabio Deotto (*Un attimo prima*).

The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.



21:00 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00

hidden pages

**DER BAUER ZU NATHAL: KEIN FILM ÜBER THOMAS BERNHARD** (SEE P.26)

by David Baldinger and Matthias Greuling, Austria, 2018, 90 mins.



1 8 3 21:15 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

David Nicholls and Marta Bacigalupo  
**THE NOVEL WITH THE PERFECT  
 SCREENPLAY**

UnipolSai  
ASSICURAZIONE Divisione **SAI**

Celebrating the failures of others is never a good thing, but the fact that a mediocre acting career prompted David Nicholls to throw himself body and soul into writing and screenwriting can only make millions of readers rejoice. Worldwide. A huge fan of Shakespeare and Dickens, the British writer has, right from the start, blended these literary influences with the language of cinema, skilfully choosing the ingredients for the perfect sentimental comedy (*Starter for Ten, One day*). It is hardly surprising then that several of his darkly humorous and never impossibly romantic works have been taken up by Hollywood. Pressed by Marta Bacigalupo, the author of the recent *Sweet Sorrow* will answer with characteristic British aplomb in a crescendo worthy of the best novel.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

# SUNDAY

## 8 September 2019

SPACES OPEN ALL DAY • 10:00 &gt; 20:00



### SCIENCEGROUND 1.5 - MICROBES

LICEO "ISABELLA D'ESTE" • day ticket € 2,00 • SEE P.11



### A CITY IN BOOKS: TIRANA

TENDA DEI LIBRI • admission free • SEE P.11



### MERRY-GO-ROUND

CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 5,00 • SEE P.11

ages (4) to (12)



### READ ON STATION

CONSORZIO DI BONIFICA • admission free • SEE P.12

ages (12) to (19)

1 8 7 10:00 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

**BUSTAFFA**  
 FLOROVIVAISTI DAL 1896

Salvatore Scibona and Stas' Gawronski

### MODERN EPIC

After his account of Italian immigrants in the United States in *The End* Salvatore Scibona returns to Mantova with a new book, whose title fits Festaletteratura perfectly: *The Volunteer*. After being on the 2010 list of *The New Yorker's* top 20 writers under 40 and a finalist for the Man Booker Prize, Scibona is now director of The New York Public Library's Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers. With his second novel it is hard not to be left awestruck by his ability to create expansive and articulated epic worlds, in which the lives of the individual characters go on to make history. "Everyone has their own story and it's far more complex than history. History is a suitcase we put people into out of convenience, but it is always a mistake to deduce a person from history. Only the other way round is possible."

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

1 8 9 10:00 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

Meg Wolitzer and Lella Costa

### I'M A FEMINIST, I WRITE FEMINIST

**PARMIGIANO  
 REGGIANO**

"Books by men still have big letters on the cover, so you feel this book is an event but books by women still have covers that look like what I call "little girl in a field of wheat". Her own book covers also reflect Meg Wolitzer's attitude to gender equality, which the American author has been pursuing for years through her works (*The Wife, The Female Persuasion*), examining at intergenerational level the past and future of feminism. Accompanied by Lella Costa (*Ciò che possiamo fare*), always fervent about the gender issue, Meg Wolitzer will open up to the public, on a journey into her poetics and her thoughts as a writer.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

1 9 4

10:00 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 8,00



Andriy Lesiv and Romana Romanyshyn

**POSTCARDS FOR THE EARS**

relief printing workshop

ages (8) to (10)

Big Bang! At the origin of the universe was a huge din – a blast so strong it popped the eardrums. And since then everything has continued to make noise, to whistle and to yell out loud. Andriy Lesiv and Romana Romanyshyn (*Loudly, Softly, in a Whisper*) explain to us what waves, frequencies and tones are, how animals hear things we don't (and vice versa), how noise became music and our voice turned into word. And those who have listened to everything carefully won't have any trouble printing their postcard on the marvels of sound. They will of course play it by ear!

**The authors will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

1 9 5

10:00 • SEMINARIO VESCOVILE • € 6,00



Caspar Henderson and Marco Di Domenico

**HAVE YOU EVER SEEN AN AXOLOTL?**

Man is only a small part of the immensity of nature and the contrast between what we know and what we don't understand about other living species is as deep as the ocean. The wonders of creation extend beyond even the wildest of fantasies, and if the medieval bestiaries – or Borges himself, in *The Book of Imaginary Beings* – had imagined fantastic and mythological animals with no holds barred, British writer and journalist Caspar Henderson was inspired by these works to show us how our notions and skills are too incomplete to fully grasp the unimaginable diversity of a whole host of living forms. The author of *The book of barely imagined beings*, a work of philosophical scope in that it helps us experience multiplicity, takes a metaphorical journey with biologist Marco Di Domenico (*Il mondo segreto degli insetti*), from the ocean depths to the most inhospitable deserts, discovering beings whose appearance or existence we knew nothing about.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

10:15 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00



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**THE MIRACLE OF THE LITTLE PRINCE** (SEE P.13)

by Marjoleine Boonstra, The Netherlands, 2018, 89 mins.



11:00 • PIAZZA MANTEGNA • free admission

Lynn Chiu

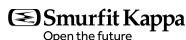
**MICROBES: GOOD AND/OR EVIL**

blackboards - scienceground 1.5

Just a few years ago microbes were feared in the public discourse (you better wash your hands for thirty seconds!), but infections were reasonably under control. Now everybody likes them (you better eat probiotic yogurt to enhance your gut microbiome!), but multiresistant strands threaten Western medicine as we know it.

**The event will be in English without interpretation.**

*Blackboards are open air talks by experts and researchers, parts of a free universal encyclopaedia to collect at each edition of the Festival.*



12:00 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00



hidden pages

**BADIOU** (SEE P.29)

by Rohan Kalyan and Gorav Kalyan, USA/France, 2018, 83 mins.

2 0 1

12:15 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

Bernhard Schlink and Marilia Piccone

**OUT LOUD**

Bernhard Schlink is one of Germany's most acclaimed writers. He is known in particular for his defining European novel *The Reader*, on which the film of the same name with Kate Winslet and Ralph Fiennes was based. Translated into some 40 languages, the novel spent a long time at the top of the international sales charts and won numerous awards including the Hans Fallada Preis and WELT-Literaturpreis in Germany, and the Prix Laure Bataillon in France. With *Olga* Schlink returns to the subject of Germany before and after the Second World War, while in *Summer Lies* he offers the reader a series of stories that address the question of truth. He will be talking to Marilia Piccone about how literature can and should be a profound reflection on the recent past.

**The author will speak in German. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



12:15 • MUSEO DIOCESANO • free admission

Nicholas Mathieu

**READ ON BLURANDEVÙ**

By the age of fourteen, Nicholas Mathieu had a clear idea of what he was going to do: lift anchor, leave what he considered an unbearable life in the provinces and escape a social order that does not contemplate change. The characters in his novels have that same yearning. The France he depicts in *Aux animaux la guerre* and *The Children Who Came After Them* (recent winner of the Prix Goncourt) is a tired, depressed and angry nation that has lost its ability to dream. And where the furrow between a life of precarity and the privileged classes is becoming deeper and deeper. An extremely familiar world, and perhaps invisible for this reason, to which he has decided to devote his full attention as a writer, combining an interest in social themes with a more intimate style and looking for literary references to Annie Ernaux and Gustave Flaubert. With a vocation for writing, social anger and youthful impulses, Nicholas Mathieu takes the microphone at blurandevù.

**The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

Cultura,  
vale la spesa.

2 0 4

12:15 • PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO • € 6,00

Frédéric Gros and Donatella di Cesare with Elettra Stimilli

**AFFIRMING HUMANITY**

It is by analyzing the different types of obedience that one achieves the means to study, invent and bring about new forms of disobedience – civic dissent and poetic transgression. Today nothing should be taken for granted – not acquired certainties nor social conventions, nor economic relations, nor moral conventions. When philosophical thought enjoins us not to give in to approximations and commonplaces, it is then that it helps us regain a sense of political responsibility. When decisions by the experts are a series of dispassionate statistics and anonymous calculations, disobeying becomes an affirmation of humanity. Frédéric Gros, author of *On Disobedience*, talks to Donatella di Cesare (*Philosophy as Political Vocation*). Philosopher Elettra Stimilli will be conducting the event.

**The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

2 0 5 12:30 • SEMINARIO VESCOVILE • € 6,00



Alan Hollinghurst and Peter Florence

**THE MASTER STORYTELLER**

Defined by John Banville as a master of storytelling, the polished English writer Alan Hollinghurst, winner in 2004 of the Man Booker Prize for *The Line of Beauty*, confirms his literary talent with his new novel *The Sparsholt Affair*. Heir to the great tradition of English fiction from Maugham to Waugh, Hollinghurst manages both to describe his country and the complexity of the human soul with elegance and style. He talks to Peter Florence, director of the Hay Festival.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

2 0 6 12:30 • CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA • € 6,00

Manuel Vilas

**LOS LIBROS DE LA VIDA**

Vida y literatura: la principal alianza. La literatura al servicio de la vida. Las tradiciones literarias clásicas y contemporáneas: de Cervantes a Kafka. Manuel Vilas nos guía a través de los grandes temas de la literatura, con una cala en la rabiosa actualidad: la literatura autobiográfica. Entre "autoficción" y "confesionalismo", el autor español nos hablará de novelas que hablan de la familia, de novelas de padres, madres e hijos. De literatura y duelo.

**The event will be in Spanish without interpretation.**



14:00 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00



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**THE INVENTED BIOGRAPHY** (SEE P.19)

by Nicolás Lasnibat, Chile/France, 2018, 95 mins.

2 0 9 14:30 • BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA • € 6,00

Geneviève Fraisse and Rosella Prezzo

**EXCLUSIVE DEMOCRACY AND ITS UPHEAVALS**

Geneviève Fraisse coined the expression "exclusive democracy" to indicate the original deception practiced at the dawn of the modern era by the French Revolution: equality between men and women. Her book *La sexualité du monde: réflexions sur l'émancipation* explains the failed and endless effort to demonstrate that equality actually exists. The author invites us, especially women, to consider how certain practices remain essential: the right to pleasure, subversive strategies, and women's empowerment as disruption to Western tradition. Geneviève Fraisse will be discussing these topics with philosopher Rosella Prezzo.

**The author will speak in French. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

**With the support of the Institut Français Italia.**



2 1 0 14:45 • SEMINARIO VESCOVILE • € 6,00

Peter T. Lang and Salvatore Scibona with Luca Molinari

**WORLD CITY: NEW YORK**

Can a metropolis gather the infinitely particular and the universal recognisable by all, thus becoming a world-city where anyone can find somewhere that suits them? New York brings together the obsession for hyper-modernity, a babel of races and thousands of stories sedimented by cinema, literature, photography and architecture. Writer Salvatore Scibona, architect Peter T. Lang and Luca Molinari will help us to wander freely on an exploratory tour through this labyrinth of modernity.

**The authors will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



2 1 3 15:00 • AULA MAGNA DELL'UNIVERSITÀ • € 6,00

Ece Temelkuran and Marco Damilano

**LIKE DAVID AND GOLIATH**

"Beware, populism and nationalism don't march fully-formed into government, they creep". With her vast social media following, Turkish writer and journalist Ece Temelkuran is one of the most influential European political voices of the moment. After long reflection on the collapse of democracies, and her own personal experience of Erdogan's rise to power, she analyses how the infantilisation of political storytelling used to gain consensus is identical in all countries. Her outspokenness about the government of Ankara has made her the object of a series of attacks by regime propaganda. Together with journalist Marco Damilano, the author of *How to Lose a Country: The Seven Warning Signs of Rising Populism* will analyse the possible developments of the constant political policies of today's Europe that risk "breaking the hearts of all".

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**

2 1 6 16:00 • PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00

Dave Eggers and Paolo Giordano

**READING IS KNOWLEDGE, WRITING IS POWER**

The much acclaimed and skilfully ironic narrator of today's America is at the same time an unsparing critic of the totalitarian and monopolistic tendencies of the great technological companies. Here at Festivaletteratura for the first time Dave Eggers, author of *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*, *The Circle* and his recent *The Parade*, has always had the knack of anticipating topics that would soon be on everyone's lips, posing moral questions centred on the clash between the emotionless soul of science and the empathic one of human beings, often unknowing pawns in a bigger game of "surveillance capitalism". The founder of the cult literary journal *McSweeney's* will be here with writer Paolo Giordano, to share with the audience what we've become... and where we're going.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



2 1 9 17:00 • SEMINARIO VESCOVILE • € 6,00



César E. Giraldo Herrera and Paulo Fernando Lévano

**MICROBES, NOT SPIRITS**

"These entities are related to the disease, they are pathogenic. They require nourishment, they grow, mature, and age; reproduce themselves prolifically". Seemingly the perfect description of microbes, whose deadly presence was first perceived in hospitals besieged by a fever that in the first decades of the nineteenth century wiped out countless new mothers and which later evolved into visible germs, thanks to Louis Pasteur and the microscope. And yet it is a description of the complex system of sensory experiences that the shamans of the Amerindian cultures associate with their medical practices, and which have hitherto been translated as "spirits". Anthropologist and biologist César E. Giraldo Herrera, associate researcher at the University of Oxford, challenges animistic interpretations, which at best allowed "spirits" to be sophisticated psychoanalytic constructions, arguing that a better translation in the Western vocabulary, respectful of the empiricism that characterises the close relationship with the nature of the Amazon populations, is that of "microbes". He talks to philosopher Paulo Fernando-Lévano, researcher and spokesperson for the small ExTemporanea scientific community.

**The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.**



2 2 0 17:00 • CASA DEL MANTEGNA • € 6,00



Huck Scarry and Frediano Sessi

**DRAWING ANNE FRANK**

CHILDREN AND ADULTS age 10 up

Thousands of young people from all over the world come to Amsterdam every year to visit the house where Anne Frank hid. It is an experience that leads to a lot of thought, as does reading her diary: was Anne afraid in her hiding place? who betrayed her? what is a concentration camp? how did the Nazis recognise Jews? Huck Scarry took on the task of answering in his own personal way, with detailed illustrations of Anne's daily life during her hiding (*All about Anne*). Entering her private world "was a tough job," Scarry said, but Anne still has a lot to tell us. The American illustrator talks to Frediano Sessi (*Il mio nome è Anne Frank*).

The event will be in Italian.

2 2 2 17:15 • CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA • € 6,00

Howard Jacobson and Peter Florence

**THE RISE OF ANTI-SEMITISM**

That we should be still discussing the prevalence of anti-Semitism, less than 75 years after the liberation of Auschwitz, is shameful. When Jews and Gentiles alike vowed "Never Again" there was, perhaps, some consciousness that "Never" is a long time. Humanity repeats its mistakes. But no one could have imagined that time would be running out on that promise quite so quickly. That, though, is where we are. Parties with an overt anti-Semitic agenda are once again prospering in many European countries. Jews in England talk of leaving if there is a Labour Government, so ingrained is Jew hating in its thinking. Is there any avoiding the terrible conclusion that anti-Semitism fulfils too many functions in the popular imagination – and indeed in the ideologies of political parties on the extreme right and left – ever to disappear? Starting from these pressing questions, award-winning British author Howard Jacobson and Hay Festival's director Peter Florence will discuss the present situation.

The event will be in English without interpretation.

2 2 3 17:15 • TEATRO BIBIENA • € 6,00



Fritjof Capra and Tiziano Fratus

**THE BOTANY OF LEONARDO**

"And although this is no use for painting, I will write it down so as not to leave things behind about trees." So wrote Leonardo da Vinci in his *Treatise on Painting* about the depiction of plants in paintings. Anticipating centuries of discoveries by scientists who came after him, the work of the Renaissance genius already comprised botanical notes on inflorescences, dendrochronology and the arrangement of leaves on a plant. Inspired by Leonardo's intuitions on the processes of the plant world, Austrian essayist Fritjof Capra (*The Tao of Physics*) analyses these studies in *Leonardo e la botanica* and *Discorso sulle erbe*, the latter written with scientist Stefano Mancuso, who with Capra has curated the exhibition *La botanica di Leonardo. Per una nuova scienza tra Arte e Natura*, to be held in Florence between September and December this year. The exhibition will provide a "privileged observation point from which to begin a contemporary debate on scientific evolution and ecological sustainability". He talks to Tiziano Fratus.

The event will be in Italian.

2 2 4 17:15 • MUSEO DIOCESANO • € 6,00



Tony Sandoval and Alberto Sebastiani

**TALKING PLATES**

Known for *Rendez-vous in Phoenix*, *Watersnakes* and numerous other works, Tony Sandoval is a renowned Mexican illustrator who is also a bit European, seeing how he has lived in Barcelona, Paris and Berlin. His comic books are notable for their ability to talk about human experiences and feelings, from the seduction of love to the mystery of death. Recognisable by their dark hues, surreal elements and dreamlike atmospheres, Sandoval's stories mix styles in which design techniques and colours change along with the tone and context, to produce a unique form of creativity.

The author will speak in Spanish. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.

2 2 6 17:30 • CONSERVATORIO DI MUSICA "CAMPIONI" • € 6,00

Virgijl Muçi and Massimo Cirri

**ONCE UPON A TIME IN ALBANIA (AND MAYBE EVEN NOW)**

Albania is a place that perhaps few of us have explored from a literary point of view; an image more likely to spring to mind being that of its splendid seaside resorts, or of newscasts ranging from the recent street protests back in time to the 1991 wave of migration. However, Italian interaction with the nation of the double-headed eagle is not only human but also cultural and began centuries ago. Here for the first time at the Mantova festival, is Tirana writer and translator Virgijl Muçi (*Pyramid of Souls*, winner of the Kadare Prize 2018), who will lead us back into the collective memory of a nation, including heroic deeds and legends handed down for generations (*Përralla shqiptare 100 + 1 natë*). He will also debunk with a light touch some of the contemporary myths that have emerged from the bad habits of today's media and politics. He talks to Massimo Cirri.

The event will be in Italian.

With the support of the Ministry of Culture of Albania and the Municipality of Tirana.

17:45 • CINEMA OBERDAN • € 5,00



hidden pages

repeat of the most popular film

2 2 9 18:30 • PIAZZA CASTELLO • € 7,00



Ian McEwan and Marcello Fois

**THE PRIMARY NEED OF THE NOVEL**

In September 1997, in a packed Cortile della Cavallerizza, British author Ian McEwan sparked the interest of the hundreds of people who came to celebrate with him on the Saturday of the first edition of Festivaletteratura. Over the course of his long career, the distinguished top-selling author (*Fatal Love*, *Atonement*, the recent *Machines like me*) has captivated generations of readers while exploring the most diverse ramifications of writing, producing spy stories, psychological, fantasy, dystopian or sentimental novels. Constantly transforming himself into "a blank page" he combines patience, superstitions about work and "genuine solitude" to examine the far reaches of what it means to be human. Many years later, accompanied by Marcello Fois, he returns to tell us a little more of himself, in one of the most evocative locations of the Mantovan event. And with his sharp criticism and personal vision, he will show us how he uses writing as a tool to analyse the way in which people read each other.

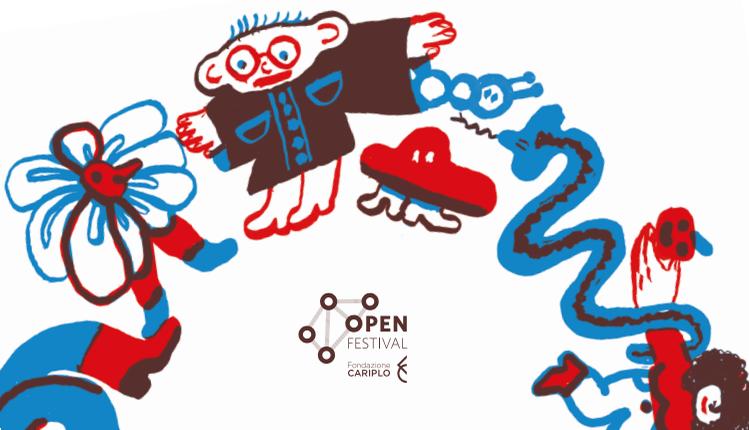
The author will speak in English. Consecutive interpretation into Italian.



# GIR TONDO

## MERRY-GO-ROUND FUN FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Merry-go-round is spinning again! **Casa del Mantegna** is once again home to amazing attractions for visitors young and old: seven rooms of pure fun created especially for Festivaletteratura by **artists, illustrators and writers**. Follow the instructions in the booklet handed out at the entrance and enjoy a carefree time playing the **games** and doing the **activities**. You can take as long as you like.



### The Merry-go-round attractions:

by **Sarah  
Mazzetti**

#### 1. THE GIANTS' CAROUSEL

You know the Room of the Giants at Palazzo Te? Well, we are going to make a new one. But drawing giants means you need super felt-tips and super artists!

#### 2. SPACES by **Alessio D'Ellena**

The letters of the alphabet play with full and void - if there weren't any blank spaces inside and outside the ink, we wouldn't be able to read a thing. An active typeface performance made up of light and shade.

by **Giacomo  
Agnetti**

#### 3. THERE'S A MONSTER AT FESTALETTERATURA!

and **Mario  
Ferraguti**

Every year thousands of people come to Festivaletteratura and the look of the city changes in the blink of an eye. Many people think all this isn't human, and they're right - there are monsters behind it! And you have to try and find them hidden among the photos of the Festival...

#### 4. THE INFINITY GAME by **Ludosofici**

Each photo shows us things we think we recognise but if we try to swap memory with our imagination, everything takes on a new meaning and it takes us into another world, and then another, and another...

by **Susanna  
Mattiangeli**

#### 5. THE X-RAYED SCHOOL TEACHER

If we opened up an elementary school teacher, what would be inside? The times table, rivers and mountains, the pyramids of ancient Egypt... an invaluable wealth of knowledge! But how do all these get into children?

#### 6. GREETINGS FROM MANTOVA! by **Romana Romanyshyn and Andriy Lesiv**

You're here at the Festival having loads of fun and you're not even going to send a postcard to your friends at home? Shame on you! Rush off and print your personalised card and send it off right away.

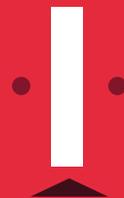
by **Francesco  
Fagnani**

#### 7. DEGENERATES!

What would happen if a butterfly and an elephant had a baby together? Would it be a butterphant? And what would come out of a cloud and a teapot, a cloutie? We are going to try and create some weird new creatures using our wildest imagination.

#### 8. NEW CLOTHES by **Steven Guarnaccia**

Evening clothes, uniforms, tunics, trousers, skirts, waistcoats and leggings. We're going to design clothes for paper dolls, except that the dolls are us...



# READ ON

Reading for Enjoyment, Achievement and  
Development of yOuNg people



[readon@festivaletteratura.it](mailto:readon@festivaletteratura.it)  
[readon.eu](http://readon.eu) - [festivaletteratura.it](http://festivaletteratura.it)

## WHAT IS READ ON?

**READ ON** > Reading for Enjoyment, Achievement  
and Development of yOuNg people

According to the Italian National Institute of Statistics adolescents, particularly when reached and developed, read more than anyone else. And yet, reading and adolescence are often perceived by the general public as barely compatible.

**READ ON** is a four-year project that began in 2017 whereby Festivaletteratura and six other international partners have committed to support and foster a love for reading among young Europeans from 12 to 19 years old. Supported by EACEA, the European Creative Community Program, **READ ON** is made up of a series of coordinated actions aimed at promoting literature in its various forms – reading practices, storytelling, the digital world and the relationship between authors and young readers.

Among the numerous initiatives planned by **READ ON** is an anthology laboratory (**ANTHOLOGY**); a fanfiction laboratory (**FANFICTION LAB**); a European competition for cartoonists under 20 (**MY LIFE IN STRIPS**); young reader interviews with authors (**BLU-RANDEVÙ**); events and workshops promoting an understanding of the importance of diversity in literature (**PASSPORTS**); a website hosting meetings with authors, a reading help desk and a space for written reviews from adolescents from all over Europe (**READ ON WEB**); promotion of reading at school (**READ MORE**), which in the school year 2018-19 involved over 250 classes, with more than 5000 girls and boys from all over Italy.

Home to the myriad of **READ ON** activities at Festivaletteratura this year will be the **READ ON STATION**, an open space at the Consorzio di Bonifica in Piazza Broletto. Part connecting point to and from the events for teenagers, part reference point for all the activities implemented in the project, both during the Festival and throughout the year.



Co-funded by the  
Creative Europe Programme  
of the European Union

## READ ON STATION

Besides being home to *Blurandevù* and the Eu Dreamers Passports editorial office, the Read On Station at the Consorzio di Bonifica will be exhibiting the winning illustrations of My Life in Strips 2019, the Cartoon Strip factory and *Diredilibri*, a library hand-picked by adolescents, plus a series of designated stations with information about the activities on the [readon.eu](http://readon.eu) website; A place to get copies of *Anthology!2018* and exclusive Read On 2019 gadgets, *Read On Station* is also open to teachers interested in bringing Read More to their schools.

This action is part of 

## ANTHOLOGY

Before the *Anthology! 2018* short stories have even been archived, the moment of truth is here already for *Anthology! 2019*: love. After all the suggestions (over 200 came in from individual readers, classes and reading groups), the editorial staff of *Anthology* reduced the number of finalists to a few dozen pieces of writing (novels, poems, graphic novels and theatre scripts). The winning pieces to be included in the new *Anthology* will be selected at the final *Anthology* event (EV.90), in the presence of writers **Alberto Manguel** and **Chiara Valerio**. The Festival will also be the occasion to launch the call for submissions to *Anthology!2020*, whose theme will be "real fiction".

Thanks also to the support of  This action is part of 

## MY LIFE IN STRIPS

As well as the winning 2019 cartoons exhibition at the *Read On Station*, *My Life in Strips* at *Festivaletteratura* features an event in which the two great cartoonists **Lorenzo Ghetti** and **Tony Sandoval**, with **Chiara Codecà**, will be talking to the young Italian finalists in the competition (EV.146). During the Strip Factory workshop at the *Read On Station*, an artist will be on hand every day to teach budding cartoonists how to develop ideas and give shape to their stories, starting with the *My Life in Strips 2020* topic, green revolution. **Steven Guarnaccia** (P.12), **Elisa Macellari**, **Lorenzo Ghetti** and **Vanna Vinci** will be 'factory' heads.

## FAN FICTION LAB

Our first fanfiction experiment, with special authorisation from the writer. Fanfiction lab has this year entrusted fan writers with **Jonathan Stroud's** *Bartimaeus Trilogy*, loved by millions of readers all over the world. The young fans' mission was to imagine stories set in the world of *Bartimaeus* to share with other fans on the [readon.eu](http://readon.eu) website. At *Festivaletteratura*, **Jonathan Stroud** and author **Licia Troisi** will conduct an event with a Festival audience (EV.162) and Stroud will hold another just for the authors of the best stories published online.

## PASSPORTS

"How do you imagine Europe in ten years' time?" is the question the Passports EU Dreamers – ten girls and boys under the guidance of **Veronica Fernandes** and **Esperance Ripanti** – will put to their peers and some of the authors attending the Festival in Mantova. A sneak preview of the interviews will appear daily on social networks and on the [readon.eu](http://readon.eu) website and will be the focus of a round-up event before an audience, on Sunday 8 September. Also part of Passports is **Le frontiere aperte dell'italiano**, where **Elisa Macellari**, **Elvira Mujčić** and **Anna Osei**, three authors with family histories from countries far and near (Bosnia, Ghana, Thailand), will swap experiences with each other and with **Fabio Veneri**.

Thanks also to the support of  This action is part of 

## BLURANDEVÙ

Volunteers, get your interviews ready! The much-awaited evenings of *Blurandevù* will take place for the first time in the Cloister of the Museo Diocesano. **Licia Troisi**, **Ghemon**, **Lella Costa**, and **Nicolas Mathieu** (P.45), will be on the receiving end of the questions of the young volunteers this time round.

Thanks also to the support of  **Cultura, vale la spesa.** This action is part of 

## READ ON WEB

The community of [readon.eu](http://readon.eu) is a shared space where you can chat to authors, receive individualised reading tips, write (and read) reviews, and much more. During the Festival, two of these activities will make a foray into the offline world at the *Read On Station*. Book Review will be one of the items in *Diredilibri*, the basic course for aspiring reviewers, where writers, booksellers and others in the publishing world will explain how to find the right words to talk about a book and help readers decide whether to get their hands on it (or give it a miss). The master reviewers will be **Chiara Valerio**, **Matteo Biagi**, and **Giuliana Facchini**. **Marco Magnone**, instead, in his *Save My Story live*, will be helped by his readers to unravel the tangle of a story he is working on.

## READ MORE

Twenty minutes to read as you like, freely, at school every day – these are the golden rules of *Read More*, an activity designed to start and foster the habit of reading that in the school year 2018-19 involved over 250 classes, with more than 5000 girls and boys from all over Italy. Teachers and school administrators can find out more about *Read More* at the info point at the *Read On Station*. **Giuliana Facchini** and **Davide Longo** will be talking about how books can help bridge the gap in understanding between youngsters and adults.

Thanks also to the support of 

## GETTING TO MANTOVA

### BY CAR

Mantova is just off the **A22 MODENA-BRENNERO MOTORWAY**

EXITS **MANTOVA SUD** - at **Bagnolo San Vito**, 10 km from the city

**MANTOVA NORD** - **San Giorgio di Mantova**, 5 km from the city

### BY TRAIN

Train connections from **MILAN, VERONA, MODENA, BOLOGNA, PADUA, FERRARA, PAVIA**.

The railway station is just a few minutes' walk from the old town.

### VERONA VILAFRANCA AIRPORT (AEROPORTO VALERIO CATULLO)

Daily SHUTTLE BUS service between **VERONA VILAFRANCA AIRPORT** (tel. 045 8095666) and **VERONA PORTA NUOVA RAIL STATION**. From the station to the airport, departs at 5.15, 6.10 and then every 20 minutes until 23.10. From the airport to the station, departs at 5.35, 6.30 and then every 20 minutes until 23.30. Buses fully accessible for users with reduced mobility.

### BY CAMPER VAN

Camper van sites with toilets, showers and facilities

AREA SPARAFUCILE - via Legnano, 1/A - Mantova

PARCO PAGANINI - via Fiera, 11 - località Grazie di Curtatone (MN)

## PASSENGERS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY

ANFFAS offers a dedicated service with purpose-trained staff. Departures from the **CAMPO CANOA** and **PIAZZA VIRGILIANA** car parks.

There is no charge for this service, but be sure to book ahead (not later than Tuesday 3 September).

Information and booking: tel. 0376 360515 or 338 6617278 (Graziella); Monday to Friday, 9.00-13.00 and 16.00-19.00.

## GETTING AROUND MANTOVA

### BUS SERVICES RUN BY APAM

The LINEA CC URBANA is a circular bus route that takes you right round the historic old town, running every 10 minutes during peak hours (7.00/9.00, 12.00/14.00, 17.00/19.00) and every 15 minutes at other times. Late-night service until midnight from Wednesday to Saturday, running every 20 minutes after 21.00.

The PALAZZO TE - OLD TOWN SHUTTLE is a free two-way service between the Palazzo Te car park and the old town. Runs Thursday, 7.00 - 13.00; Saturday and Sunday, 9.00 - 21.00. Departures every 15 minutes.

Full details of all APAM city and intercity bus services available online ([www.apam.it](http://www.apam.it)).

For information on tickets and fares, see the framed box on the opposite page or check with the APAM Infopoint at Piazza Cavallotti, 10.

### ASTER SHUTTLE BUS

Free two-way shuttle service between Campo Canoa and Piazza Sordello: Thursday to Sunday, 7.00 - 24.00, every 15 minutes.

### TAXIS

RADIO TAXI: TEL. 0376 368844 [ **5.00 > 1.00**, all-night service on Fridays, Saturdays and before public holidays ]

PIAZZA CAVALLOTTI: TEL. 0376.324407 [ **7.00 > 20.00** ]

PIAZZA DON LEONI (RAILWAY STATION):

TEL. 0376.325351 [ **5.00 > 1.00**, all-night service on Fridays, Saturdays and before public holidays ]

### CAR PARKS

**P CAMPO CANOA - STRADA CIPATA; PIAZZA ANCONETTA; PIAZZALE MONTELUONGO** (free parking)

**P PIAZZALE NODARI PESENTI; PIAZZA D'ARCO; PIAZZA SAN GIOVANNI; LUNGOLAGO DEI GONZAGA; PIAZZA VIRGILIANA; PIAZZA VITERBI; PIAZZALE GRAMSCI; VIALE RISORGIMENTO; VIALE ISONZO; VIALE MINCIO**; (pay and display))

**P GARAGE PARK MAZZINI** - Via Mazzini, 7; **AUTORIMESSA GARAGE CENTRALE** - Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 59; **GARAGE PRINCIPE AMEDEO** - Via Principe Amedeo, 4 (privately run covered parking)

### BIKE-SHARING

Use the Mobike bike-sharing platform by downloading the App onto your Smartphone. Once registered, the App shows all available bicycles on a map. To unlock your bike, just scan the code on it. You pay according to how long you keep the bike: the rate is € 0.69 every 20 minutes. Full details online ([www.mobike.com](http://www.mobike.com)).

### BOAT TRANSPORT C/O MOTONAVI ANDES

SOCIETÀ DI NAVIGAZIONE FLUVIALE. River cruises on the Po and Mincio, coastal trips on the lagoons of the Northern Adriatic. TEL. 0376.322875, e-mail [andes@motonaviandes.it](mailto:andes@motonaviandes.it).

### BICYCLE RENTAL

LA RIGOLA - Via Trieste, 5 - TEL. 0376.366677 - 335.6054958

MANTUA BIKE - Viale Piave, 22/B TEL. 0376.220909

NOLEGGIO BICI MONDADORI - Piazzale Mondadori, 5 TEL. 0376.1810524

### CAR RENTAL (AUTONOLEGGIO)

AUTONOLEGGIO CON CONDUCENTE NEGRINI - Via Valsesia, 42 - TEL. 338.2377527

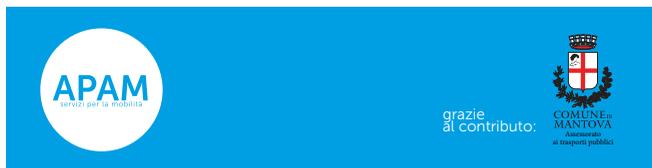
AUTONOLEGGIO MARY RENT - Piazzale Porta Cerese, 20 - TEL. 0376.381293

AUTONOLEGGI POLATO - Piazza San Giovanni, 4 - TEL. 0376.323824

TUROLA AUTONOLEGGIO - Via Fernelli, 38 - TEL. 0376.320532

ROSARIO PIRO AUTISTA - NOLEGGIO CON CONDUCENTE NCC -

Via Comandante Giuli, 14 - Roncoferraro (MN) - TEL. 345.3403796



**You can buy a 75-minute Mobile Ticket straight to your Smartphone:**

- text the name 'APAM' to **4850201**
- download the **APAM MOBILE** App, which also gives you full details of APAM lines

Easy, quick and convenient – just a few clicks, and your ticket's there.

### Info:

[www.apam.it](http://www.apam.it) | 0376 230339 | ☎ 346 0714690  
[customer.care@apam.it](mailto:customer.care@apam.it) | [f apam.mn](https://www.facebook.com/apam.mn) | [apam\\_mn](https://www.instagram.com/apam_mn)  
(Monday to Sunday, 7.30-19.00)

# FESTIVAL CAMPSITE



Why not make the most of a great camping facility during the Festival?

Festivaletteratura, in partnership with Aster, will again be running the campsite at Via Legnago 1/A that lots of festivalgoers have enjoyed using as a base for past editions.

The site, reserved for camper vans during the rest of the year, will have dedicated tent pitches from Tuesday 3 September to Sunday 8 September. (All pitches must be vacated by Monday 9 September at noon.)

The cost per person is € 5 for one night, or € 15 for the entire duration of the Festival. There is no additional charge for the pitch. The campsite has showers, toilets and a reception where you can pick up Festivaletteratura maps and handouts. Free bicycle rental is available.

- There is no on-site bar/restaurant service.

Free parking is available in the adjacent field (Campo Canoa), or in the other car parks indicated on the Festival map. There is no parking inside the campsite. A free shuttle bus runs between the Campo Canoa car park and Piazza Sordello.

If you want to pitch your tent at the Festival campsite, book as early as possible by email ([campeggio@festivaletteratura.it](mailto:campeggio@festivaletteratura.it)): give your name, your home town/city and the number of people you want to book for. Payment can be made on arrival.

For any further information, contact [campeggio@festivaletteratura.it](mailto:campeggio@festivaletteratura.it)



## WHERE TO STAY

### HOTELS AND B&B

#### Abc Comfort Hotel Mantova City Centre\*\*\*

Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 89 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.325002  
📠 0376.310303  
www.anticadimoramantovana.it  
info@anticadimoramantovana.it

#### Albergo Bianchi Stazione S.r.l.\*\*\*

Piazza Don Leoni, 24 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.326465  
www.albergobianchi.com  
info@albergobianchi.com

#### Antica Dimora Mantova City Centre\*\*\*\*

Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 89 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.325002  
📠 0376.310303  
www.anticadimoramantovana.it  
info@anticadimoramantovana.it

#### Hotel dei Gonzaga\*\*\*

Piazza Sordello, 52 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.321533  
📠 0376.226010  
www.hoteldeligonzagamantova.it  
info@hoteldeligonzagamantova.it

#### Hotel La Favorita\*\*\*\* di CityStyle Hotels

Via S. Cognetti de Martiis, 1 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.254711  
www.hotellafavorita.it  
www.citystylehotels.it  
booking@hotellafavorita.it

#### Hotel Mantegna\*\*\*

Via Fabio Filzi, 10 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.328019  
www.hotelmantegna.it  
info@hotelmantegna.it

#### Palazzo Castiglioni Luxury Suites and Rooms

Piazza Sordello, 12 - Mantova  
☎ 338.1824408  
www.palazzocastiglionimantova.com  
palazzocastiglioni@gmail.com

#### Residence In Centro

Via Anton Maria Viani, 26 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.220477  
www.residenceincentro.com  
info@residenceincentro.it

## WHERE TO EAT

### RESTAURANTS

#### Ca' degli Uberti - Eventi - Matrimoni - Meetings

Piazza Sordello, 13 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.321533  
www.cadegliuberti.it  
info@cadegliuberti.it

#### Centro Culturale Arci Papacqua

Via J. Daino, 1 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.364636  
www.papacqua.it  
info@papacqua.it

#### Il Rifugio Osteria con Ormezzio

Lungo lago dell'Arlecchino, 4 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.288367

#### LaCucina

Via Oberdan, 17 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.1513735  
www.lacucina-mantova.it  
info@lacucina-mantova.it

#### L'Ochina Bianca

Via G. Finzi, 2 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.323700  
www.ochinabianca.it  
ochinabianca@hotmail.it

#### Lo Scalco Grasso Osteria Contemporanea

Via Trieste, 55 - Mantova  
☎ 349.3747958  
info@scalcograsso.it

#### Passerino

Piazza Sordello, 10 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.1591745  
info@bankersrl.it

#### Ristorante Bar Che C'è C'è

Via Calvi, 11 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.367421

#### Ristorante Cortaccia Biocucina

Corte dei Sogliari, 6 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.368760  
www.cortaccia.com  
www.biocucina.it  
ristorante@cortaccia.com

#### Ristorante GialloZucca

Corte dei Sogliari, 4 - Mantova  
☎ 335.6869686  
www.giallozucca.it

#### Ristorante Grifone Bianco

Piazza Erbe, 6 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.362798

#### Ristorante Pizzeria "Osteria delle Erbe"

Piazza Erbe, 16 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.225880  
www.cadelleerbe.it  
info@cadelleerbe.it

#### Trattoria Cento Rampini

Piazza Erbe, 11 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.366349 📠  
0376.321924  
www.ristorantecentorampini.it  
100.rampini@libero.it

#### Umberto I Restaurant

C.so Umberto I, 47-49 - al 1° piano - Mantova  
☎ 0376.222898  
mfoodlovers@gmail.com

### BARS, CAFÉS, BRASSERIES

#### Agrimercato Campagna Amica Mantova

Lungorio IV novembre - piazza Martiri di Belfiore - Mantova dal venerdì alla domenica

#### Bar Venezia Mantova

Caffè letterario  
Piazza Marconi, 9 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.363499  
www.barvenezia.it  
info@barvenezia.it

#### Teatro delle Birre

Via P.F. Calvi, 43/45 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.1590496  
www.teatrodellebirre.it  
info@teatrodellebirre.it

#### Umberto I Lounge Bar e Restaurant

C.so Umberto I, 47-49 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.222898  
mfoodlovers@gmail.com

# WHERE TO GO SHOPPING

## Azienda Agricola La Cavalchina

Strada Sommacampagna,  
7 - Custozza (VR)  
☎ 045.516002  
www.cavalchina.com  
info@cavalchina.com

## Azienda Agricola Prendina

Strada San Pietro, 86 -  
Monzambano (MN)  
☎ 045.516002  
www.prendina.com  
info@cavalchina.com

## Bertoi Sport snc

Corso Garibaldi, 70 -  
Mantova  
☎ 0376.324698  
www.bertoisport.it  
bertoi.sport@libero.it

## Bonini Fiori

Via XX Settembre, 1 -  
Mantova  
☎ 0376.324683  
www.boninifiori.it  
info@boninifiori.it

## Bustaffa

Via Legnago, 2/A - Mantova  
☎ 0376.372733  
www.bustaffaforicoltura.com  
info@bustaffa.com

## Cantine Virgili

Via Donati, 2 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.322560  
☎ 0376.223323  
www.cantinevirgili.it  
info@cantinevirgili.it

## Carrozzeria Borgonovi Srl

Via Martinelli, 2 - Mantova  
☎ 0376.370191  
www.carrozzeriaborgonovi.it  
info@carrozzeriaborgonovi.it

## Corraini Arte Contemporanea Edizioni

Via Ippolito Nievo, 7/A -  
Mantova  
☎ 0376.322753  
info@corraini.com  
www.corraini.com

## Cosmik Tours

Via G. Oberdan, 24 -  
Mantova  
☎ 0376.368847  
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info@mbemantova.it

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