



A RECORD 50TH EDITION FOR THE BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR

25,000 visitors at the Fair and hundreds of events in the city: a historic edition confirming the Fair's primacy in the children's publishing industry.

The edition celebrating the Bologna Children's Book Fair's 50th anniversary broke all records and confirmed the international success of the leading event in the children's publishing industry.

1,200 exhibitors from 75 countries presented a wide-ranging preview of books and other products to be launched on international markets in the next few months to 25,000 qualified professionals (an increase of 20% compared to last year).

The Children's Book Fair's 50th anniversary was also marked by a week of events in the city, with thousands of children enthusiastically participating in the programme entitled **Bologna: the City for Children's Books** (promoted by BolognaFiere and the City of Bologna).

Events in the city included the international meetings of **BookFaces** (organised by AIE Italian Publishers Association in cooperation with BolognaFiere and the City of Bologna), which involved five authors popular with young readers. **Yves Grevet**, teacher and science fiction writer, discussed the future of the school and of life; **Hervé Tullet** spoke with young readers through his character Turlututù; **Andrew Lane**, author of tales and novels about the young Sherlock Holmes, offered a look at a fantastic world full of secrets; **Svjetlan Junakovic** used images to explain how a children's book is created, from characters to storyboard, and **Simon Scarrow** told about the fascination and dangers of ancient Rome.

Illustration was another star in the city, with exhibits that brought ideas and images from far-off countries. At the Archiginnasio, the **Illustrators Exhibition** (organised by BolognaFiere) presented panels by 77 artists, while at the Civic Museum of the Middle Ages, **Japanese talents** offered works by 21 Japanese artists who began their career thanks to the Children's Book Fair (organised by Jbby and BolognaFiere with the cooperation of the City of Bologna and the Civic Museum of the Middle Ages, and with the support of Japan Foundation). The exhibit **Upsidedown. Contemporary voices of Swedish illustration**, linked to this year's guest of honour, was held at the Civic Archaeological Museum (organised by Hamelin Associazione Culturale in cooperation with the Swedish Institute and with the support of IBC Emilia Romagna Department of Books and Documents). Santa Maria della Vita offered the show on **Wolfango Illustratore** (winner of the first Illustrator's Award) (organised by Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna in cooperation with BolognaFiere).

Palazzo d'Accursio (Sala Ercole) offered **I read that I was. Portraits with children's book** (organised by Andersen in cooperation with BolognaFiere and the City of Bologna). MAMbo hosted **Cinderella. A timely tale** (presented by Corraini Edizioni in cooperation with the MAMbo Education Department, Academy of Fine Arts of Bologna and BolognaFiere). Lastly, Sala Borsa presented **Inventory: words and images by Emme Edizioni 1966-1985** (organised by Tribù dei Lettori in cooperation with BolognaFiere).

SOLEMN CELEBRATIONS

The 2013 Children's Book Fair was officially opened with a solemn session of the City Council, during which honorary citizenship was bestowed on writer Bianca Pitzorno and publisher Klaus Flügge. This was followed by the inaugural ceremony at the Fair, in the presence of Lena Adelsohn Liljeroth, Minister of Culture of Sweden, this year's Guest of Honour.

This special edition of the Fair had an exceptional star: French author **Daniel Pennac** - first at a packed conference at the Fair, then at the ceremony for the honorary degree in Education conferred by Bologna University at the Aula Magna of Santa Lucia, with a very large, mostly young audience.

The traditional initiatives offered by the Children's Book Fair broke records as well: for example, the Illustrators Exhibition had 3,147 candidates, from which 77 artists (from 22 countries) were selected for this year's event.

CELEBRATING WITH PRIZES: from BOP to the BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARD the finest publishing products highlighted at the Fair

For this special edition of the Children's Book Fair, the **BOP Bologna Prize for the Best children's Publishers of the year** was awarded by BolognaFiere, in cooperation with AIE Italian Publishers Association, to publishers that stood out for their innovative and courageous selection of books published in 2012.

The Prize was awarded by publishers attending the Fair, based on nominations proposed by publishers associations from around the world. Six prizes were awarded for six geographical areas: Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, Central-South America, and Oceania.

The winners of the first BOP are: **BakameEditions**, Kigali, Rwanda (Africa) - **Tara Books**, Chennai, India (Asia) - **CosacNaify**, San Paolo, Brazil (Central-South America) - **Planeta Tangerina**, Carcavelos, Portugal (Europe) - **Chronicle Books**, San Francisco, USA (North America) - **Gecko Press**, Wellington, New Zealand (Oceania).

Great attention was also given to the winners of the traditional **BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARD**, assigned every year to the finest books from all over the world. There were over 2,300 candidates for the five categories: Fiction, Non Fiction, Opera prima, New Horizons, and (for the second time), Digital.

THE 2013 BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARD was assigned to:

FICTION	ChangbiPublishers, Paju-si, Korea Eyes Texts and illustrations by Iwona Chmielewska
NON FICTION	Editions Thierry Magnier, Paris, France Dictionnaire fou du corps Texts and illustrations by Katy Couprie
OPERA PRIMA	Templar Publishing, Dorking, Great Britain Paul Thurlby's Alphabet Text and illustrations by Paul Thurlby
NEW HORIZONS	El Colegio de México Conaculta. Alas y Raíces, Mexico City, Mexico Diccionario para armar <u>Texts by</u> Carmen Leñero, Francisco Hinojosa, Francisco Segovia, Ignacio Padilla, Joaquín Díez-Canedo F., Luigi Amara, María Baranda, María García Esperón, Mónica Brozon, Richardo Chávez Castañeda, Ricardo Yáñez, Vivian Mansour <u>Illustrations by</u> Alejandro Magallanes, Diego Bianki, Fabricio Vanden Broeck, Isol, Israel Barrón, Ixchel Estrada, Joel Rendón, Magú, Manuel Monroy, Mariana Chiesa, Paloma Valdivia, Quetzal León, Trino

	<u>Coordinators:</u> Miriam Martínez Garza/Luis Fernando Lara
DIGITAL FICTION	DADA Company Edutainment, Madrid, Spain Four Little Corners Texts and illustrations by Jérôme Ruillier / DADA Company Edutainment
DIGITAL NON FICTION	Touch Press/Egmont/Illuminations, London, UK War Horse Texts by Michael Morpurgo, illustrations by François Place

Other important awards were announced in the Halls of BolognaFiere: on 26 March, the **2013 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award** was awarded (live from Vimmerby, the famous Swedish author's birthplace) to **ISOL**, a young and eclectic Argentine artist, illustrator, comic-strip artist, graphic artist, author, singer, and composer.

The fourth edition of the **International Illustration Prize "Bologna Children's Book Fair - Fundación SM"** was awarded to **SATOE TONE**, a young Japanese artist. After studying illustration and graphic design at the University of Kyoto, Satoe Tone now lives in Milan and is one of the artists selected in recent years for the Illustrators Exhibition.

Also announced at the Fair was the winner of the **Ars In Fabula Grant Award**, reserved to illustrators under 30 who were previously selected for the Illustrators Exhibition but who have not yet published their first book. This year's winner was **YOON JOO HEE**, from Korea.

This year, the **In Other Words** Prize for young translators, promoting linguistic and cultural diversity, focused on Scandinavian languages – Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish. The winners for 2013 were Veronica Sibilla Ghiorzi (Danish), Elena Putignano (Norwegian), and Andrea Stringhetti (Swedish).

In addition to all of the above were the events and success of TOC Tools of Change, the conference (organised by O'Reilly Media and BolognaFiere) on trends in digital children's publishing. Held on Sunday 24 March at Palazzo dei Congressi, it presented a programme of twenty meetings and over **50 speakers** from all over the world who discussed the future of publishing for our children, by now digital natives.

The 51st edition of the Bologna CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR will be held from 24 to 27 March 2014.

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