

**THE 2019 WINNER OF THE BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR –  
FUNDACIÓN SM INTERNATIONAL AWARD  
FOR ILLUSTRATION HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED**

**THE WINNER OF THE TENTH EDITION OF THE AWARD  
IS THE ILLUSTRATOR SARAH MAZZETTI FROM BOLOGNA**

Sarah Mazzetti has been chosen as the winner of the tenth edition of the Bologna Children's Book Fair – Fundación SM International Illustration Award. The Italian illustrator was chosen from the 2901 candidates from 62 countries. The international jury examined a total of 14,505 works, each produced by one of the illustrators, all of whom are aged under 35.

The international Award for Illustration was conceived with the aim of encouraging and supporting new talent and showcasing emerging illustrators to a professional audience. Established in 2009, the competition automatically submits the work of the illustrators aged under 35 that have been selected for the Illustrators' Exhibition.

This important accolade includes a 15-thousand-dollar cheque for the winner in order to ensure the successful illustrator the necessary peace of mind to be able to create, over the course of the next year, an illustrated book that will be published and launched on the global market by the Spanish publisher SM and presented at the next edition of the Children's Book Fair, where there will also be a personal exhibition of the works created.

The expert jury tasked with selecting the winner was composed this year of world-renowned Italian illustrator **Beatrice Alemagna**, Director of Children's Literature at SM España and head of the Edición y Diseño team **Gabriel Brandariz**, and the award-winning Belgian illustrator **Klaas Verplancke**. The jury were immediately impressed by the impact and potential of Sarah Mazzetti's works that were simultaneously bold and sensitive and decided to acknowledge the illustrator's ability to construct bridges between narrative, graphic art and the graphic novel. In particular, the jury recognised in her works the ability to merge all of the expressive forms of the visual narrative within an authentic style that is organic, strong and courageous, translating the iconography of the sixties into contemporary illustrations. An intelligent

consideration was clearly evident in the lines and shapes, with the combination of negative and positive form within ingenious compositions.

Sarah Mazzetti is a young illustrator from Bologna, born in 1985. Her work has appeared in international publications including *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Die Zeit*, *La Repubblica* and *The Guardian*. She has won various awards including a Golden Medal from the Society of Illustrators in New York, the Golden Pen of Belgrade, A YCN Award and the Illustrators' Prize. Her first cartoon for children, *I gioielli di Elsa* (Elsa's jewels), was published by Canicola Edizioni in 2017 and won the Boscarato Award for Best Children's Book at the Treviso Comic Book Festival, and the Prize for the Best Short Story awarded by Lucca Comics. As well as working as a freelance, she has taught and held workshops at the European Institute of Design in Milan and Turin and at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts in Lugano, Switzerland.

<https://sarahmazzetti.com/>

Bologna, 3 April 2019

**Press Office Mara Vitali Comunicazione** tel. +39 02 70108230

Lisa Oldani +39 349 4788358 - [lisa@mavico.it](mailto:lisa@mavico.it)

Claudia Tanzi +39 340 1098885 - [claudia@mavico.it](mailto:claudia@mavico.it)

**Product Communication and Event Manager**

Isabella Bonvicini, tel. 051 282920 – cell. + 39 335 7995370 – [isabella.bonvicini@bolognafiere.it](mailto:isabella.bonvicini@bolognafiere.it)

**Press Office BolognaFiere SpA**

Gregory Picco, tel. +39 051 282862 – cell. +39 3346012743 - [gregory.picco@bolognafiere.it](mailto:gregory.picco@bolognafiere.it)