



THE 60TH BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR

Still rocking at 60!

THE ILLUSTRATORS SURVIVAL CORNER

The eagerly awaited professional space at the BCBF dedicated to the profession of illustration, a success with the public in Bologna and on tour at the world's leading publishing fairs

With **about 150 scheduled events** including masterclasses, workshops and portfolio reviews with publishers, art directors, illustrators, agents and industry professionals, The Illustrators Survival Corner – the professional space organised by **Mimaster Illustrazione** – is an exceptional training resource on the international illustration scene. Created in collaboration with the Bologna Children's Book Fair and focused on the profession of illustration, once again it will be open to those who come to the Fair in search of opportunities for professional growth: from designing children's books to self-promotion, managing interviews with publishers to contracts, the use of social media and portfolios.

Building on its success at major book fairs around the world, where it has been "exported" as part of the BCBF Grand Tour, on the 60th anniversary of the fair The Illustrators Survival Corner hosts a great group of art directors, illustrators, agents, publishers and industry professionals from all over the world, who bring to life to a daily schedule of activities.

This year's events include meetings with the judges of the 2023 *Illustrators Exhibition* (**Gusti, Christine Morault, Sidney Smith, Eric Telfort** and **Erik Titusson**), masterclasses with **Pablo Amargo, Suzy Lee, Elena Odriozola, Sarah Mazzetti** and **Chiara Rapaccini**, and workshops with **Andrés López, Mayumi Oono** and **Lian-En Lin**.

Martin Salisbury, Beatrice Alemagna and **Axel Scheffler** will talk about Tomi Ungerer's influence on their work and on the world of contemporary children's books in the talk "**Long Live Tomi Ungerer**" (6 March, 2.00 p.m.). The event is followed by the official opening of the artist's wall #rememberingTomi, a live painting project that will be inaugurated by Beatrice Alemagna and Axel Scheffler. At the conclusion of the conference, in fact, the two guests will each make an illustration on the wall, on opposite sides as a symbolic opening that will be followed by free contributions from the illustrators present.

There are also meetings with the winning publishers of the 2023 BRAW Award, events dedicated to the increasingly topical subject of artificial intelligence, and a focus on comics in the Comics Corner programme. A series of AMA (Ask Me Anything) sessions will give the public an opportunity to put their questions to industry professionals.

Also be portfolio reviews, which have always been one of the most popular events for illustrators seeking advice about their careers. This year the traditional portfolio reviews will have a new feature as they will be joined for the first time by **Portfolio Play**, a game – guided by professional illustrators and art directors – to help budding illustrators learn how to select images and put together the ideal portfolio.

All events at The Illustrators Survival Corner are free of charge – masterclasses are free, while participation at the workshops and portfolio reviews can be reserved on the BCBF website.

