



The winners of the first edition of the *Strega Prize Ragazze e Ragazzi*

Bologna 6th April 2016. **Susanna Tamaro** and **Chiara Carminati** are the winners of the first ever edition of the **Strega Prize Ragazze e Ragazzi**, promoted by the **Maria e Goffredo Bellonci Fondazione, Strega Alberti Benevento** with **BolognaFiere** and the **Centre for Books and Reading**, and created with the support of **BPER Banca** and **Unindustria Bologna**. The award ceremony took place this afternoon at the **Bologna Children's Book Fair**: the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Tourism, **Dario Franceschini**, was in attendance.

***Salta, Bart! [Jump Bart!]* (Giunti)** by Susanna Tamaro for the **category 6+** (for readers aged between 6-10) with 11 votes and ***Fuori fuoco [Out of Focus/Out of Range]* (Bompiani)** by Chiara Carminati for the **category 11+** (for readers aged between 11-15) with **88 votes**, received the most votes from a jury made up of readers aged between 6-15 years from fifty **primary and secondary schools** all across Italy, divided equally between the two age groups. All of the **votes** were made **electronically** through the Bellonci Foundation website: for the 6+ category, the **class teachers** were responsible for expressing the preference of their pupils (a total of 22 votes were cast from a possible 25), while for the 11+ category the **children** themselves voted (**178** out of a possible 200). The authors of the two books each received a cheque for **5000 euros**.

55 books competed in this first edition of the Prize in the **two categories**: one for texts for readers aged between **6-10 years old**, the other, for **readers aged between 11-15 years**. The five finalists were selected by the Prize committee, coordinated by President of the Bellonci Foundation, **Tullio De Mauro** and made up of **Giuseppe Bartorilla, Emma Beseghi, Pino Boero, Ermanno Detti, Silvana Loiero, Carla Ida Salviati** and **Maria Romana Tetamo**.

The award ceremony, presented by Loredana Lipperini, included speeches by **Franco Boni** (President of BolognaFiere), **Tullio De Mauro** (President of the Bellonci Foundation), **Giuseppe D'Avino** (Managing Director of Strega Alberti Benevento), **Romano Montroni** (President of the Centre for Books and Reading), **Davide Conte** (Assessor for Culture and Cooperation with the University, Bologna Council), **Gian Enrico Venturini** (Vice-Director of Bper Banca) and **Tiziana Ferrari** (Director General of Unindustria Bologna).

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THE WINNERS

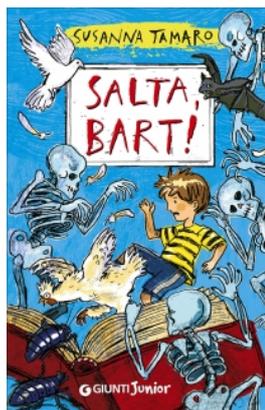
Category +6

SALTA, BART! (JUMP BART!)

Susanna Tamaro

Illustrations by Adriano Gon

Giunti



Bart is very intelligent, he is 10 years old and lives in the not too distant future where life is filled with technology and every phase of the day is controlled and regulated by machines. He is always alone, his parents are away at work and he sees them only through a computer screen, his only source of comfort is his teddy bear Kapok. When even this is taken away from him, for Bart this signals the beginning of a desperate sequence of days that are always the same. Bart seems destined for a life of incurable melancholy, when a strange Chinese figure appears, wise master Lu together with a battery hen called Zoe, who is trying to escape her fate. Bart begins an adventure that will reveal to him the great gifts and show him the value of inner beauty, friendship and love for others and for the planet, which a shady character seems intent on destroying.

Susanna Tamaro was born in Trieste in 1957. She studied at the Experimental Centre for Cinematography, obtaining a diploma as a director. She has published novels for adults such as: *La testa fra le nuvole* (1989), *Per voce sola* (1991), *Va' dove ti porta il cuore* (1994), *Anima Mundi* (1997), *Cara Mathilda* (2001), *Rispondimi* (2001), *Fuori* (2003), *Ascolta la mia voce* (2006), *Baita dei pini* (2007), *Luisito* (2008). She has also written numerous children's books: *Cuore di ciccia* (1992), *Il cerchio magico* (1994), *Tobia e l'angelo* (1998), *Papirofobia* (2000), *Il grande albero* (2009). In January 2014, twenty years after *Va' dove ti porta il cuore*, *Illmitz* (Susanna Tamaro's first work, which had remained unpublished) was published, the same year saw the publication of *Meditazioni sulla Passione* and in 2015 *Un cuore pensante* (all published by Bompiani).



Category +11

FUORI FUOCO (OUT OF FOCUS/ OUT OF RANGE)

Chiara Carminati

Bompiani



In the summer of 2014 thirteen-year-old Jolanda, known as Jole, soon learns the consequences of a conflict that is taking the men away from home, leaving the womenfolk alone. Separated from their mother, Jole and her sister travel across the countryside in search of a grandmother that they didn't even know existed. Jole's vivid and pungent first person narrative tells of their experiences which mirror those of all women that remain out of focus, far from the front: their experience is blurred, almost invisible, while history proceeds mercilessly. Thirteen images, like the lost photos of a family album, are narrated based on diaries, testimonies, news and documents in order to speak about war from the point of view of those not fighting.

Chiara Carminati is the author of stories, poems and theatre pieces for children and young people. She holds workshops and events in libraries, schools and bookshops to promote reading. Specialized in education and poetry, she holds training courses for teachers and librarians, in Italy and abroad. Her books include: *L'estate dei segreti* (Einaudi Ragazzi), *Rime chiaroscure* (with Bruno Tognolini) and *Mare* (Rizzoli), *Parto* (Panini), *L'ultima fuga di Bach* (rueBallu) and the manuals *Fare poesia* (Mondadori) and *Perlapparola. Bambini e ragazzi nelle stanze della poesia* (Equilibri). In 2012 she received the Andersen Prize for Best Author.



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