



## Bologna Children's Book Fair at

**Expo Dubai 2020 - from 16 to 22 January 2022, the Italy Pavilion  
and at the Doha International Book Fair - from 13 to 22 January**

**with the exhibitions**

***ITALIAN EXCELLENCE. The New Generation of Italian Children's Illustrators***

***ITALIAN EXCELLENCE. Illustrators for Gianni Rodari***

**and the entirely new**

***OUT OF SILENCE. YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW,***

***NARRATING THROUGH WORDLESS BOOKS***

After the success of the recent Grand Tour to major trade shows, where Bologna Children's Book Fair (BCBF) had first-hand contact with international publishing professionals and enthusiasts, the Fair and its partners - the Emilia-Romagna Region, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and the Italian Embassy - are again present at two important sector venues: the Dubai 2020 World Expo and the Doha International Book Fair.

BCBF's will be present with three exhibitions - one an entirely new initiative - with the aim of extending understanding and appreciation across the Arab world of Italy's long children's publishing and illustration tradition.

### **EXPO DUBAI 2020**

Bologna Children's Book Fair will be in Dubai with the latest ***Italian Excellence*** exhibition: ***The New Generation of Italian Illustrators***. Inaugurated online in partnership with the ATER Foundation for the 58<sup>th</sup> Bologna Children's Book Fair, the exhibition will be a **special event from 16 to 22 January 2022 at EXPO Dubai** in the **Short Stories** area, the space in the **Italy Pavilion** dedicated to a regularly changing roster of shows. In the autumn, the Italian Institute of Culture based in Abu Dhabi will be taking the Exhibition to the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) where Italy will be Guest of Honour country. The exhibition is the first event of the extensive cultural programme Italy will be fielding at SIBF at which both Bologna Children's Book Fair and BolognaBookPlus will be present.

The broad spectrum of activities - including the performing arts, concerts, and workshops - is designed to promote a deeper understanding in the United Arab Emirates of Italy's vast cultural heritage.

Following the worldwide success of the two previous *Italian Excellence* editions (*Illustration for Children* and *Illustrators for Gianni Rodari*) which toured over 30 countries, the Book Fair now presents the third edition: ***The New Generation of Italian Children's illustrators***. Organized by Bologna Children's Book Fair/BolognaFiere, in partnership with the Emilia-Romagna Region and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the show is curated by the Giannino Stoppini Cooperative/Drosselmeier Academy. **Twenty young illustrators** were chosen from among Italy's most promising talents for their ability to make their illustrations resonate with the written text, creating a unique work thanks to their innovative take on Italy's longstanding tradition of illustration excellence.

*Works on show by: Giacomo Agnello Modica, Andrea Antinori, Michael Bardeggia, Beatrice Cerocchi, Marianna Coppo, Francesca Corso, Cecilia Ferri, Chiara Ficarelli, Marta Pantaleo, Giulia Pastorino, Irene Penazzi, Alice Piaggio, Camilla Pintonato, Michelangelo Rossato, Veronica Ruffato, Lorenzo Sangiò, Francesca Sanna, Luca Tagliafico, Giulia Tomai, and Veronica Truttero.*



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## DOHA INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

From **13 to 22 January 2022** Bologna Children's Book Fair is being hosted in Qatar at the **Italian Embassy's** stand entirely dedicated to children with ***Italian Excellence: Illustrators for Gianni Rodari***. Created in 2020 to mark the centenary of Gianni Rodari's birth in partnership with the **Emilia-Romagna Region** and the **Italian Cultural Institute of San Francisco**, and assisted by the **Italian Consulate General**, the exhibition displays an overview of illustrations of Rodari's works by twenty-one artists down the years that create a sort of timeline of Italian illustration. Names range from towering figures of Italian design and illustration like Bruno Munari and Emanuele Luzzati, to great contemporary artists such as Beatrice Alemagna and Olimpia Zagnoli.

*The artists included are: Bruno Munari, Emanuele Luzzati, Altan, Beatrice Alemagna, Gaia Stella, Olimpia Zagnoli, Manuel Fior, Alessandro Sanna, Valerio Vitali, Simona Mulazzani, Chiara Armellini, Anna Laura Cantone, Fulvio Testa, Maria Chiara Di Giorgo, Giulia Orecchia, Nicoletta Costa, Federico Maggioni, Francesca Ghermandi, Pia Valentini, Elenia Beretta and Vittoria Facchini.*

As well as the tribute to Gianni Rodari, the Italian stand will also host the exhibition ***Out of silence. Yesterday, today, tomorrow, narrating through wordless books*** – 41 silent books by Italian authors, selected for Bologna Children's Book Fair by the Giannino Stoppioni Cooperative/Drosselmeier Academy for the way they have mastered this new form of narrative. Ranging from historic, internationally renowned artists like Bruno Munari, Enzo and Iela Mari, Alessandro Sanna, and Fabian Negrin to the latest generation of illustrators, and displaying a broad palette of styles and poetic, the works have in common an unfailing quality. Wordless books invite the reader to co-create the narrative along with the author. They are an opportunity for the very young to become acquainted with how stories are told. The absence of the written word also allows the silent book to overcome linguistic barriers, and reach marginalized sectors of society, becoming a literary form for everyone to share.

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