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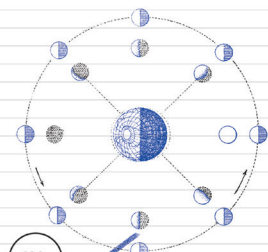
**THE BEST OF  
MINIMUM FAX  
2018 FBF**



NEW TITLE  
november 2018

FICTION  
150 pages

FILIGRANA  
*minimum fax*



**FABIO STASSI**

**Con in bocca  
il sapore del mondo**

Dieci vite quasi vere  
di poeti italiani  
del Novecento

## FABIO STASSI

# With The Taste of the World In My Mouth

**FABIO STASSI** / 1962

*published three books with minimum fax: Our Carnival Is Over (2007), The Revenge of Raúl Capablanca (2008) and A Pocket Encyclopedia of Novel Characters (2015). With Sellerio he published Charlot's last dance (2012, an international bestseller), Like an interrupted breath (2014), Fumisteria (2015), La lettrice scomparsa (2016) and Angelica and the comets (2017). He is the Italian editor of The Novel Cure by Ella Berthoud and Susan Elderkin (Sellerio 2017). He won many prizes, like Selezione Campiello, Alasio, Vittorini Opera Prima, Sciascia, Scerbanenco and Arpino.*

The last resort in via Veneto and a man wearing his coat in every season (**Vincenzo Cardarelli**). A concert of sparrows on a window edge and an unsuccessful baritone (**Eugenio Montale**). The rail yard at the mouth of a river and a voice tuner (**Salvatore Quasimodo**). A middle-class living room in a house on the hill and a collector of butterflies (**Guido Gozzano**). An Ash Wednesday and an old captain in exile (**Gabriele D'Annunzio**). The shooting gallery in a marquee and the man of woods (**Dino Campana**). The backroom of an antiquarian bookshop and a son of the wind (**Umberto Saba**). A collection of stamps and a lonely and melancholic funambulist (**Aldo Palazzeschi**). A bossanova concert and an eighty years old child with Omero's voice (**Giuseppe Ungaretti**). An invective against the moon and a woman who pays her coffees with verses (**Alda Merini**).

Fabio Stassi tributes the Nineteenth Century and its poetry, the most forgotten genre of the Italian literary scene, with a brave mimetic and fantastic adventure. He repatriates to the world these ten authors, he photographs them in a particular gesture, makes them speak in first person, after their death and behind their death, from that suspended point of the space and time in which the voice of all poets survives. A vivid narration of their lives, of what they thought of writing, of their idiosyncrasies, obsessions, desires, joys is revealed in this work.

**Ten moving and engaging monologues, a declaration of love.**

**TEN ALMOST REAL LIVES OF NINETEENTH CENTURY ITALIAN POETS. TEN POETS NARRATE THEIR LIVES, THEIR WRITING, THE MOMENT IN WHICH THEY RECOGNIZED THEMSELVES AS POETS.**



NEW TITLE  
october 2018

FICTION - NOVEL  
173 pages



## CAROLA SUSANI

# The First Life of Italo Orlando

*"In Carola Susani you feel the creaturely lesson of Pasolini and Morante."*

**la Repubblica**

**CAROLA SUSANI** / 1965

*writes for adults and children. She collaborated with Lo Straniero, Gli Asini and Repubblica; she leads seminars on reading and writing. She published Pecore vive (2006, shortlisted for the Strega Prize) and Eravamo bambini abbastanza (2012, Lo Straniero Prize) with Minimum Fax.*

In the western part of Sicily, at the end of Fifties, Irene, a preadolescent girl, finds in her almond groves a young yellow-skinned man: he's naked and seems he is sleeping. He has come out from nowhere. He doesn't have past, nor memory.

Irene's family – her father, a photographer, and her old very rich grandmother – accepts him in their home in Settecannelle and gives him the name Italo, but he brings luck and disruption in return. He transforms everything he touches, he lights a fire in a blocked chimney, he brings electric light and running water, he finds disappeared water sources. He gradually extends his gifts to the nearby farmhouses. Children run after him, having been seduced by his playful energy, because he plays, he does nothing but play.

But who really is Italo Orlando? People say that there is something of disturbing, dark, threatening in him. In the meanwhile, in that town, oil has been discovered, so the forgetful man joins the engineers and technicians that have come to find the black gold.

Is there a relation between Italo's appearance and the changes that are going to happen? Is he maybe a mercurial, fatal god of change that will erase the old world in the name of the ambiguous metamorphosis of present days? Surely his arrival and his terrible legacy will mark the passage of Irene to adult age.

**The First Life of Italo Orlando** is the first novel of a trilogy which will see the return of this fascinating character in three key moments of our national history.



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NEW TITLE  
september 2018

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FICTION - NOVEL  
248 pages



## EDOARDO SAVARESE

### As Before

**CAN A MELODRAMA BE STILL WRITTEN? IS IT POSSIBLE TO ADAPT THE MUSICAL STRUCTURE AND THE LANGUAGE OF OTHER TIMES TO A NOVEL? THIS IS THE COURAGEOUS BET ATTEMPTED BY EDOARDO SAVARESE.**

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**EDOARDO SAVARESE** / 1979

*lives in Naples, is a magistrate and an expert of international legislation. With edizioni e/o he published his novels: Non passare per il sangue (2012) and Le inutili vergogne (2014), and the short-story-essay Lettera di un omosessuale alla Chiesa di Roma (2015).*

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In the story of Simone, a teenage affected by muscular dystrophy, everything seems to be unlikely and almost exotic, but page after page the protagonist's condition reveals all its painful limitations and contrasts: his forced inertia and his desire of growing up, his need of being loved and his difficulty of expressing himself, his innocence and the weight of the fractures caused to his familiar relations.

His illness isolates and divides, makes the movements of those who surrounds him nicer, pollutes the dynamics of feelings. His mother has a tired, neurotic and hysteric voice, the voice of those who would like to go on living but can't do so.

Pierotta is the depressed and unstable little girl with whom Simone duets.

A professor of quantum physics, Filippo Pitari, is the brilliant baritone who strives to keep a message of balance and hope, performing a parental role.

In this little solar system that obeys only to laws of science, there is a real soprano, the famous Lea Hertsbush, the only one to blatantly sing off-key in public.

Simone hasn't stopped to chase the hug of Thomas, his father of Syrian origin who abandoned him. He wants to know if he is a deserter or a hero, and if it's true that no one of us is able to escape our fate. The final act is reserved to the two of them, with the background of a snowy Jerusalem.

Because, like Julian Barnes wrote, **only the melodrama goes straight to the aim. And it reminds us of the essentiality of life.**



NEW TITLE  
september 2018

FICTION  
100 pages

FILIGRANA  
*minimum fax*

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“ - ... ; , ? ”  
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**TIZIANO SCARPA**

**Una libellula di città**  
e altre storie in rima

## TIZIANO SCARPA

# A City Dragonfly and Other Rhyming Stories

THE NEW BOOK BY THE AUHTOR **WINNER OF THE STREGA PRIZE**. THIRTY RHYMING STORIES, THIRTY SHORT STORIES IN POETRY THAT WILL ASTONISH AND EXCITE YOU.

*"Tiziano Scarpa's lucid and provocative look goes through the Italian literature."*

**La Stampa**

Dear friend,  
I'll try to truthfully explain why these 30 rhyming stories could interest you:

- It took me 20 years to write them, doing it only when I felt very inspired;

- I got very involved; equally, I saw that they touched deep inside even the readers;

- I've been carrying them around and I'll keep doing so, live, on the stage: the audience wants to have them, they asked me if they have been published;

- They are not rhymes, but real short stories, melancholic and funny: with characters, plot, unexpected turns;

- They often narrate the story of someone (an animal, a tree, a man or a woman) who feels alone and unlike others, and pays the consequences of this;

- Some examples: an elephant searching for a soul mate; a painter of secret self-portraits; the adventure of a postman who has to deliver a telegram in a wood; a juggler killer; a bachelor who gives birth to a child on his own; a dissident moth attracted by the darkness; a misanthrope who lives in a floating lighthouse; a traveler who goes across the world on foot; the entire life of a dragonfly, from morning till night...

**This is my most private book, written to touch the souls.**

Tiziano Scarpa

**TIZIANA SCARPA** / 1979

*was born in Venice. Among his books let's remember: Occhi sulla graticola (Einaudi 1996 and 2005), Venezia è un pesce (Feltrinelli 2000), Corpo (Einaudi 2004 and 2011), Amami (with Massimo Giacomoni, Mondadori 2007), Stabat Mater (Einaudi 2008), Le cose fondamentali (Einaudi 2010 and 2012), Il brevetto del geco (Einaudi 2016) e Il cipiglio del gufo (Einaudi 2018). With Stabat Mater he won the Strega Prize in 2009. Minimum fax is going to publish his novel Kamikaze d'Occidente.*



NEW TITLE

June 2018



## ORNELA VORPSI

# The Country Where Nobody Dies

*"It surprises for the quality of its prose, as well as for the sore and mocking irony that pervades it."*

**Linus**

*"How much truth is there in Ornella Vorpsi's literature, and so in her existence."*

**Valeria Parrella**

FICTION - NOVEL

110 pages

In *The Country Where Nobody Dies*, where bodies are strong like lead, women disappear after illegal abortions or desperate love stories; where men, instead, go to prison because they dare say that you can't find potatoes at the market anymore. But in a fiercely male-dominated world, young ladies grow sturdy and indestructible, between the "Mother-Party" and virginity cult, surrounded by mothers, grandmothers, aunts, professors that are both very strict and loving, guardians of a rigid domestic patriarchy. We are in Albania, country of dust and mud, at the time of dictatorship, but Ornella Vorpsi's landscape is a literary territory par excellence: metaphoric, universal, a tragic compendium of women and human condition throughout the world. Ornella Vorpsi's language is like a scalpel, an Italian language adopted like a hope, she narrates the sentimental antieducation of all women in the middle of violence and loneliness, their stories of "whorery" and shame, proverbs and basement kitchens. *The Country Where Nobody Dies* was Vorpsi's debut novel in 2005. It's one of the leading books of a new generation of migrant writers and marks the arrival of a new, unique, sensual and shocking accent in our land.

### ORNELA VORPSI | 1968

*is a photographer and a painter. She was born in Tirana, in 1968 and moved to Milan to study Fine Arts. She finished her study in Paris, where she now lives. The Country Where Nobody Dies (Einaudi 2005), her debut novel, has been translated in eighteen countries and won many prizes in Italy, like Grinzane Cavour, Vittorini Opera Prima and Viareggio. She also published Beveté cacao Van Houten! and Fuorimondo (once more for Einaudi) and Viaggio intorno alla madre (Nottetempo).*



NEW TITLE  
may 2018

FICTION - NOVEL  
210 pages



## ORSO TOSCO

# Waiting for The Castaways

*"An ambitious, dystopic and apocalyptic novel, a mediation between life and death."*

**Corriere della Sera**

*"A vital and desperate novel like our best drinking, and imaginative like our dreams."*

**Rolling Stone**

*"Orso Tosco starts by showing off an epic prose."*

**il Foglio**

*"A dystopic scenery, marked by a powerful lyric, tending to poetry."*

**Corriere della Sera**

Massimo is the only one among the guests of a party, that ends with a collective suicide, who will not pull the trigger. But the end is near, for everyone.

The war is looming, the Castaways are arriving. In few months what seemed to be just a small group of crazy people has grown so relentlessly to overturn the global order.

The only trait they share is the abandon of any verbal communication. The Castaways express themselves through their violent, destructive and definitive actions. One place is good as any other where to be killed or to kill themselves, and Massimo knows it. But he decides at the last moment to spend the little time he has left with Piero, his father, confined at the Saint Judas Hospice, a sanatorium built deep in a valley. Massimo has never got over his father illness but now, feeling equally doomed, he needs his presence. A similar change of perspective will allow all the inhabitants of the Hospice to withstand the weight of desperation: Doctor Malandra, a shy morphine addict surgeon; Guido, a nurse, an alcoholic and a hooligan; Olga, a nun who is fighting against happiness and her past. Everyone understands the last possible truth: that hope is possible without hope.

With a powerful style and through continuous incursions in fantasy, Orso Tosco is able to give us a realistic representation of the secret reasons that impel us to live, until the last breath. And, maybe, even beyond it.

A novel of great intensity, in which love, friendship and death are narrated with a lyrical language, far from any mannerism.

**ORSO TOSCO** / 1982

is a writer and a screen player. He published short stories in *Watt* and other reviews. *Waiting for The Castaways* is his first novel.



BACKLIST TITLE

january 2018

FICTION - NOVEL

220 pages



## DANILO SOSCIA

# The Atlas of Wonders

Daniilo Soscia collected sixty exemplary parables, unfaithful memories, inventions, myths and ghosts, inventing a sulphureous and very personal *Spoon River*.

*"A magic box in form of a book."*

Marie Claire

*"Soscia magnifies under the microscope a detail of his characters' daily lives, making pass their destiny through that lens and calling the reader to share it."*

La Lettura - Corriere della Sera

Once upon a time there was the **Wunderkammer, the cabinets of curiosities**: a collection of rare and exquisite objects, wonders of technology, sublime horrors of nature and history. In the same line of this bizarre tradition Danilo Soscia collected sixty exemplary parables, unfaithful memories, inventions, myths and ghosts, inventing a sulphureous and very personal *Spoon River*, and narrating with a strong and original style the inquietudes and obsessions that have been afflicting human hearts and minds since ever. So *The Atlas* is many books together: it can be read from the beginning to the end like a fantastic catalogue of human passions and adventures, or it can be essayed by following the close web of themes and places that underlies the text.

We find, short story by short story, men not famous next to Arthur Rimbaud, Jesus, Mao, Antigone, Saint Francis, Jurij Gagarin and Friedrich Nietzsche. Each character, obscure and eminent, asks us to take part to his destiny and leads us with an irresistible strength inside his world. Bertolt Brecht's and Bao Bao panda's Berlin is linked to Walter Benjamin's Paris, and the ship's voyage of *Odyssey* to the island of Circe continues with the adventure of a Soviet dog, in orbit around Earth on a narrow spaceship.

*"These short stories are like tiny novels, gracefully painted."*

Internazionale

### DANILO SOSCIA | 1979

was born in Pisa in 1979. He published the collection of short stories *Condomino* (Manni, 2008). As a scholar of literature and East Asia, he edited the volume *In Cina* (Ets, 2010) and realized the study *Forma Sinarum. Personaggi cinesi nella letteratura italiana* (*Mimesis*, 2016).





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NEW TITLE  
september 2018

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FICTION - NOVEL  
190 pages



## LUCIANO BIANCIARDI

# The Antihistory Of the Risorgimento

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*"The last possible bohemian, sit on the rubble of a  
lost romanticism."*  
Giovanni Arpino

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Only someone like Luciano Bianciardi could make the bet that the Risorgimento could be "a matter that engages and enthalls, and even amuses". In the collective memory, **the Risorgimento has been for a long time the preserve of the fascist hagiography or of the catholic and fanatically patriotic ones.** It has been considered an exercise of rhetorical, pedantic and nationalist narrations that historians and specialists have always hardly countered, with which no men of letters have faced the risk of coming to terms. Writing a chronical of the Risorgimento without emphasis neither disillusion was to Bianciardi like a Garibaldi expedition. When he was 8 years old he received as a present *I mille* by Giuseppe Bandi, and from that moment on the Risorgimento has been to him the most enthusiastic discovery of his childhood and his first nostalgia. But, in order to give to the book what he had felt, he needed to give the sparkling touch of an upside down history manual. He needed to openly side with the popular epopee and with the hero that embodied it, more than anyone else, Giuseppe Garibaldi, and to adopt his childish gaze as an inverted point of view. **Bianciardi was not interested in the critical judgement of the Risorgimento, but in the quixotic madness, the ideal impetus and the inadequacy of the enchantment in all times.** In our "hard life", there could be no more extreme and scandalous heresy.

**LUCIANO BIANCIARDI** 1922 / 1971

*was born in Grosseto. He was a professor, librarian, journalist, translator, sportscaster. He promoted an itinerant library-van called Bibliobus to alphabetize the workers of his county, and he wrote with Cassola a reportage on the miners (a forthcoming publication of minimum fax). His most popular novel, *The Hard Life* (1962), is the disenchanting chronical of the Italian economic miracle.*



NEW TITLE  
march 2018

FICTION - NOVEL  
190 pages



GIOVANNI ARPINO  
**Sei stato felice,  
Giovanni**

POSTFAZIONE DI GIANNI MURA

## GIOVANNI ARPINO

# You Have Been Happy, Giovanni

*"One of the greatest writers of the  
20th century."*

**Michele Mari**

*"Giovanni Arpino, an anarchical  
writer and a never obvious  
sportscaster, puts his novel in a  
neorealist key."*

**il Foglio**

Reading the debut of a classic author is like assisting to a natural phenomenon. After all, as Italo Calvino wrote, the first book is the only one that matters, and we should maybe write only that one and then just stop. *Sei stato felice, Giovanni* has been the big shift in Arpino's life. The fatal occasion to express himself. The big issue to solve, forever or never again. He was twenty-three years old and was staying in a little filthy and seedy guesthouse in Genoa. It took him twenty days. Twenty days to invent a voice and a landscape, to say goodbye to his friends, to his youth, to his impossible love stories, to so many joys and desperations of all precarious ages. To put Hemingway, Steinbeck, Vittorini and the French cinema behind himself. And the long war period.

Arpino's debut novel is a book of partings. A story that is like the last drunk before waiting for the adult age and the miserable future. The adventure of who wears his solitude like a hat and feels like a missing bullet, the adventure of a survivor who doesn't know of what. The protagonist knows he has to move, find a job. But in the meantime he gets drunk, argues, falls in love, owes money and has misfortunes. He is lazy, cruel and wasteful. He cannot do anything else but live at the port, have its smell, belong to a humanity of sailors, prostitutes and tramps. A port called Genoa, with its thin and moving sea air, but it could also be Buenos Aires or any other place.

*Sei stato felice, Giovanni* talks to our time with true, bossy and irreplaceable words. To young and old people, to those who are going to leave and to those who are coming back.



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NEW TITLE  
march 2018

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FICTION - NOVEL  
190 pages



## GIOVANNI ARPINO

### You Have Been Happy, Giovanni

*"A text that has the taste of the end of youth but not yet of adult age, where you breathe the salty air of the port, you meet sailors and whores, you get drunk, you talk about rebellion and think of Hemingway."*

**Studio**

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#### GIOVANNI ARPINO 1927 / 1987

Sei stato felice, Giovanni was published by Elio Vittorini in the important and prestigious review I Gettoni in 1952. After this, Arpino wrote more than thirty books and worked for many years as a sport journalist. Rights for his books have been sold to many countries, like France (Belfond and Autremet) and USA (Penguin Classics). He possessed a unique tone and he is among the very few who won both the Strega and Campiello prizes.

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#### THE ITALIAN CLASSICS OF MINIMUM FAX

From 2018 on minimum fax is happy to welcome Italian writers in our "classics" books series. It's an important bet, and an urgency: the necessity of giving again space and memory to forgotten novels and authors. The necessity of giving back to the present the laboratory of the second half of the 20th century, and of rediscovering our cultural legacy. To know from where we started, from where to start at the end of a war. And to know who are the founders of the language we use, the patriarchs of an idea of the world that we obstinately protect or that we have lost. We will search for them among the irregulars of the Italian contemporary literature, among the most anarchic and solitary voices. Among those who have always remained on the sidelines, and have kept working outside any group or circle, out-of-town or closed in the walls of a city. Giovanni Arpino, Luciano Bianciardi, Carlo Cassola, Sandro Onofri, Oreste del Buono, all those who wrote books that have never stopped questioning us and deserve to be read again. Minimum fax Italian Classics: **the genealogy of our ancestors, that long lineage of lunatics and dreamers we come from.**



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HIGHLIGHT TITLE

january 2015

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FICTION - NOVEL

280 pages



## MARCO PEANO

# The Invention of Mother

**RIGHTS SOLD TO:**  
**FRANCE (Phébus)**

*"It's very rare to find such a mature and vital debut novel."*

**Marcello Fois**

*The Invention of Mother by Marco Peano cures, it does not sicken."*

**Michela Murgia**

*We are beyond every rational bond, that is where literature should venture."*

**il manifesto**

*"Theme, title, cover will last over and beyond book charts."*

**Grazia**

There is one test in life that everyone has to face: saying goodbye to the persons we love. Mattia is an everyday man. He lives in a small town, he works in a video store, he's got a girlfriend, and he will maybe find one day the necessary power to realize his projects, those projects that he carries on without a firm belief. His existence seems to be normal, until his mother gets a cancer. From that moment his life overturns like in a daily horror movie where even the most apparently common events become obstacles that have to be heroically overcome. Doctors do their job with a cold competence, and it's not easy to understand how to behave in front of them. The relationship with his relatives reveals its true nature as his mother's illness advances, the compassion of his friends makes him engage a cruel and exhausting fight. Furthermore, strange anonymous letters about his father begin to arrive. Even his girlfriend seems different under the fire of a sufferance that burns without pause. But in this journey, in which everything seems to be scandalously out of place (and revelatory at the same time), the relationship between Mattia and his mother is the deepest emotional dimension, a place of the soul where things, in the very same moment in which abandon us, finally reveal their true meaning.

**MARCO PEANO** | 1979

*was born in Turin in 1979. He is editor of Italian literature for Einaudi. The Invention of mother is his first novel.*

**BOOK OF THE YEAR 2015**  
**Fahrenheit (Radio 3)**

**PREMIO VOLPONI**  
**Opera Prima 2015**



HIGHLIGHT TITLE  
september 2012

FICTION - NOVEL  
201 pages



## PAOLO COGNETTI

# Sofia Always Wears Black

**RIGHTS SOLD TO:** De Bezige Bij (Netherland), Liana Levi (France), Fraktura (Croatia), Palomar (Denmark), Inaque (Slovakia), DVA (Germany), Finland (Artemisia)

*"The most beautiful book of 2012. Read it, and Sofia will stay with you forever."*

**Vanity Fair**

*"Cognetti's prose is masterful."*

**Blow Up**

*"Cognetti is exquisitely perceptive when describing women."*

**Maire Claire**

Sofia is a complex, restless woman from Northern Italy whose story we follow for thirty years: from her childhood in a seemingly peaceful middle-class family during the '80s to her troubled adolescence in the '90s, to her liberating discovery of sex and her passion for theatre, to the moment when, in New York at the beginning of a new century, she must take stock of her life so far. Compellingly readable and emotionally charged, this novel is poised to be Cognetti's definitive breakthrough.

**PAOLO COGNETTI** / 1978

*is the author of two acclaimed short-story collections (his first, Handbook for Successful Girls, sold more than 10,000 copies; his second, A small thing about to explode, won the Premio Settembrini and the Premio Renato Fucini, and was shortlisted for the Premio Chiara), with the novel Sofia Always Wears Black was consecrated as one of the best voices in contemporary Italian literature. With his last novel Le otto montagne (Einaudi, 2016) he won the 2017 Strega Prize.*

*Is it possible to portray a female character, as a child, a teenager and then a young woman fickle as a flame? Paolo Cognetti does it, and the result is wonderful."*

**Elle**

*"One of the most compassionate voices of his generation."*

**Famiglia Cristiana**

*"Paolo Cognetti builds up a perfectly oiled machine of imprecision."*

**Le nouvel Observateur**

**SHORTLISTED FOR  
THE STREGA PRIZE**



## PAOLO COGNETTI

### A Handbook For Successful Girls

**RIGHTS SOLD TO:**  
**Inaque (Slovakia)**

120 pages  
october 2004

*"A lovely surprise [...] Minimalist technique mastered with poised elegance."*

**Il sole 24 ore**

Seven stories, seven portraits of women. Girls fighting for love, for motherhood, for work; women who travel, build their careers or inherit fortunes; women who lose their jobs, who are betrayed and abandoned, and try to deal with failure; women who start over, rebel, sail without a compass through the storms of daily life. By their sides are weak and disoriented men, only capable of getting by, lacking courage and irony and also often lacking the

solitude that surrounds their girlfriends. With a dry and sharp style, and a captivating plot skillfully mixing bittersweet romance and coming-of-age tales against the frantic, often surreal backdrop of post-industrial Northern Italy, Cognetti builds the chapters of an imaginary "handbook for successful girls", seven ways of finding or losing happiness in today's world, seven stories that speak out with a voice that is impossible to forget.



## PAOLO COGNETTI

### A Small Thing About To Explode

**RIGHTS SOLD TO:**  
**Inaque (Slovakia)**

158 pages  
november 2007

*"For the poignancy and sheer quality of his writing, Cognetti can compete with the great American short-story writers." Linus*

After his previous astonishing debut with *Handbook for successful girls*, his time Paolo Cognetti's unifying theme is the most sensitive, violent, and painful age of life-adolescence.

Whether focusing on wealthy, twisted, fascinating girls committed to a clinic for the anorexic, or kids hurtling into the solitude of their parents' disintegrating marriage, the adolescence explored in these short stories becomes a game of roulette in which it is the future that is at stake; the moment, painful and keenly felt, in which the pro-

tagonist becomes aware of his or her identity, and discovers sex, friendship, and the cruelty of life, while striving to transform all these elements into an opportunity for redemption and emancipation.

With the intense and precise writing that won him his first popularity, and a perfect mastery of the way things intertwine, Paolo Cognetti proves once again that he is one of the best new writers at describing everyday life. And, more important, one of the few writers able to keep his readers' rapt interest from the first page to the last.



NEW TITLE  
october 2018

NON FICTION  
225 pages



## MARIO FILLIOLEY

# Sicily Is an Island, So To Speak

A book of refined and irresistible **comedy**, a sharp narration of a **beloved land**, a curious and impertinent **travel diary**, a manual of instructions to set up and take apart the myth of the “**sicilitude**”.

*Sicily is an island*, *So To Speak* is many things together: a book of refined and irresistible comedy, a sharp narration of a beloved land, a curious and impertinent travel diary, a manual of instructions to set up and take apart the myth of the “sicilitude”.

Mario Fillioley - a writer from Siracusa - is aware that he must come to terms with a myth. And, by joking, he takes it really seriously: “The narrator has the responsibility of narrating a place narrated too many times, and always narrated though fiction: topos, wonderful locations, exotic settings. If you write a book, even if it’s a little and stupid book, you need to remember this while writing, you have to try, otherwise what? The usual heavy southern accent, the commissioner who dies shot because he can’t renounce to his cannoli?”

Fillioley represents today’s Sicily with an ironic and deep writing, he avoids clichés, rhetorical poses and those easily antirhetorical ones. He does a simple, but very difficult thing at the same time: he accompanies the reader along the beaches of Siracusa, through the alleys in Palermo, under the balconies of Noto, like a friend, without any tricks or hypocrisy. He succeeds in an apparently impossible mission: to express something new and true about the “too big island”, an island so to speak. **Because Sicily can, and has to, be narrated, with humour and determination.**

### MARIO FILLIOLEY / 1973

*was born in Siracusa and translated many books from English. One of his texts was included in the anthology Non si può tornare indietro, published by Marsilio in 2015. He has written for IL and he has a blog on The Post. In 2016 he published Lotta di classe, Diario di un anno da insegnante in prova for minimum fax.*



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NEW TITLE

july 2018

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NON FICTION

231 pages



## MATTEO CAVEZZALI

# Icarus

## Rise and Fall of Raul Gardini

**MATTEO CAVEZZALI** / 1983

was born and still lives in Ravenna. He collaborates with many newspapers like la Repubblica and he keeps a blog on the website of Il Fatto Quotidiano. Some of his short stories have been published in minima&mo-ralia, Nazione Indiana and in the anthology Almannacco 2017. Mapped del tempo (Quodlibet 2017) edited by Ermanno Cavazzoni. He wrote plays, staged in Italy and abroad. He is director of the literary festival ScritturaRa.

On the 23rd of July 1993 Raul Gardini was found dead in his residence in Belgioioso Square, in Milan. He shut a bullet through his head, this is what they say, even if the hypothesis of his suicide struggles with a wall of discrepancies and unexplained arguments. Icarus is a ghosts story. A story of a man, Raul Gardini, who found himself in charge of a financial giant and from that moment on he challenged the world, with his visionary projects and sport crazy. This is a story of a city, Ravenna, that was restored to its former glory of the Byzantine Empire. And the story of a boy, Matteo, who has been obsessed for a long time with writing a book: a book on Gardini, on his city, on the rubble that, after each rise and fall, bury the winners and their secrets.

*Icarus* is not just a journalistic investigation: by playing between biography and autobiography, chronical and fiction, Cavezzali has composed an exciting mosaic in which there will always be a missing piece of the jigsaw, just like it happens in truth. What remains is just the narration of misfortune and infamy. Haunted houses, crashed airplanes, the cement business of "Cosa Nostra", vanished deals of the century, the utopia of unleaded petrol and biodegradable plastic, abducted dead bodies and corpses found in prison, missing suitcases and guns moved from one place to another. On everything the vertigo of the wind in his sails and the melancholy of one last regatta.

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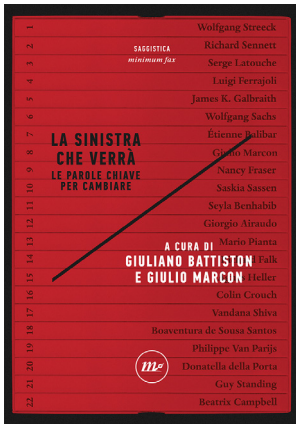
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journalist and researcher, Battiston writes for newspapers and reviews, like L'Espresso, il venerdì di Repubblica, il manifesto, gli asini and for The Institute for International Political Studies. He is part of the research network Global Cities – Theatrum Mundi. Since 2010 he has been organizing the program of the Salone dell'editoria sociale (Social Book Fair). He deals with globalization, international politics, armed Islamism and Afghanistan. His last book is Arcipelago jihad. Lo stato islamico e il ritorno di al-Qaeda, published by edizioni dell'asino, with which he realized two books of interviews: Zygmunt Bauman. Modernità e globalizzazione (2009) and Per un'altra globalizzazione.

### GIULIO MARCON / 1959

general secretary of the International Civil Service and president of the Italian Association of Solidarity, Marcon founded the Lunaria association and, with Goffredo Fofi, “edizioni dell'asino”. He has been campaign spokesman of Sbilanciamoci! until 2013. He has been member of the XVII parliamentary term.

Among his publications: Le ambiguità degli aiuti umanitari (Feltrinelli 2002), Come fare politica senza entrare in un partito (Feltrinelli 2005), Le utopie del ben fare (L'ancora del Mediterraneo 2006), Sbilanciamo l'economia (con Mario Pianta, Laterza 2013) and Enrico Berlinguer. L'austerità giusta (Jaca Book 2014).



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**RAFFAELE ALBERTO VENTURA** / 1983

*Raffaele Alberto Ventura studied philosophy and cultural economy. He now works in Paris for a big publisher, in the marketing department. He writes for Linus, IL and Prismo, of which he is editor-at-large. He wrote for Internazionale, Rivista Studio, Alfabet2 and Nazione Indiana. Since May 2017 he has been directing a non fiction book series for D Publishing House. His blog is Eschaton (eschaton.it).*

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