

INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR TURIN 2010

B.C.Dalai editore

BACKLIST 2010

B.C.Dalai *editore*
Via De Amicis 43, 20123 Milano
ITALY

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Giorgio Faletti
Io sono Dio
I Am God

600.000 copies sold

New York is kept on its toes by a serial killer who does not fit into any parameters known to criminologists. His actions do not appear to be hiding behind any morbid sentiments. He doesn't choose his victims one by one, following some elaborate mental plan. He doesn't look them in the eyes while they are dying. He wouldn't have enough eyes to do that. He doesn't kill one person at a time. He strikes en masse, causing large scale carnage. The explosion of a twenty-two storey building, followed by the casual discovery of an old letter, leads the police to face up to a dreadful reality: some of New York's buildings were mined at the time of their construction. But which ones? And how many? Why is this man's fury lashing out only now, so many years later? It is a very delicate situation. Every time the mad killer strikes, the result will inevitably be a massacre, but a general alert would cause chaos with apocalyptic consequences. Instead of leading towards a profile of a possible suspect, the few clues the detectives can work on all end up in blind alleys, as in the disappearance of a ghost. A young woman detective hiding her personal dramas behind a tough appearance, and a former press photographer with a past he'd rather forget, and for which he still seeks forgiveness, are the only hope of stopping this psychopath who does not even claim responsibility for his actions. A man who is taking his terrible revenge against the sorrow which has its roots in the greatest American tragedy of the second half of the XX century. A man who believes himself to be God.

Translation Rights sold to:

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Author's bio

Giorgio Faletti, after taking a degree in Law, has been a singer-songwriter, TV comedian and actor based in Italy. *I Kill* was his first thriller, published in Italy in 2002, where it topped the bestseller lists for over a year. The novel was translated into 25 languages. In 2004 he published his second novel *Niente di vero tranne gli occhi* and in 2006 he released his third thriller *Fuori da un evidente destino*. In 2008 he published a collection of short stories title *Pochi inutili nascondigli*.

PAGES: 500. PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 2009.

Giorgio Faletti
Pochi inutili nascondigli
(A Few Useless Hiding-Places)

400.000 copies sold

“Pavese meets Stephen King... An experimental Faletti, curious and Italian”. *Corriere della Sera*

“Unexpected and fascinating stories, that sparing no irony manage to dispel the dark side of the incomprehensible, meanwhile confirming Faletti’s versatile talent.” *la Repubblica*

Seven short stories following in the path of the mystery tradition of Poe, Lovecraft and King, and making use of elements of the fantastic to reveal a new sense of dismay, an unknown panic. Erasers capable of deleting houses and people, cursed lawns, gentle monsters and animated manikins, calm atmospheres which explode all of a sudden, to reveal that particular form of horror, which only the incomprehensible can stir from within.

SYNOPSIS OF THE FIRST TWO STORIES

Eraser and Pencil

Marco Barison, a famous cartoonist for children’s books who discovers he is being betrayed and robbed by the wife and by the son of his publisher, discovers on a Greek island an eraser and a pencil with disturbing powers, that become the perfect means for his revenge. He quickly spirals into a deep fierceness, hastened by the easiness and “cleanliness” with which he can strike his enemies, who vanish one after the other until Marco, hunted down by a police inspector, is forced to surrender in the face of “evidence of the impossible”, and decides to rub out himself.

The Last Friday of Mrs Kliemann

Carlo Anselmi is an old and purebred inhabitant of the Isle of Elba; he leads his life according to the seasonal rhythms of the island. He is therefore most surprised to discover that the Kliemanns have arrived at their villa much earlier than usual, and without giving any notice; he is mortified, because he is the only and somewhat negligent gardener of the villa. But what is the reason for this unexpected appearance? Why is beautiful Greta Kliemann acting so mysteriously? Why is she preventing everyone from approaching her husband Kurt? The truth of the matter – as Carlo will learn – is that Kurt Kliemann has been dead for the past two months. Who is the woman’s companion in this untimely holiday? Gratifying his curiosity will prove a most disturbing experience for the old man.

PAGES: 350. PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 2008.

Translation Rights sold to: GERMANY (Goldmann)

Giorgio Faletti
Io uccido
I Kill

4.500.000 copies sold

I Kill is set in rich, luxurious Montecarlo. One day, Jean Loup Verdier, a radio DJ, while broadcasting, answers a delirious phone call. The person on the other end of the line declares himself a murderer. The phone call is dismissed as a stupid joke, but the next day a Formula One pilot and his girlfriend are found killed and horribly mutilated. This cruel double murder is assigned to Hulot, a detective with a family troubled by the premature death of his young son. Hulot sets out in chase of the killer with his old friend Frank Ottobre, an FBI agent with his own personal tragedy to bear. During the investigation, the killer strikes again: information technology millionaire genius Allen Yoshida, who created an operating system competing with Microsoft, is found bled and horribly mutilated in an underground car park. Other murders follow, each one pre-announced by a phone call and a song, almost as a leitmotiv, the killer's track leading to the next victim. A peculiarity of these killings is that all the bodies are mutilated and their face is removed, as though it were a mask. The two detectives meet many touching characters, such as Pierrot, the young autistic boy, whose computer-like memory and amazing knowledge of music will help Hulot solve the enigma. In the second half of the book, Faletti provides the reader with more clues in order to help him reach the solution. He never reveals the killer's name, but he guides the reader towards a plausible discovery of his identity.

I Kill then changes, its rhythm rises and the style becomes pressing and distressing, mirroring the desperate effort to find the killer before he strikes again. Before the end of the book, the murderer's name is disclosed. This could be regarded as an own goal, in terms of suspense. On the contrary, as Hitchcock teaches us, a very different kind of suspense sets in: the one in which the reader tries to understand and organize all the clues, and follows the way the two detectives close in on the killer. These last pages are indeed the most breathtaking of the whole book.

PAGES: 597. PUBLICATION DATE: 2002. ENGLISH MS AVAILABLE.

Translation Rights sold to:

ALBANIA (Botimet Dudaj) AUSTRALIA (Murdoch Books) BRAZIL (Intrinseca) BULGARIA (Prozoretz)* CHINA-Simplified (Tianjin Chinese-World Books) CROATIA (Znanje) CZECH REPUBLIC (Rybka) DENMARK (Bazar) ESTONIA (Esti Ekspressi) FINLAND (Bazar) FRANCE (Flammarion) GERMANY (Goldmann) GREECE (Modern Times)* HUNGARY (Alexandra) ISRAEL (Modan) JAPAN (Bungeishunju) KOREA (Hansmedia) LATVIA (Janis Roze) NETHERLANDS (House of Books) NORWAY (Bazar) POLAND (Bertelsmann Media) PORTUGAL (Bertrand Editora) ROMANIA (Rao) RUSSIA (Corpus) SERBIA&MONTENEGRO (Laguna) SLOVENIA (Učila Int.) SPAIN (Grijalbo) SWEDEN (Bazar) TAIWAN (Crown Culture) THAILAND (Matichon) USA - HC (Baldini Castoldi Dalai editore Inc.) TURKEY (Do an Egmont) UK&WEL (Constable&Robinson)

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Film Rights sold to: Filmauro/Aurelio De Laurentiis

Giorgio Faletti
Niente di vero tranne gli occhi
Nothing True but the Eyes

2.500.000 copies sold

The second breath-taking thriller by Giorgio Faletti confirms his genius for creating a perfect narrative mechanism. A former fascinating police officer and a beautiful detective, a man and a woman trying to discover the truth. A wicked murderer obsessed with comic strips links Rome and New York, which are beautifully portrayed. Jordan Marsalis is a fascinating 37-year-old ex police officer and brother of Christopher, the mayor of New York. Maureen Martini is a beautiful 29-year-old detective working for the police force in Rome, daughter of a renowned international restaurateur, and of one of the most clever criminal lawyers in New York. After the tragic death of her boyfriend, killed by Abner Gallani, whose brother Avenir had been shot by Maureen in self defence, she moves to the Big Apple. Maureen needs to undergo surgery because her eyes were seriously injured when Gallani beat her up violently. Meanwhile a cruel murder has taken place in New York: Gerald Marsalis (known as Jerry Kho), a rebellious and introvert Body Art painter, who incidentally is the son of the mayor of New York and Jordan Marsalis' nephew, is found dead in his studio. The corpse, completely stained in red paint, is arranged in a way that recalls Linus, one of the Peanuts characters by Charles Schulz: with a blanket next to his ear and his thumb stuck in his mouth. Christopher Marsalis asks his brother to investigate this cruel murder together with James Burrone, a skilled detective. During their investigation, the killer strikes again: Chandelle Stuart, a film producer with strange sexual perversions. Her corpse recalls Lucy's character: leant against a piano, listening to Shroeder playing. Maureen Martini, who has undergone a corneal transplant, starts having distressingly weird visions that seem to have something in common with the ferocious murders that have recently taken place. Here begins the crazy race of Maureen and Jordan towards the truth, a race sometimes interrupted by moments of love, friendship and complicity. But the killer will certainly strike again. Who is Snoopy? Who is Pig Peng? And why does this wicked murderer find pleasure in killing his victims and leaving their corpses in postures that recall some of the most amusing comic-strips in the world? The rhythm rises, the plot becomes thicker, eventful and articulated, populated by the widest variety of characters, all analysed with great sharpness. But in a gloomy New York, where nothing is ever what it appears to be, the truth will be disclosed only at the very end...

PAGES: 499. PUBLICATION DATE: 2007. ENGLISH MS AVAILABLE.

Translation Rights sold to:

ALBANIA (Shtypshkronja) CHINA-Simplified (Tianjin Chinese-World Books) DENMARK (Bazar) FINLAND (Bazar) FRANCE (Flammarion) GERMANY (Verlagsgruppe Random House) GREECE (Modern Times) HUNGARY (Alexandra) KOREA (Hansmedia) NORWAY (Bazar) POLAND (Bertelsmann) ROMANIA (Rao) RUSSIA (Azbooka)* SPAIN (Grijalbo) SWEDEN (Bazar) TAIWAN (Crown Culture)

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Film Rights optioned by: Filmauro/Aurelio De Laurentiis* - ***rights newly available**

Giorgio Faletti
Fuori da un evidente destino
Out of a Manifest Destiny

2.500.000 copies sold

There is no harder journey than a trip into the past. Jim Mackenzie, a helicopter pilot of Native American origin, learns this at his own expense when he returns to Flagstaff, a quiet town in Arizona on the outskirts of the Navajo reserve where he was born, and from which he has forcibly uprooted himself. He returns to scatter to the wind the ashes of his Native American grandfather – the Great Chief of the Navajo Nation, who brought him up – and finds himself caught up in a vortex of unsettled issues and never-told truths (a betrayed friend, a son he never knew he had). He finds the past he left behind – loves, friendships, revenge and forgiveness – and, above all, the traditions and ancestral ties with his homeland. In the midst of this vortex, a series of terrible murders take place, all with the same killing method in common. The bones of all the corpses are so shattered that the bodies would almost appear to be boneless, with no evident signs of violence. Groping in the dark, inspector Robert Beaudysin ends up involving Jim in the inquest, because he is always on hand when a crime occurs. A thriller dotted with mysterious and unnatural deaths that will in the end reveal itself as a horror story, for the reaper of the victims is a Shadow-killer generated by Mother Earth, the giver and taker of life in the Navajo tradition. The Shadow-that-kills had been called upon in 1862 by the brujo Eldero, a Navajo chief with magic powers, to revenge the massacre of his people and the white family of his son-in law, carried out by four unscrupulous men who wanted to take possession of their lands. However, Eldero had been killed before he could complete the curse, and the Shadow remained “dormant” until such time as the Vessel of Earth used for the ritual was found in a cave and the powder it contained accidentally spilt. The circle is hence completed, and the Shadow is created – and will not find peace until it has killed all the people that Eldero had pointed out as targets. However, given that over a century has passed, it will kill the descendants of those who carried out the original massacres. Among them, the girlfriend Jim has rediscovered, along with her son and his best friend. A race against the clock begins to save as many lives as possible from a shapeless entity that is able to strike only when the designed victims rest on bare ground, where it can reach them from the entrails of the Earth, leaving horrifying upside-down prints. But how can it be stopped?

PAGES: 512. PUBLICATION DATE: 2006. ENGLISH MS AVAILABLE

Translation Rights sold to:

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Film Rights optioned by: Filmauro/Aurelio De Laurentiis - *rights newly available

Giaime Alonge
L'arte di uccidere un uomo
The Art of Killing a Man

1997. The cold war is a dusty file in history's archive, the Soviet Empire has crumbled and the city once known as Leningrad is run by the mob and by unscrupulous oligarchs.

Sergey Orlov, veteran of the Afghan war and former colonel of desantniki—a special élite I force of the invincible Red Army—survives himself and his memories by moving on to work as a mercenary soldier in one of the countless firms of private security born in post-communist Russia. With him is Peter Jennings, English, former KGB infiltrator at the MI5, whose eyes “have the class and arrogance of the people of his island”. A peculiar work order will take the two in Iraq, leading a group of mercenary soldiers. The mission appears to imply a quite simple task: to provide military support to a trafficker in drugs and arms who wants to kill his own brother and take control over the clan in a remote village in the desert.

But things immediately take a turn for the worst. Abandoned in a troubled territory, where super powers have clashed against one another to no avail, the mercenary soldiers will start a long and dangerous journey full of unexpected traps. *The Art of Killing a Man* is an epic novel, permeated by a cynical charm, that brings on-stage a world populated by veterans and stateless people. A whole new world in which nothing seems to have changed.

«Post-soviet mercenary soldiers, contractors, Middle-east clan chiefs, marauders in deserts of ruin. Along the deep rift of a whole era, the rubble of the Cold War is reignited by new conflicts. A fauna of benumbed soldiers, orphans of order, forced to escape through chaos and loss of meaning. Alonge writes like a Sven Hassel of the Post-Bipolar Era, he is a story teller like Peckinpah of the twilight of this West, which casts its shadows everywhere. To be read like one would eat...following a hunger strike. Careful not to choke.»

Wu Ming 1

Author's bio

Giaime Alonge was born in Turin in 1968, where he lives and works. He teaches History of Cinema at Turin's DAMS Institute and at the National School for Cinema. In 2004 he was visiting professor at Chicago University. He is the author of several academic essays and was co-author of the film-scripts *I nostri anni* (2000) and *Nemmeno il destino* (2004), directed by Daniele Gaglianone. This is his first novel.

PAGES: 376. PUBLICATION DATE: NOVEMBER 2009.

Translation Rights sold to:

DENMARK (Cicero)

Giovanni Arpino
Il buio e il miele
The Dark and the Honey

From the adaptation of this wonderful story, two brilliant movies have been produced: *Profumo di donna* in 1974, directed by Dino Risi and starring Vittorio Gassman, and its famous American remake *Scent of a Woman* in 1992, directed by Martin Brest and starring Oscar winner Al Pacino. Captain Fausto, the main character of the novel, is an officer who, for an accident in times of peace, has lost his sight and a hand. He is like an Achab with no White Whale to fight, prisoner in a dark world, a Ulysses without Iliad, who can only rely on a brief Odyssey (a week, also known as five plus two in military lingo) between Genoa and Rome, with final stop in Naples, the city of the sun, where death is waiting for him. A novel which does not seem to accept the common fate awaiting all books, that of being labelled and eventually buried under a definition, and of being commemorated at the most by some casual and absentminded readers.

Author's bio

Giovanni Arpino was born in Pola in 1927. He moved to Piedmont in his youth and spent his life in Turin. He graduated presenting a thesis on Esenin in 1951 and the following year saw his debut as a novelist. He worked also as a journalist for daily newspapers (*La Stampa*, *Il Giornale*) as a reviewer and sports reporter. As a sports reporter he wrote about football and sport in general with passion and irony, raising to a higher cultural level a genre regarded by most as vulgar rubbish. He won the Strega Prize in 1964 with *L'ombra delle colline* (The Shadow of the Hills), the Campiello Prize in 1972 with *Randagio è l'eroe* (The Stray Hero) and the SuperCampiello Prize in 1980 with *Il fratello italiano* (The Italian Brother). He died in Turin in 1987.

PAGES: 160. PUBLICATION DATE: 1999. ENGLISH MS AVAILABLE

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POLAND (C&T editions)
ROMANIA (Humanitas)
UK (Penguin Modern Classics)

Theatre rights sold to:

Dreamers Productions

BY THE SAME AUTHOR RIGHTS ACQUIRED ON THE FOLLOWING BACKLIST TITLES:

L'ombra delle colline (The Shadow of the Hills)
La suora giovane (The Young Nun)
Delitto d'onore (Honour Killing)

Enrico Brizzi
La nostra guerra
Our War

Our War, the new novel by Enrico Brizzi, is the second episode in the saga of Lorenzo Pellegrini set in Fascist Italy, the prequel of *The Unexpected Turn of Events*.

Through a flashback to the 1940s, the Bolognese author presents us a *Bildungsroman* with no fitting comparison in Italian fiction: the war the title refers to represents at two levels both the illusionary war where a Fascist Italy together with the allied forces opposes the Third Reich, and the conflict between father and mother that tears apart the main character's family.

Lorenzo will pass from the reassuring bourgeois life of grammar school studies and summer holidays in Riccione on the Adriatic coast, to the harsh and shocking experience of being an evacuee.

The teenager will witness the progressive distance between his parents; he will participate, first as a member of the *balilla* (Italian Fascist Youth Movement), then as an *avanguardista* (Fascist Adolescent Group), in the life of a nation at war, fighting the battles that oppose boys of rival villages and towns: surviving the bombings, and the initiation experiences of adolescence will represent Lorenzo's greatest victory.

The alternate history setting is constructed with impressive realism. Between a laugh and a sigh, a niggling question creeps its way into the reader's mind: isn't the crazy Italy portrayed by Brizzi a bit too uncomfortably similar to the Italy of our time?

Author's bio

Enrico Brizzi (born in Bologna in 1974) is one of the few Italian writers under 40 who doesn't need a special introduction. His debut novel *Jack Frusciante Has Left the Band* (Baldini&Castoldi, 1994) projected a twenty year old writer to the top of the bestseller list, and made Brizzi one of the most appreciated Italian writers, together with his following novels: *Bastogne* (Baldini&Castoldi, 1996) and *Tre ragazzi immaginari* (Baldini&Castoldi, 1998). In 2008 Brizzi published *The Unexpected Turn of Events* with Baldini Castoldi Dalai editore, the first episode of non too fictional Italy.

PAGES: 640. PUBLICATION NOVEMBRE 2009

Enrico Brizzi
L'inattesa piega degli eventi
The Unexpected Turn of Events

30.000 copies sold

*This novel by Enrico Brizzi marks the literary maturity of this author...
The result is a crackling and likely story. **Corriere della Sera***

Fascist Italy has just broken up the alliance with Hitler and has in fact opposed Nazi ambitions, suffering hardship and invasion by Germany and Vichy France, but has finally gained a place at the winners' table in 1945. Fascism is triumphant in exiting a conflict that is destined to enter the memory of Italians as "our war"; even the House of Savoy is eliminated from the national scenario.

In 1960, fifteen years after the armistice, Benito Mussolini is a 77 year old man, approaching his end, while his dictatorship carries on wearily, corrupted and torn by the internal strife amongst aspiring successors, particularly between the designated candidate to the succession, Pavolini, and the leader of the moderates, the Senate's president, Italo Balbo. The Italian role amongst the great powers is proving a mirage in a world kept under check by the two nuclear arsenals of the US and the USSR. With the imminent Olympic Games of Rome, awaited by the government as a great opportunity for international propaganda, Italy's future hovers in the balance like never before... It is against this sort of surreal backdrop that the voyage in Africa by 30 year old talented sports reporter Lorenzo Pellegrini takes place; Lorenzo has recently come to odds with Margherita, daughter of the owner of his newspaper. Her father, furious at learning of Lorenzo's love affair with Margherita, cancels his name from the list of the journalists registered for coverage of the Olympic Games in Rome, and sends him to Asmara and Addis Abeba, to follow the last fixtures of the African Series, the league collecting all the very best of Eritrean, Ethiopian and Somalian football. What is meant as an exile becomes an opportunity to discover a fascinating and all but appeased Country, where the contrast between the rhetorical of pompous neo-colonialist buildings and the everyday life of the majority of the black population could not be more striking. Football in this particular social context represents much more than in Italy, giving vent to never soothed tensions. Lorenzo soon grows fond of Saint George of Addis Abeba, the main interracial club in the Horn of Africa, dear to anti-fascists and idolized by the Ethiopian people as a symbol of national redemption...

PAGES: 400. PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 2008.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR:

Jack Frusciante è uscito dal gruppo
Jack Frusciante Has Left the Band

2.500.000 copies sold

“How can you not love a self-professed love story
with rock ‘n’ roll?” The New York Times Book Review

PAGES: 179. PUBLICATION DATE: 1995 ENGLISH MS AVAILABLE.

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ARGENTINA (Alfaguara)* BRAZIL (Objectiva)* CROATIA (Sysprint)* DENMARK (Gyldendal)* FRANCE
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Film Rights sold to: Medusa Film (1996), RAI (2007)

Bastogne

PAGES: 304. PUBLICATION DATE: 1996

Translation Rights sold to:

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GERMANY (Goldmann)* NETHERLAND (De Bezige Bij)* SPAIN (Anagrama)*

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Tre ragazzi immaginari
Three Imaginary Boys

PAGES: 192. PUBLICATION DATE: 1998

Elogio di Oscar Firmian e del suo impeccabile stile
Praise of Oscar Firmian and of His Impeccable Style

PAGES: 304. PUBLICATION DATE: 1999

Translation Rights sold to:

HUNGARY (Europa Konyvkiado)

Raul Montanari
Strane cose domani
Strange Tomorrows

Can you be a murderer and innocent at the same time?

Danio is a psychologist, he is separated from his wife and has a twenty year old son, Tommaso, restless as many people of his age are. Danio has a girlfriend, Chiara, and among his women patients, all madly in love with him, is a secret lover, the unrestrained and voluptuous Cristina.

But, more importantly, Danio hides a terrible secret. He is a murderer. He has killed two men, at different times in his life, but in both cases he was forced to kill due to very odd circumstances.

No one knows this, except his ex-wife, the mysterious and magic Eliana.

One day he finds a young woman's diary, randomly left on the bench of a public park, and this event will crush the delicate and unstable rhythm of his days; he will become progressively involved in the spirals of a hateful family drama. Urged by his conscience and followed everywhere by a weird and memorable private detective, Danio will have to defend himself and his loved ones from an unexpected threat. This triggers a chain reaction of unexpected pressing events that will compel the main character to take stock and come to terms with the real meaning of his life. After the success of *The First Night*, Raul Montanari continues the development of his poetics, where the suspense, far from the *topoi* of the noir, turns more and more into a means of presenting in an enthralling way some deep existential questions, and to express an indomitable love of life.

Author's bio

Raul Montanari was born in Bergamo in 1959. He lives and works in Milan, where he teaches creative writing and works for theatre, radio, cinema and the web. He is one of the writers who freed Italian noir fiction from the underrating "genre" label, winning for it a place of all respect in the European map of fiction.

See backlist for further titles published by Baldini Castoldi Dalai *editore*.

PAGES: 288. PUBLICATION DATE: SEPTEMBER 2009.

Film rights sold

Raul Montanari
La prima notte
The First Night

20.000 copies sold

Milan, March 2008: a girl and a guy pass their first night together. They make love, they eat, they drink, they whisper sweet nothings to each other. And they talk. It is mostly Irene who does the talking: she tells her lover the extraordinary story of her life, often marked by dramatic events, that she relates nonetheless with a smiling and irresistible levity. Springing from a mysterious and ancient blood feud, her story ends up depicting a four-sided affair where Irene has to confront an ambiguous husband, a jealous lover, and an enigmatic prosecutor deeply in love with her. Tension rises to then finally drop into an unexpected conclusion, where all pending issues from the past are settled, but where the future remains to be invented. Only the last chapter shall unveil the identity of the man who has so passionately passed these first hours with Irene. An unexpected, out of the ordinary novel, *The First Night* does not abandon the suspense that represents the distinctive mark of its author's style. More than to evoke shadows and threats (that are not missing in the novel), the author skilfully applies the technique of suspense to investigate the ever topical relation between man and woman.

PAGES: 288. PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 2008.

FIRST CHAPTER ON REQUEST AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND GERMAN TRANSLATION

BY THE SAME AUTHOR:

Che cosa hai fatto
What Have You Done

PAGES: 276

PUBLICATION DATE: 2001

Translation Rights sold to: GERMANY (Ullstein)

Il buio divora la strada
Darkness Devours the Road

PAGES: 214

PUBLICATION DATE: 2002

Chiudi gli occhi

Close Your Eyes

PAGES: 398

PUBLICATION DATE: 2004

Translation Rights sold to: GERMANY (Ullstein)

La verità bugiarda

The Lying Truth

PAGES: 312

PUBLICATION DATE: 2005

L'esistenza di Dio

The Existence of God

PAGES: 312

PUBLICATION DATE: 2008

FANTASY LINE

Thomas Mazzantini
Garmir l'eclissiomante
Garmir, the Eclipse Diviner

According to an old prophecy, the three Suns permitting life on earth will soon set in the East and will never rise again. The only way to stop the catastrophe would be to retrieve the sacred Seals, precious jewels hidden in the Unnamed Lands. Garmir, banished as heretic from all the Alive Lands because of his magic, sets off to research the sacred Seals, together with a group of chosen persons like him. We have the monstrous Putrivorous, that feeds on decomposed remains; Kipam the hydromancer, a childhood friend of Garmir; Sadlit, an elf girl born of human parents and blessed with extraordinary powers; Alzand, former soldier scarred in battle by a cursed weapon, who will be joined by clergyman Mel, the grium Trafnuk and the anti-demon Kikar; the beautiful Nephil, who is able to envisage glimpses of the future and Xinaghul, a colossal man who lives in the forest and whose face always remains inexplicably concealed.

The team will have to cross a lake of liquid anguish, to face a dragon, to explore a city locked in a spell, to access an impossible monastery and be ready for every kind of trial because, as they progress towards North, someone watches them at every step, using a mysterious messenger riding a mantichora. But who is the Sire of Blood? What does he have to do with the East Sunsets? And how come there has been the return of the Born-Dead, corpse-like beings that have devastated the Alive Lands and killed Garmir's parents? The young eclipse diviner will find answers to all these questions only in the day when the Suns will set on the wrong side of the sky, and the power of his magic Seal shall reveal all its greatness.

Author's bio

Thomas Mazzantini was born in 1990 of a Swiss mother and Italian father. He lives on the Isle of Elba in Tuscany. A voracious reader of fantasy and science fiction, Thomas has nurtured a passion for writing since elementary school. *Garmir the Eclipse Diviner*, conceived at 15, written at 16 and completed at 17, is his first novel.

PAGES: 320. PUBLICATION DATE: OCTOBER 2008 – ENGLISH EXCERPT AVAILABLE

NON-FICTION

Walter Bonatti

I miei ricordi

My Memories

The memories of one of the greatest alpinists of all times. 30.000 copies sold

The more significant achievements in climbing experienced by Walter Bonatti in the Fifties and Sixties. An anthology collecting the accounts of physically extreme ventures, where strong emotions and iron motivations intertwine, drawing the significant legs of a fascinating journey; a human challenge with nature's forces leading to a personal and spiritual maturity. In this book, more than ever, the great alpinist explains the irrepressible impulse towards the actions which drove him to conceive and to realize the kind of enterprises that only the most creative people dare dream about. This book tells of epic accomplishments that prove more like a journey to the heart of one's own self. Adventures providing a key to the better understanding of other people, and to becoming one with the world of nature: a cultural, ethical and aesthetical voyage.

Author's bio

Walter Bonatti was born in 1930 and distinguished himself from a very early age in the world of alpinism, through his involvement in the boldest ventures of his time, which turned him into a living legend. In 1954 he took part in the dramatic conquest of K2 and in 1965 the solitary winter climb of the north face of the Matterhorn concluded his activity as a climber. In 2000 the French President Jacques Chirac awarded him the title of Officer of the Légion d'honneur with the following motivation: "A giant of adventure of international fame, a brave and generous man who did not hesitate to take any risk in order to help his fellow climbers."

PAGES: 403. PUBLICATION DATE: NOVEMBER 2008.

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BULGARIA (International Mountain Film Festival Society)

BY THE SAME AUTHOR:

Montagne di una vita
The Mountains of My Life

This fascinating, biographical account of an Alpine mountain climber will inspire a deep respect for the mountains. Bonatti writes about his experiences of mountain climbing in the Alps, from a humble beginning on La Grigna (the mountains which dominate Brianza) in 1951, to the north face of Lavaredo, in the Dolomites, and the fight against Mont Blanc. The descriptions of climbing these terrifying natural barriers, sometimes minute by minute, are packed with facts, feelings and curiosities about mountains and this dangerous sport. Yet, *The Mountains of My Life* transcends both a sport chronicle and an autobiography; it is an ode to nature and the mountains, where the narrator experiences an inspiring sense of communion with himself.

PAGES: 330. PRICE: EURO 14. ENGLISH MS AVAILABLE.

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TURKEY (Kelime Yayinlari) USA (Random House)* UK (Penguin)

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In terre lontane
In Distant Lands

In the mid Sixties, at the peak of his success, gained for the mythical expeditions that made him a legend of alpinism, Walter Bonatti begins a new phase of his life: he dedicates himself to a series of adventurous explorations that take him to some of the most desolate areas of the globe, in direct contact with a majestic and primeval nature. As a result, we have these memorable accounts, that place themselves well beyond the traditional boundary of travel literature. What Bonatti manages to reveal in this precious book is a very practical experience of the remotest instincts, the recovery of a long lost harmony between man and every pulse of life present on our ancient planet Earth.

PAGES: 448 PUBLICATION DATE: 1997

Translation Rights sold to:

FRANCE (Flammarion) GERMANY (Piper)

K2: La verità 1954-2005
K2: The Truth 1954-2005

PAGES: 290 PUBLICATION DATE: 2005

Translation Rights sold to:

FRANCE (Guerin)

SPAIN (Desnivel)

Francesco Forgione
'Ndrangheta. Boss, luoghi e affari della mafia più potente al mondo
'Ndrangheta.
Bosses, Places and Dealings of the World's Most Powerful Mafia

In the wake of the Duisburg massacre that shocked Germany, the world has discovered the Calabrian 'Ndrangheta. The 'Ndrangheta today is the most powerful organized crime structure on earth, and it is also the most obscure. Its organizational structure, its gangs (the so-called cosche or 'ndrine) have spread from the archaic and primitive heart of Calabria to the rest of Europe, America, and Australia. It is a "fluid" organized crime group, infiltrating all levels of society by reproducing in far-flung locations the identical venerable and efficient criminal model. This is a model that, by virtue of its tight family structures, leaves very few turncoats to help police. Voracious in attacking every sector of the economy, it is deeply rooted within "healthy" society, by both connivance and fear. Impervious to police inquiries, due to its global links and to the consensus the organization enjoys within its land of origin, the 'Ndrangheta has been compared to Al Qaeda – it displays a similar tentacular structure, devoid of strategic supervision, but characterized by a sort of collective intelligence that makes it an incredibly reliable multinational crime group. The 'Ndrangheta represents the overriding broker of international drug dealing, managing the routes of access to Europe through Colombian, South American, and African smuggling pathways. This fascinating volume reads like a "mafia novel", but is actually the first inquiry of the Italian parliamentary anti-mafia commission on the Calabrian mafia, or 'Ndrangheta: it lists the names of 'Ndrangheta bosses and families, it maps the criminal presence in Calabria, tracking down links with Europe and the rest of the world. This detailed account explains the system of the 'Ndrangheta's legal affairs, the connections with the political and the business world, the spectacular frauds against the EU, and the international circuits of money laundering. A gripping account that uncovers the darkest secrets of a violent and savage criminal group, primitive and yet modern, capable of thinking both locally and globally.

Author's bio

Francesco Forgione (49) was an MP for region of Calabria. He was head of Italy's Parliamentary Antimafia commission, from November 2006 to the early dissolution of Italy's parliament in February 2008. He has been a member of the regional Antimafia commission for clarity in public administration offices.

Translation Rights sold to:

SPAIN (Ediciones Destino)
CZECH REPUBLIC (Paseka)

PAGES: 320. PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 2008

Rita Levi-Montalcini With Giuseppina Tripodi La clessidra della vita di Rita Levi-Montalcini (The Sand-Glass of the Life of Rita Levi-Montalcini)

Rita Levi-Montalcini was born in Turin in 1909, where she graduated in Medicine; the first steps of her career are guided by the famous histologist Giuseppe Levi. In 1938, forced to leave the university because of the racial discrimination laws in Italy mirroring the Nazi Nuremberg Laws, she fled to Belgium and started her research on the Central Nervous System in a makeshift laboratory in her house. At the end of WWII she accepted an appointment at Washington University in St. Louis, where she remained for 30 years. In 1951-1952 she discovered a protein able to stimulate the growth of nerve fibres (Nerve Growth Factor, a.k.a.s. NGF), which plays an important role in the growth and differentiation of sympathetic and sensory nerve cells. This achievement won her the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1986. The motivation of the jury stated: "The discovery of NGF in the early 50s is a fascinating example of how a sharp observer may extract valid hypotheses from apparent chaos. Neurobiologists before this discovery had not a clue on which were the processes involved in the correct innervation of the various organs and tissues of the organism." Rita Levi-Montalcini has held the highest academic offices, has received awards worldwide and particularly noteworthy has also been her commitment to social work and noble causes, such as defending science's liberty and supporting literacy and education of young African women, help she carries out through grants issued by her association. In 2001 she was nominated life-long member of the Italian Senate, an appointment she has been known to honour with her usual reliability, time after time amazing everyone for her upright tenacity and lucidity. This title hands down to posterity all the fruits of the wisdom that the scientist and the woman reaped in a troubled and fascinating turn of events.

PAGES: 256. PUBLICATION DATE: NOVEMBER 2008. ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE.

ALSO FROM RITA LEVI-MONTALCINI

L'asso nella manica a brandelli The Tattered Ace Up the Sleeve

This essay seeks to set out some guidelines on how to cope confidently with the problems of old age. The author has declared many times that she made her most important discoveries after receiving the Nobel Prize, when she was already in her late seventies. The researcher's arguments are not based on ethical, sociological or psychological considerations, but rather drawn from scientific factors; she explains that, in the process of ageing, the human brain loses some prerogatives which it then substitutes with others that partly compensate for and exceed the losses. If a child's brain may for instance be compared to a forest with many trunks and few branches, the brain of an old person will resemble a forest with fewer trunks, but many ramifications. Rita Levi-Montalcini illustrates her point with a series of examples of famous people who were active in their old age, such as Michelangelo, Galileo Galilei, Bertrand Russell and Pablo Picasso.

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NETHERLANDS (Contact)* SPAIN (Editorial Critica)*

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PAGES: 150. PUBLICATION DATE: 1998

La galassia mente The Galaxy of the Mind

A hundred billion, or maybe more, are the galaxies in the universe. And a hundred billion, or maybe more, are the nerve cells populating our brain. However, between the cosmic and the cerebral universe, to which the title of this book clearly refers to, there is more than a numeric coincidence. The concept of infinity relates to cosmic space in the case of the universe, and to boundless elaboration in the case of the brain. This faculty has enabled man across the millennia, to gradually reach the highest levels of cultural progress and offers the possibility of investigating the most private secrets of the mind. Where does thought originate from? From which cell and circuits? Rita Levi-Montalcini, famous for her fundamental discoveries in the development of neurobiology, tries to reconstruct, step by step, the evolution of the nervous system, in order to understand how, starting from the appearance of the first cells on Earth, we arrived to that extraordinary structure represented by the brain of the Homo Sapiens.

Translation Rights sold to:

SPAIN (Editorial Critica)* *rights newly available

PAGES: 218. PUBLICATION DATE: 2001

Cronologia di una scoperta (Chronology of a Discovery)

In this title Rita Levi-Montalcini tells the story of the discovery thanks to which she received the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1986. It is a story not only and not so much about the results of an incredible work of research, but about a long scientific adventure, the successes of which keep cropping up. The initial flashback takes us to 1948, when it all began: the eminent scientist back then was carrying out research on chicken embryos in which a malignant tumour from a mouse had been implanted. The complex research process leading to the identification of the protein that stimulates the growth of nerve fibres, the Nerve Growth Factor (NGF), is revisited in depth. The author also explains the research saga following the discovery of NGF, her crucial role in describing the integrated activities of the nervous, the endocrine and the immune system, as well as in gaining a full understanding of degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer. The long voyage through the brain and the nervous system, undertaken by Rita Levi-Montalcini 60 years ago, continues to fascinate both scientists, for the unimaginable scenarios uncovered, and the laymen, for her upright behaviour and consistency that make her a unique person and scientist.

PAGES: 194. PUBLICATION DATE: 2009

Ezio Rivella
Io e Brunello. Come portai Montalcino nel mondo
Brunello and I. The Prince of Wines' True Story

**The creation of a unique brand, told by his brilliant inventor:
an amusing and exciting success case history.**

Ezio Rivella is the leading actor in a marvellous “movie”, all Italian in taste and rhythm. Amongst the more respected wine experts in the world, he has been the leading figure of a unique business enterprise, which turned the wine Brunello di Montalcino into one of the best representatives of Made in Italy products. The operation of Castle Banfi is a story based on strong will, talent, intuition and courage; a fascinating account, written in the first person and rich in events, people, stories and places, as extraordinary as Brunello di Montalcino itself. In the late Sixties, Montalcino was a small country village, known only for the medieval battles in the Siena area, and so poor as to be targeted by special economic directives to sustain the meagre income of its inhabitants. Twenty years later, the village can boast over two hundred wine production plants, most of which highly regarded worldwide by business experts. The village accommodates more than two thousand visitors a year in its hotels and has seen the value of its cultivated land rise to the highest levels in the world. An entrepreneurial “miracle”, which is the fruit of a unique blend in the world, is here narrated by a “visionary” professional, skilled with exceptional technical excellence, such as Rivella truly is.

Author's bio

Ezio Rivella is president of the National Committee of DOC (i.e. Denomination of Controlled Origin) and vice-president to the *Office Internationale de Vigne et du Vin*.

Translation Rights sold to: USA (Baldini Castoldi Dalai editore Inc.)

PAGES: 383. ENGLISH EDITION AVAILABLE.

THE FASHION SERIES

Maria Vittoria Alfonsi *Gianfranco Ferré. L'architetto stilista* Gianfranco Ferré. The Architect Stylist

After the biographies of Armani and Versace, the account of the extraordinary life of Gianfranco Ferré, another giant in the world of Italian fashion.

The “trilogy of fashion”, in alphabetic order, is formed by the iconic figures of Giorgio Armani, Gianfranco Ferré, and Gianni Versace. London, at the peak of their success, would say: “Italy produces wrong collections and beautiful ones, but the three Gs keep proving that no one can touch them; their collections are one better than the other.” Gianfranco Ferré was the “great sculptor”, and he used to define himself “architect-stylist-apprentice tailor.” With a creative genius reaching the highest peaks, leading him also to Paris to free the Maison Dior from decay, he gained enthusiastic reviews for his peerless white shirts, his “castle suits”, his clean and clear-cut lines: “Apothéose pour Ferré... Hurrah for Ferré... A Giant...” this is the tone of the headlines from the main French and English newspapers. Gianfranco Ferré was a guru of style, but was also a sensitive and learned man, lover of the arts and friend of artists, teacher, and traveller.

His life represents a fairy tale come true, although unfortunately concluded all too soon.

Author's bio

Maria Vittoria Alfonsi is a leading journalist in the fashion industry. She is a contributor to the *Fashion Dictionary*, published by Baldini Castoldi Dalai editore.

PAGES: 280. PUBLICATION DATE: OCTOBER 2008.

Renata Molho
Essere Armani—Una biografia
Being Armani—A Biography

Few designers make lasting marks on fashion. Fewer still change how the world dresses.
Giorgio Armani, in his long and astonishing career, has done both.

What makes the Armani story so irresistible is the sheer improbability of it all. A shy young man from a bourgeois family in the Italian provinces leaves medical school to find his way. Armed with photographs of his pretty sister, he talks his way into a job as a window dresser for a major Italian department store. He designs lines for other fashion houses till the age of forty. Then he decides to go into business for himself. Two years later the entire fashion-forward male population was sporting unstructured jackets over sophisticated shirts with a subtle pattern worked into the weave, and was dressing in shades of grey, beige, and taupe. Before you could say Armani Uomo, everyone from New York to L.A.—and the country between them—knew all about good taste.

Good taste was Giorgio Armani. And a good life was a life with plenty of Giorgio Armani in the closet. This is the fascinating authorized story of Giorgio Armani's rich and influential life, told by an experienced fashion journalist, an insider who witnessed much of that story herself.

Author's bio

Renata Molho, born in 1951, is a journalist and essayist and also works as a fashion critic for the daily newspaper *Il Sole 24 Ore*. She contributes to many magazines (*Vogue*, *GQ*).

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Film Rights sold to: Albatross

PAGES: 256. PUBLICATION DATE: 2006 ENGLISH MS AVAILABLE.

Minnie Gastel
Il mito Versace
The Versace Legend

The first biography of Versace 10 years after his death.

This is the first biography of Gianni Versace, the great Italian fashion designer who dressed the most beautiful women in the world, from top models to Princess Diana. His is the fascinating story of a youth who left Reggio Calabria in the provinces to become one of the biggest names ever in the entire history of fashion. The book describes his extraordinary talent, his appetite for culture, his nostalgia for the past and his ability to anticipate the future; his work and business; Avedon and beauty; the theatre and rock stars; his family, his love life and his friends, all the way to his tragic appointment with fate in Miami, which did not end the game, but rather turned Versace into a legend.

Author's bio

Minnie Gastel was born in Milan, holds a degree in Philosophy from the University of Milan and works as a professional journalist. She has written for *la Repubblica* and worked as managing editor for the monthly *Donna*. She currently works as a reporter for the weekly *Donna Moderna* and is a contributor to *Affari&Finanza*, the economic insert of *la Repubblica*.

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