

ABRIDGED ENGLISH PROGRAMME



MANTOVA
4 • 8 september 2024

Festivaletteratura





Listening, fostering engaging discussions and expanding our reach are the objectives we aim to achieve with the twenty-eighth edition of Festivaletteratura. In an era where dialogue appears to be declining, there is a growing need to share stories and connect through words. The Festival has consistently built a community centred around diverse ideas and narratives from authors worldwide, striving to uncover original voices and acknowledge what is happening in even the most remote regions.

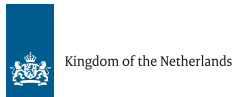
Once again we are excited to welcome over three hundred Italian and international guests who will contribute to a programme characterised by a wide range of themes and interests. The programme has been shaped by meetings and initiatives carried out throughout the year, primarily involving the young and the very young. From these extensive reading and research workshops comes a substantial part of the planned events and the drive to find new ways of exchange.

It is no coincidence that this edition will feature not only the piazzas tinged with blue but also classrooms, meeting rooms, and other places that facilitate interaction. Through workshops, collaborative lessons and creative labs, literature will serve to foster connections, consolidate ideas, and generate new narratives. Additionally, the very heart of Festivaletteratura is expanding. While the literary and artistic themes have always encompassed a broad spectrum, the Festival is also seeking new physical spaces for growth and experimentation. Initiatives include a comic strip workshop in the Valletta Valsecchi neighbourhood, a creative geography camp in Lunetta, and performances in both provincial theatres and the piazzas of the historic centre. This diverse array of activities provides the blueprint for a Festival that is increasingly open and welcoming to all those coming to Mantova for this much-anticipated occasion.

Wishing everyone a joyful Festival experience!

THE COMMITTEE

Thanks to:



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BUYING TICKETS

How to get tickets for the 2024 edition of Festivaletteratura.
We ask you to read the following information carefully.

HOW TO BUY

Festivaletteratura tickets **can only be purchased online** [AT WWW.FESTIVALETTERATURA.IT](http://WWW.FESTIVALETTERATURA.IT)

from **9 a.m.** on **Wednesday 28 August** → for **filofestival members**

from **9 a.m.** on **Friday 30 August** → for **everyone else**

At the end of the purchasing procedure, you will receive **the PDF tickets by email**. These must be shown either printed or on your phone at the event venues (**at a cost of €0.50 per order, tickets can be delivered on Whatsapp**). Your automatically assigned seat number will be printed on the ticket (this does not include standing events, itineraries or installations). Some events, marked with numbers from 500 upwards, will be free of charge but with compulsory booking, and this must be made through the ticketing system. To book, simply add these events to your shopping cart and complete the transaction. Please note that non-members may purchase up to a maximum of 4 tickets per event.

Accepted payment methods: credit cards, Satispay, Amazon Pay, Paypal, Carta Giovani Cultura and Carta del Docente (the latter two only allow the purchase of one ticket per event).

To facilitate the purchasing process, **from Thursday 22 August everyone will be able to pre-register** on the ticketing platform at bit.ly/fl-login

RE-SALE

As of this year, you will be able to resell tickets that you do not wish to use. To do so, go to “My orders” on the ticketing platform. This is not an automatic refund however: if any other user is interested in the ticket now available and buys it, the cost of the ticket (i.e. excluding service fees) will be credited to the bank card used at the time of purchase. **Tickets can be put back on sale up to one hour before the start of the event.** There is a service **charge of €1.50 per ticket.**

N.B.: Resale is not applicable for purchases made with Carta Giovani Cultura and Carta del Docente

HELP DESK

At the **Loggia del Grano (via Spagnoli 4)** volunteers will be on hand to help with online purchasing:
from **Wednesday 28 August** to **Tuesday 3 September** → from **9:00** to **13:00** and from **15:00** to **19:00**

(Sunday 1 September closed)

from **Wednesday 4** to **Saturday 7 September** → from **9:00** to **19:00**;

Sunday 8 September → from **9:00** to **17:00**

From Wednesday 4 to Sunday 8 two more help desks will be set up at **Palazzo di San Sebastiano** and the **Infopoint in Piazza Sordello**. Opening hours will be the same as at the main help desk in the Loggia del Grano.



REFUNDS

In the event of cancellation of one or more events, a refund will be made automatically by re-crediting the net cost of the ticket.

ACCESSIBILITY

For the purchase of tickets for **people with disabilities**, please send an e-mail to perilfestival@festivaletteratura.it, by 25 August, subject to availability.

WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The events for children and young people are exclusively designed for an **audience of the age group indicated in the programme**. Accompanying adults will also be able to purchase tickets, except for events/workshops marked with an . For events marked with an , the presence of an adult is expressly required. There is no need to purchase an additional ticket.

REGULATIONS FOR FILOFESTIVAL MEMBERS

The deadline for signing up for the Filofestival (friends of the Festival) membership card is **19 August**. Members of the Filofestival Association can purchase tickets **from 9:00. on Wednesday 28 August**.

When purchasing online you will need to enter the 6-character alphanumeric number (printed on the card or received by e-mail).

The card is strictly personal.

Each individual member can book **1 ticket only per event** for events that are compatible in terms of time (with a space of at least 60 minutes). The service will allow two members to purchase adjacent seats. To do so, all that is required is that one member purchases the two tickets at the reduced rate and enters the two membership card numbers during the purchasing process. The membership **discount is 10%** of the full ticket price.

INFORMATION

For information on events and Filofestival membership, call +39 0376 223989.

For technical problems with the purchasing platform send an email to cs@clappit.com or call +39 02 36522969.

We recommend registering for our **newsletter** at www.festivaletteratura.it, on the free **SMS informa** service +39 353 3364700 or on our **Telegram** channel t.me/festivaletteratura.

ANIMALS

For organisational reasons, no animals (except guide dogs) will be allowed into the events with assigned seats.

KEY TO THE PROGRAMME

1 FESTIVAL EVENT

1 EVENT FOR CHILDREN

ADULTS NOT ALLOWED.

CHILDREN WITH ADULTS

Events where the presence of an adult is required (included in the child's ticket)

FREE ADMISSION

STREAMING

All events marked by the play button are also streamed live on the [Festivaletteratura YouTube channel](#).

EVENTS NOT IN ITALIAN AND WITHOUT INTERPRETATION

SHUTTLE BUS

Festivaletteratura reserves the right to make changes to the programme after this publication goes online.

→ **Any changes of venue and time, or cancellations**, will be announced promptly by the Festivaletteratura Secretariat: details will be provided by the Ticket Office, our Information Points, the Festival bookshop, the SMS Informa service, the Telegram channel and the Festivaletteratura app, as well as on the Festival website.

→ Literary events **last** about 1 -1½ hours; workshops about 2 - 2½ hours; walks 1.30/2 hours.

→ Latecomers may be **refused admission**, even if they have a ticket.

→ Spectators give their consent and authorisation for all present or future use of any **audio and video recordings or photographs** in which they may feature as members of the public at the events and workshops they attend. In particular, purchasing tickets for children's and teenagers' events entails release of rights for present and future use of any audio and video recordings and photographs that may be taken of young people at the events or workshops they attend.



To set the tone for literature you need the right **accent**. This year, Festivaletteratura features a variety of engaging ones: upbeat, sharp, funny, and captivating enough to draw in even the most distracted readers. The 2024 edition of this symphony of short stories and lessons in thirty minutes performed on the Sordello Tent stage will celebrate literature through magical themes, explorations of far-off places, biting forays into current affairs and reflections on water. Joining the audience and authors will be Silvia Andreoli, Marta Bacigalupo, and Luca Pareschi. You can also watch all the events on Festivaletteratura's YouTube channel.

WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

21:30 CLARK LAWRENCE
Not lost, just wandering

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

10:00 JOËL DICKER
Cool tales

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

10:00 RICHARD SENNETT
Work on a human scale

THE SACRED FIRE OF WRITING

You don't burn just for love. Behind the tempestuous twists of fiction, between the vibrant lines of a poem, or even through the tiniest scribble on a blank page, a warm glow starts to spread – it's the spark of inspiration, the creative energy, the remarkable ability that drives every serious writer to abandon themselves to literature.

Once again, Christian Mascheroni and Elsa Riccadonna are inviting ten authors from Italy and abroad to the Book Piazza to share their experiences.

Amid ten sizzling discussions about literary creativity, they will be asking them how this special spark of writing appears, how they keep it alive, and how it turns into images, words, and complete masterpieces.



EVENTS:

Wednesday 4 September

18:00

colum mccann + lella costa

Thursday 5 September

18:00

nathan thrall

Friday 6 September

18:00

alejandro zambra

Sunday 8 September

12:00

deborah levy

Project realised thanks
to the support of

Unical
BE ON FIRE

The background is a complex abstract composition in various shades of blue. It features a grid of circular patterns on the left, vertical brushstrokes on the right, and a large white number '4' in the center. The overall style is graphic and textured.

WEDNESDAY

4

SEPTEMBER
2024

THE SACRED FIRE OF WRITING

Colum McCann with **Christian Mascheroni** and **Lella Costa**

18:00 BOOK TENT **FREE ADMISSION**

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with *Literature Ireland*.

On the sacred fire of writing SEE P. 9

Unical
BE ON FIRE

9 A CREEPY CRYPT

Kotryna Zylė

18:30 CASA DEL MANTEGNA 7,50€

What could you find in a mysterious black book? A writer of thrilling tales! Step into the dark crypt of the Church of San Sebastiano, where Kotryna Zylė (*Siela sumuštinių dėžutėje*) will share the secrets of a spooky book, ask some scary questions, offer a monster quiz, and provide some little flashlights for uncovering hair-raising answers.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the *Lietuvos kultūros institutas / Lithuanian Culture Institute*.

FROM 8 TO 11

YEARS OLD



1 3 LIFE HAS MORE IMAGINATION THAN I DO

Emmanuel Carrère with **Vincenzo Latronico**

19:15 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ ▶

As a self-defined "profound investigator of the human experience", the author of *Limonov*, *L'Adversaire*, and *D'autres vies que la mienne* often tells stories about everyday life and current events that can be filled with madness and horror. He looks at these events with a blend of clear insight and understanding. Whether discussing Russia, where his mother was born, or his native Paris, as in *V13*, Carrère reflects with the soul of an intellectual on dark and tragic moments, such as his grandfather's past as a Nazi or the 2015 Bataclan attack. He knows how unsettling it can be to talk or read about such topics. "But sharing felt like confronting a ghost. It was as if I had taken my deepest pain, wrapped it up, and then let it go. After that, I felt lighter." The author of *Le Déroit de Behring* will be having a conversation with literary critic Vincenzo Latronico.

The author will speak in French, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the *Institut Français Italia*.

CORNELIANI

1 5 UNCOMPROMISING LIVES FOR SAVAGE TIMES

Paul Lynch with **Olga Campofreda**

19:30 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA 7,50€

In Paul Lynch's masterly prose, everything seems to plunge into the darkest abysses of human nature and our uncertain present. In novels such as *Red Sky in Morning*, *Grace* and *The Black Snow*, amidst ruthless manhunts, extravagant expedients to resist hunger and painful returns to the homeland, the Irish author has evoked the demons that haunt the memory of an entire nation. In his most recent *Prophet Song*, winner of the 2023 Booker Prize, Lynch brought into play, in a near future very close to our own, the destinies of women, men and families tenaciously clinging to life and the survival of their loved ones, even when a world built on civil liberties and rights falls under the weight of war and dictatorship. He will be talking to writer Olga Campofreda.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with *Literature Ireland*.

libreria coop NAUTILUS

1 6 OCEAN SYSTEMS

Helen Czerski with Elisabetta Tola

21:15 AULA MAGNA OF UNIMN UNIVERSITY 7,50€ 

According to NASA, the first organisms on Earth formed around hydrothermal vents at the bottom of the oceans. What is now certain is that life on the planet originated from the seas and that, over the millennia, their waters have influenced not only the ecosystem but also human activities related to trade and migration. From the depths of the ocean and its mysterious creatures to the crystal-clear waters of the Caribbean and the gigantic waves lapping the icy expanses of Antarctica, British physicist and oceanologist Helen Czerski (*Blue Machine, Storm in a Teacup*) will take the audience, together with journalist Elisabetta Tola, on a journey of discovery of the immense yet fragile solar-powered machine that is our ocean system.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



NOT LOST, JUST WANDERING

Clark Lawrence

ACCENTS

21:30 TENDA SORDELLO **FREE ADMISSION**  

Through Lawrence's true short stories, we get to know why this American runaway sees himself as an immigrant rather than an expatriate. Without any savings or a clear plan, a one-way ticket brings him to Italy thirty years ago, and then chance and circumstance lead him from Naples through Bologna to Borgo Virgilio. "I don't always swim. Sometimes I just float and see where the wind and waves take me. Planning is a bit overrated, anyway". Clark Lawrence reads from his memoir, *Small Plots*, illustrated by David Hollington.

The author will speak in English, without interpretation.



SUPPORT! FESTIVALETTERATURA

Since its very first edition, Festivaletteratura has received the support of **private companies, cultural institutions and retailers** that have recognised the spirit of the event and pledged to work alongside the organisers to offer a literary festival to an increasingly large audience. Local and national companies continue to find in Festivaletteratura an opportunity to link their brand to a lively initiative that still fascinates twenty-eight years on. To find out how to become a supporter, email sponsor@festivaletteratura.it

Filofestival

friends of festivaletteratura

It began as a grassroots initiative during the run-up to the very first Festival in 1997, to help make a dream come true: the aim was to **organise a truly festive occasion** that would bring authors and their readers together and enable everyone to enjoy getting to know each other.

Annual enrolments open at the start of the calendar year and, as a new or returning member, you can play your part in making those five days in early September even more special. There are currently **over 2500 friends of the Festival** and they come from all over Italy, and even from abroad. As well as taking part in the activities the group organises throughout the year (such as the reading club *Impulsi*) and receiving emails with the latest information on Festivaletteratura, you are entitled to a free copy of the Festival catalogue, **discounts** on Festival tickets, **early bird** booking and **special offers** in affiliated shops and restaurants.

Membership costs only € 25 per year, or € 15 for under 25s and € 20 for those aged 65 and over.

If you want, you can top up the membership fee with a sum of your choice and become a supporting member.

You can take out or renew membership for 2024 until 19 August online at www.filofestival.it, or if you are in Mantova, you can enrol in person at the filofestival office at 4 Via Castiglioni, or at the Libreria Coop Nautilus bookshop at 2 via Roma.

The background is a vibrant blue with a complex, abstract pattern. It features various shapes and textures, including rows of teardrop-like forms at the top, a grid of small circles in the upper right, and several large, stylized arches and vertical lines throughout. The overall style is reminiscent of a collage or a textured print.

THURSDAY

5

SEPTEMBER
2024

2 3 IF WE READ COMPASSION, WE BECOME COMPASSION

Goldie Goldbloom and Lella Costa

14:30 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO 7,50€

Walking through New York's Williamsburg neighbourhood, it is easy to come across members of the Hasidic community, recognisable all over the world by their ultra-Orthodox dress: long black jackets, wide-brimmed hats, the *payot*, or sidelocks, framing the men's faces, and the Yiddish expressions are only the most immediate aspects of a microcosm that rejects the secularised world. Goldie Goldbloom is an Australian-born author living in the United States, an activist for the rights of Lgbtqia+ people and Hasidism, who has explored the condition of women (*On Division*) within this very conservative community. Amidst prejudice, views of the female role, problems with pregnancy and the world of work, "love and freedom are always possible. Any society imposes rules and tries to tell us what to think, and why. [...] We struggle to connect to the people we love, with the fear of being judged." Goldie Goldbloom will be sharing the stage with actress and writer Lella Costa.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



2 5 FRIGHT FULL

Kotryna Zylė

Spooky story workshop

14:30 CASA DEL MANTEGNA 7,50€

Have you ever thought about writing a spooky story just for fun? Or maybe making a scary adventure just using illustrations? What if it turned into a book? In just one hour, with some black paper and a skilled writer to help you, you could create a paperback and fill it with all the stories in your mind, plus learn all the secrets from Kotryna Zylė, the author of *Siela Sumušinių Dėžutėje*.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Lietuvos kultūros institutas / Lithuanian Culture Institute.

FROM 8 TO 11
YEARS OLD



2 6 THINKING ABOUT THE LAND OF TOMORROW

Achille Mbembe with Lorenzo Alunni

14:30 AULA MAGNA DEL SEMINARIO VESCOVILE 7,50€

The ideas of Cameroonian philosopher Achille Mbembe, found in his works like *Critique of Black Reason* and *Necropolitics*, as well as his more recent essays *Brutalism* and *The Earthly Community*, explore important themes in postcolonial studies, biopolitics, and ecology. He focuses on the urgent issues we face today, where the environment is under threat of planetary combustion. Mbembe sets out to create a sense of unity among all people on Earth. In his discussion with anthropologist Lorenzo Alunni, he will highlight a crucial point: not just humans, but every animal, plant, and even non-living things are essential for developing a new understanding of our planet and moving towards the "liberation of all living things".

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



2 8 PICASSO THE EXILE

Annie Cohen-Solal with Niccolò Ammaniti and Michele Fusilli

14:45 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€

When Picasso died in 1973, the French state welcomed his work with pomp and circumstance, assimilating it into its own history. But how many remember that the artist, when he first arrived in Paris in 1900, was constantly surveilled by the police? How many imagine the climate of suspicion he was subjected to throughout his life as a foreigner and avant-garde artist in a country obsessed with “national purity” and “good taste”? Writer Annie Cohen-Solal has dedicated her literary production to great artists who have faced exile and, thanks to numerous hitherto unpublished archive sources, now offers a captivating and original interpretation of the creator of Guernica. *Un étranger nommé Picasso (Picasso. A Foreigner's Life)* (Prix Femina Essai 2021) is a feverish and impassioned tale that leads right up to the present, evoking our most pressing concerns: “Doesn't the scandal that sees the greatest artist of the 20th century branded as a foreigner”, writes the author, “recall the current resurgence of classic xenophobia?” Curator of the two exhibitions *Picasso at Palazzo Te. Poetry and Salvation* and *Picasso the Foreigner* at Palazzo Reale, Cohen-Solal will be speaking with writer Niccolò Ammaniti, author of a short piece inspired by the book. The event will be conducted by Michele Fusilli.

The author will speak in Italian.

In collaboration with the Institut Français Italia.

3 6 GAMIFICATION: WHEN GAMING GETS OUT OF HAND

Adrian Hon with Cesare Alemanni

16:00 MUSEO DIOCESANO 7,50€

Points, levels, challenges and rewards, mechanisms typical of games and video games, are increasingly found in non-gaming contexts such as work, education, fitness and marketing. The purpose of this so-called gamification is to incentivise certain desired behaviours in people, through the kind of gratification we've all experienced on getting to the next level of *Candy Crush*. In *You've Been Played*, British writer and game designer Adrian Hon explains how gamification techniques are increasingly used by corporations and governments as control mechanisms, to the detriment of individual well-being. In dialogue with Cesare Alemanni, Hon will alert us to the pervasiveness of these mechanisms.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

5 0 2 ECO-LIBRARY

David Quammen

16:15 POLITECNICO DI MILANO - CAMPUS DI MANTOVA FREE ADMISSION WITH BOOKING

For many years, scientists have all agreed that human activities are causing global warming. However, it's also clear that sharing data, statistics and forecasts in a way that causes panic isn't the best way to raise awareness. Books can be a strong way to tell stories and persuade people, but how do we create an engaging environmental library that truly engages readers? Through the LAB project - (*libri acque boschi*), Festivalletteratura is working to build an eco-library that reaches out to everyone and inspires interest in environmental issues. The young people choosing the books for this annotated bibliography will be interviewing writers and scientists at the Festival to learn how to shape the eco-library, how to communicate its message, and how to connect it effectively with potential readers. David Quammen, a writer and science communicator known for his books *Spillover* and *Breathless*, will be looking at how to create this eco-library.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



3 7 WANTED: SHARP READERS FOR SMART STORIES

Lauren Wolk with Vera Salton

16:30 AULA MAGNA "ISABELLA D'ESTE" 7,50€

Poet, artist, and writer, Lauren Wolk (*Wolf Hollow*, *Beyond the Bright Sea*, *Echo Mountain*) has shared some amazing stories and adventures with us. What stands out the most are her bright characters who learn to find their own way while always staying true to themselves. Vera Salton sits down with her to explore what makes these characters so special.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

FROM 11
YEARS OLD

4 1 I LIKE TO USE SIMPLE WORDS IN A COMPLICATED WAY

Carol Ann Duffy with Silvia Righi

16:45 AULA MAGNA DEL SEMINARIO VESCOVILE 7,50€

Known for her direct and incisive writing, Carol Ann Duffy was the first woman and the first Scot to become the Poet Laureate. Her ability to bring a modern, feminist perspective to myths and historical figures, and create new interpretations through her unmistakable lyrical and narrative style, has made her one of the most beloved and most popular British voices of her age. During the event, through dialogue and readings, the author of *Love Poems* will share some of her most popular poems, highlighting the themes that characterise her work: love, loss, identity and the human condition, providing the audience with an insight into her creative process.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

4 3 STORIES HOLD THE WORLD TOGETHER

Colum McCann with Francesca Mannocchi

17:00 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ 

James Wright Foley was an American journalist whose tragic story gained international attention in the previous decade. Kidnapped in Syria in 2012, he was brutally killed by ISIS terrorists after being held captive for two years. During his appearance at Festivaletteratura in 2021, author Colum McCann (*Apeirogon*, *TransAtlantic*, *This Side of Brightness*) revealed his wish to explore Foley's tragic destiny. Known for his exceptional ability to effortlessly merge fiction and fact, McCann, a native of Dublin and resident of New York City, skilfully weaves historical events into his narratives, which span from Northern Ireland to the United States and the Middle East. With the cooperation of Foley's mother, Diane, McCann has pieced together a harrowing account of Foley's time as a hostage, shedding light on the failures of the FBI, government indifference, and the accounts of survivors. In an attempt to understand how to talk about this unstable era in a novel, the author of *American Mother* will be joined on the Festivaletteratura stage by journalist Francesca Mannocchi.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with Literature Ireland.



THE SACRED FIRE OF WRITING

Nathan Thrall with Elsa Riccadonna

18:00 BOOK PIAZZA FREE ADMISSION

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

On the sacred fire of writing SEE P. 9



5 3 THE DIRECTIONS OF EXILE

Hisham Matar with Paolo Giordano

19:00 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO 7,50€

With his novel *The Return*, Libyan-born writer Hisham Matar won the Pulitzer Prize for biography and autobiography in 2017, describing his return home from exile in search of his father. Seven years have passed since then, and the author returns to reflect on events in Libya with his recent *My Friends*, a work in which the characters he created invert their direction, moving from Tripoli to England, and interact with real historical events. "This is a book I have been thinking about since the Arab Spring of 2011. Or so I thought until I found a note written on the back of an envelope from 2003, where I had jotted down the idea for a novel about friends in exile and that country of the soul that only certain deep friendships can create". Matar will be talking with writer Paolo Giordano about the issue of ties far from the homeland and why this new book is so close to his heart.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

Librerie COOP

6 3 THE MASTER OF SUSPENSE

Joël Dicker with Alessia Gazzola

21:30 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ ▶

"My book has a jazzy rhythm, a 5/4... it starts off slowly, but you can feel a storm coming," as former drummer Joel Dicker recently explained to Geppi Cucciari about his latest work *Un Animal Sauvage (A Wild Animal)*. Fans of thriller and crime novels will no doubt have found themselves eagerly flipping through the Swiss novelist's works in recent years, trying to get to the bottom of their mysteries. On the other hand, if each of the Geneva author's books (*The Enigma of Room 622*, *The Disappearance of Stephanie Mailer*, *The Alaska Sanders Affair*, *The Truth about Harry Quebert*) become instant bestsellers, it's not just because Dicker skilfully mixes puzzles with time jumps in his stories. It's also because he clearly loves solving mysteries: "I've always been passionate about investigating, exploring things that aren't obvious at first. I'm a curious person, always wanting to learn more about human beings and their fears." He will be discussing this with writer and mystery novelist Alessia Gazzola.

The author will speak in French, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

MANTOVA VILLAGE

LAND+FASHION

LAB

libri acque boschi

With the support of



LAB – LIBRI ACQUE BOSCHI is a project launched by Festivaletteratura last October with support from Fondazione Cariverona. The aim is to gather information on the state of health of a river ecosystem, creating a video that documents the soul and identity of a forest, and developing a library that engages with children and young adults on topics about the environment. LAB works closely with schools, research organisations, and local libraries to help young people learn about and appreciate the ecosystems around them, fostering a deeper understanding of environmental issues.

Coordinating LAB activities are **Irene Fabbri, Marco Faggioli** and **Cecilia Fasciani**.

ECO-LIBRARY

Festivaletteratura is working to build an eco-library that reaches out to the young and very young and inspires interest in environmental issues. The library will be used in schools, public libraries and for individual reading. The boys and girls involved in the project will discuss with experts and science communicators attending the Festival how to make this library accessible to all.

Politecnico di Milano

Campus di Mantova

5 0 2 **thursday 5**

16:15 - David Quammen

With thanks to IS Fermi, ITET Mantegna, IIS d'Arco-d'Este di Mantova, Università degli Studi di Parma, Università degli Studi di Ferrara, Alkemica cooperativa sociale onlus.

With thanks also to



The background is a deep blue with various organic, textured shapes in lighter shades of blue. At the top, there is a row of teardrop-like shapes. Below that, there are larger, more complex shapes resembling stylized flowers or leaves. A large, white, serif number '6' is centered on the page. In the bottom right, there is a small white rectangular shape.

FRIDAY

6

SEPTEMBER
2024

COOL TALES

Joël Dicker

ACCENTS

10:00 TENDA SORDELLO **FREE ADMISSION** ▶

Displaying huge skill in his genre and honing his craft of writing book series, Joel Dicker's ability for psychological introspection shines through in his work. A passion for storytelling has ensured the right tools are at his fingertips.

The author will speak in French, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

7 1 THE BEEWITCHERS

Hanna Harms and Maria Pia De Conto

10:30 CASA DEL MANTEGNA 7,50€ ⬆

Hanna Harms (*Milch ohne Honig*) and Maria Pia De Conto (*Api e fiori*) meet face to face after their virtual encounters on bookshop and library shelves and amid the buzz of the beehive. A conversation between two bee experts, storytellers and science spellbinders: a little honeycomb of a heart-to-heart about why these social insects are so important to our world.

Hanna Harms will speak in German, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Goethe-Institut Milan.

7 6 BRANCHES TO THE SKY IN JERUSALEM

Paola Caridi and Nathan Thrall

11:00 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ ▶

Every day, the Middle East presents us with tragic tales of dehumanising conflicts that escalate with alarming velocity and intensity. In contrast to the fleeting moments of human existence, enduring witnesses to the actions of humanity are the trees that have stood for decades, if not centuries. Trees are an integral part of the land and are inextricably linked to the stories of the women and men who live in their presence. Journalist and historian Paola Caridi, the author of *The Mulberry Tree of Jerusalem*, lived in the city of the Wailing Wall for ten years. Nathan Thrall, a Pulitzer Prize-winning American Jewish author recognized in 2024 for his non-fiction work *A Day in the Life of Abed Salama*, has also lived in the area for many years. The two authors will meet at the Festival to discuss how the characteristics and transformations of a territory can significantly affect its inhabitants, while also shedding light on the complex and troubled history of relations between the Israeli state and the Palestinian population.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

7 7 DAUNTLESS WOMEN WRITERS

Lauren Wolk with Simonetta Bitasi

11:00 MUSEO DIOCESANO 7,50€

"Writing is the one thing I do where I feel completely true to myself. Even when I'm tired or worried about what people will think or whether I'll succeed or fail, I'm still sure that I alone can choose my words and how to put them together." Lauren Wolk will be meeting young Italian fans of her historical novels (*Beyond the Bright Sea*, *Echo Mountain*) that explore sudden life changes, where the young female characters often show more bravery than adults. Lauren will be chatting with Simonetta Bitasi about her focus on young people, her experiences as a writer and artist, her book readings, visits to schools and libraries, and her latest book, *My Own Lightning*, the much-anticipated sequel to *Wolf Hollow*.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



FROM 8 TO 10
YEARS OLD



altro

FROM 13 YEARS OLD



8 2 TO ERR IS HUMAN

Costica Bradatan with Paolo Vanini

12:15 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA 7,50€

"Fail again. Fail better" goes a famous Samuel Beckett quote. It may not be necessary to think of failure as something you can never escape from and success as the only thing worth striving for. When things don't go the way we want, it can feel overwhelming, but, as philosopher Costica Bradatan explains in his book *In Praise of Failure: Four Lessons in Humility*, failure is part of human nature, and it is our task to deal with it conscientiously. Accepting our own flaws is an important first step. The Romanian-born author discusses how important it is to let go of the arrogance that leads us to denigrate such a universal and transversal condition in society. He will be talking more about this at the Festival alongside philosopher Paolo Vanini.

The author will speak in Italian.

In collaboration with the Istituto Romeno di Cultura e Ricerca Umanistica, Venice



9 0 IMAGINING THE FUTURE, ONE OBJECT AT A TIME

Adrian Hon with Giancarlo Cinini

14:45 CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA 7,50€

In 2013, writer and game designer Adrian Hon published the first version of *A History of the Future in 100 Objects*. In the book, he imagined items that a museum curator in the year 2082 might choose to tell the story of the 21st century. They were objects that did not exist, or rather did not yet exist, but represented many possible futures. Some were upgrades of technologies we already have, like delivery robots. Others were ideas based on current trends, such as "downvote" networks that help get rid of unwanted content or *Glyphish*, a new language of emoticons that might replace traditional writing. There were also more positive ideas, like *The Braid Collective*, which would help artists financially. Now, ten years later, Hon looks back with Giancarlo Cinini to see which of those future ideas seem likely to happen today.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



9 1 MODERN TIMES ARE AN ISLAND

Nicolás Jaar with Matteo De Giuli

14:45 AULA MAGNA OF UNIMN UNIVERSITY 7,50€

"Are there no other islands? And don't they share the same sea as us?", wonders Wrenn, the young protagonist of the short story that opens *Isole*, Nicolas Jaar's narrative debut. Considered by international critics to be one of the most influential authors of electronic music, Jaar demonstrates with this collection his talent for mixing languages and creating worlds. Through imaginative stories charged with poetic power, Jaar invents fragments of mythologies of unknown peoples. His stories, seemingly suspended in the impossible time of fairy tales, weave a radically topical discourse: the peoples of his islands are sometimes divided by a narrow strip of sea, but their opposing worldviews speak to us of our fragmented contemporaneity. He will be conversing with journalist Matteo De Giuli (*Medusa*).

The author will speak in Italian.



107 KNOWING IGNORANCE

Peter Burke with **Massimo Polidoro**

16:45 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA 7,50€

While Socrates' famous quote, "I know that I do not know," reflects our desire for learning and understanding, there's also the saying "ignorance is bliss." So, how do we find the right balance? Despite the hopes that came with the Enlightenment and advancements in science, it seems that rather than gaining knowledge, we are losing it, replacing what we once understood with new and virtually infinite notions. British historian Peter Burke argues that the huge increase in information over recent years doesn't match our ability to truly learn from it, as we can't keep up with the sheer volume of data. Additionally, if the last century, with Heisenberg's and Godel's studies, showed us the intrinsic limits of human knowledge, it is equally true that today we face the challenge of intentionally created ignorance, such as misinformation and propaganda. The author of *Ignorance: A Global History* sets out to explore the boundaries, limits, and potential of what we know with journalist Massimo Polidoro (co-author of *La meraviglia del tutto* with Piero Angela).

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



THE SACRED FIRE OF WRITING

Alejandro Zambra with **Christian Mascheroni**

18:00 PIAZZA DEI LIBRI FREE ADMISSION

The author will speak in Spanish, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

On the sacred fire of writing SEE P. 9



117 TRAPPED IN TRAUMA

María Fernanda Ampuero with **Giorgia Tolfo**

19:00 AULA MAGNA DEL SEMINARIO VESCOVILE 7,50€

"No one should be scared just for being alive," says Ecuadorean writer and journalist María Fernanda Ampuero when she discusses the people she describes as the last among the last. In her work, she tackles serious issues such as immigration, gender and domestic violence, class struggles, and the turbulent times of adolescence. Her books, like *Sacrificios humanos* and *Pelea de Gallos*, don't shy away from the harsh realities but instead often use elements from horror literature and movies to create a chilling atmosphere. It's hard to read her work and not be affected by it, as she paints a disturbing picture of Latin America and the world today, addressing the violence linked to capitalism and patriarchy. Ampuero will discuss "horrors that have existed through the ages" at the Festival, alongside critic and writer Giorgia Tolfo.

The author will speak in Spanish, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with Civitella Ranieri.



1 2 0 THE BODY'S PLACE IN THE WORLD

Olivia Laing with Chiara Valerio

19:15 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ ▶

"I hate having to invent. What really inspires me as an artist is reality. Real life is far more interesting and stranger than anything I could create on my own." Drawing on personal experience, Olivia Laing describes with exceptional clarity how our bodies connect with the world and ourselves. In what can be seen as a trilogy, she looks at different aspects of this connection: being alone in a crowd (*The Lonely City*), the limitations and the opportunities of our bodies (*Everybody*), and our relationship with nature and animals (*The Garden Against Time*). Using memoirs and fiction, Laing connects her past experiences to those of famous artists like Andy Warhol and experimental novelist Kathy Acker, who also felt the fears, obsessions, and desires that many people share today. She will be talking to the writer Chiara Valerio (*Chi dice e chi tace*).

The author will speak in English with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

 MARCEGAGLIA

1 2 3 JAAR IN CONCERT

21:00 PALAZZO TE 30,00€

Chilean American musician Nicolas Jaar will be performing a concert of improvised music for bass clarinet and electronics. The concert is part of his ongoing research in the field of electroacoustic, ambient, drone and *musique concrete*. The format has already been experimented with in his albums *Pomegranates* (2015) and *Telas* (2020).

 **AVIS** Comune
Mantova

1 2 6 THE PULSING HEART OF NATURE

David Quammen with Telmo Pievani

21:30 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ ▶

Is it still possible to talk about "wild nature" today? Essayist and popular scientist David Quammen (*Spillover*, *Breathless*), has travelled the world for over twenty years as a reporter for National Geographic. He illustrates how human colonisation has impacted some of the most remote and untouched places on Earth. Quammen, the author of *The Wild Heart of Nature*, will take the audience on a journey from sub-Saharan Africa to central Africa, and then on to the frozen landscapes of Kamchatka and the dry lands of Chile. He will explore the costs of human progress while also highlighting efforts to protect the planet's biodiversity. After a previous remote talk on *Impossible Interviews*, he will finally meet in person with evolutionary biologist Telmo Pievani (*Nature is Bigger Than Us*).

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

 **GRUPPO
HERA**

REDUCTIONS FOR UNDER 35s

If you're **BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 35s**, Festivaletteratura and Associazione Filofestival have put together some great offers for you, making it easier to enjoy the Festival.

Here's what you can get:

- **DISCOUNTED TICKETS:** with the Filofestival card included in your package, you can buy event tickets early and at a reduced price.
- **AFFORDABLE ACCOMMODATION:** stay in shared dorms equipped with showers and bathrooms, right in the heart of Mantova.
- **MEALS:** enjoy one meal each day at the Festival's refreshment area or at designated food trucks in Piazza Sordello.

For more details, visit → bit.ly/festletunder35



These special offers are part of an initiative by the **Stati Generali di Festivaletteratura**, where young volunteers have been working for the past three years to make the Festival more inviting and accessible for those aged 18 to 35.

THE FESTIVAL CAMPSITE



Want to experience the Festival en plein air? After the success of previous years, the Festivaletteratura campsite is back!

The temporary campsite, managed in collaboration with Aster, transforms the parking area in via Legnago 1/A, usually reserved for camper vans, into a space also open to those who wish to camp here in a tent.

The campsite will be open from Tuesday 3 to Sunday 8 September and you need to leave by 12 noon on Monday 9 September. It costs €5 per person for one night or €15 for the whole period of the Festival.

If you're interested in camping at the Festival, just email campeggio@festivaletteratura.it with your name, where you're from, and how many people you're booking for. You can pay when you arrive at the campsite.

For more information see festivaletteratura.it/camping

The background is a vibrant blue with various abstract patterns. At the top, there are several overlapping circles, some with lighter blue centers. Below this, there are vertical, slightly wavy lines. In the center, a large white number '7' is prominently displayed. To the right of the '7', there are curved, concentric lines. At the bottom, there are more circular patterns, some with lighter blue centers, and a dark blue diagonal line.

SATURDAY

7

SEPTEMBER
2024

1 3 5 THE PAST IS NOT PAST

Saba Anglana and **Maaza Mengiste** with **Eloisa Morra**

10:00 AULA MAGNA DEL SEMINARIO VESCOVILE 7,50€

"I wanted to express what you can't see in a physical way," says writer Saba Anglana about *La signora Meraviglia*. East Africa is the backdrop for both her story and Maaza Mengiste's *The Shadow King*. The region was subjected to the painful experiences of Italian occupation during the 1930s and 1940s. Today, those experiences have become a shared memory that families pass down through generations, "a presence able to colonise an entire family tree, travelling from Ethiopia, passing through Somalia and arriving in today's Italy". The two authors talk more about this with Eloisa Morra, a professor of Contemporary Italian Literature at the University of Toronto.

Maaza Mengiste will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

1 3 9 LAUGHING ABOUT LIFE, ADULTS AND THE WORLD

Jenny Jägerfeld with **Manlio Castagna**

10:00 AULA MAGNA "ISABELLA D'ESTE" 7,50€

How do children tell their stories? They may be unprepared, and it doesn't always work out but let's face it, grown-ups are the last people they want to become. Figuring out who we are is an extremely serious subject that Jenny Jägerfeld (*Comedy Queen*, *Mitt storslagna liv*, *Min storslagna kärlek*) has nailed to perfection. Talking with her about how reading and looking at the world with a sense of humour is the eclectic author Manlio Castagna.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Kulturrådet / Swedish Arts Council.

1 4 4 ON MONSTROUS SCHOOLS AND FANTASY STORIES

Christelle Dabos with **Alice Torreggiani**

11:00 MUSEO DIOCESANO 7,50€

French author Christelle Dabos is considered one of the finest fantasy writers, especially known for her popular tetralogy, *La Passe-Miroir* (*The Mirror Visitor*). She amazed readers with her book *Ici et seulement ici*, which mixes fantasy with real-life elements. The story takes place in a strange and disturbing school where the strongest students dominate, and adults often fail to stand by the young. Christelle will be talking about the monstrous, the fantastic, and stories that make us think about these themes, alongside Alice Torreggiani.

The author will speak in French, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Institut Français Italia.

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FROM **11**
YEARS OLD


Il Sorriso
GELATERIA

FROM **13** YEARS OLD


SBRISCI Art
la buona esperienza

1 4 9 INDIVIDUAL, WOMAN, WRITER

Deborah Levy with **Claudia Durastanti**

12:15 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO 7,50€

"When a female writer walks a female character in to the centre of her literary enquiry . . . she will have to find a language that is in part to do with learning how to become a subject rather than a delusion, and in part to do with unknotting the ways in which she has been put together by the Societal System." During a lifetime of writing plays and novels, Deborah Levy has been shortlisted for the Booker Prize three times. Her life has been shaped by experiences in South Africa, England, and Spain, which also serve as important settings in her memoir, *Living Autobiography*. In this three-book series including *Things I Don't Want to Know*, *The Cost of Living*, and *Real Estate*, Levy explores the role of women in today's world, discussing the rules society imposes on them and how to resist those constraints. Her translator, Gioia Guerzoni, highlights how Levy addresses important issues with winning charm. Claudia Durastanti (*Missitalia*) will be talking to her at the Festival.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

 MARCEGAGLIA

1 5 0 MACHINES FOR THE PAST

Georgi Gospodinov with **Federica Manzoni**

12:15 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA 7,50€

"If I had to name my biggest influences, I'd say my grandmother and Borges."

This laconic statement by Georgi Gospodinov (*Natural Novel*, *The Physics of Sorrow*) perfectly captures his style: nostalgia, dreamy atmospheres, and self-mockery. The Bulgarian author, winner of the European Strega Prize 2021 and the International Booker Prize 2023 for *Time Shelter*, consistently navigates his way between humour and bittersweet melancholy. In interviews, he likes to joke about how a ranking in *The Economist* magazine in 2011 listed Bulgaria as "the saddest place in the world". Not for nothing, that very year the writer and poet participated in the Festaletteratura European Vocabulary event discussing the word "melancholy". Gospodinov, possibly joined by his alter ego Gaustin, will talk to Federica Manzoni (*Alma*) about the significance of the past in literature and the challenges of writing from the peripheries of the publishing world.

The author will speak in Bulgarian, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Bulgarian Institute of Culture in Rome.

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il tuo camion lo trovi da noi

1 5 8 A GRAPHIC NOVEL IN BLACK AND YELLOW

Hanna Harms with **Silvia Mengali**

14:30 AULA MAGNA "ISABELLA D'ESTE" 7,50€ 

Creating art in black and white, or more specifically in black and yellow, to tell a story about one of the urgent issues of today. How do you decide on your colours, how do you stay updated on the news, and how do you create a graphic novel that explores topics like bees, society, the future, and current events? Silvia Mengali talks to Hanna Harms, who has already won several awards for her work *Milch ohne Honig* (*Milk without Honey*) and is also a co-editor and writer for the comics magazine *Sonder*.

The author will speak in German, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Goethe-Institut Milan.

FROM 10 TO 14

YEARS OLD



1 6 4 FANTASY WORLDS AND WHO TO DISCUSS THEM WITH

Christelle Dabos with **Fiore Manni**

16:30 AULA MAGNA "ISABELLA D'ESTE" 7,50€

How do you balance living, writing, and reading between real-life and fantasy worlds? How do we explore our imagination? This is something Christelle Dabos, a popular fantasy author who often journeys to magical places in her stories, has clearly nailed to perfection. For months she has kept thousands of readers in thrall with her saga, *La Passe-Miroir* (*The Mirror Visitor*) and is now ready to chat with readers about thrilling adventures, amazing powers, bravery, and making tough choices. Joining her will be Fiore Manni, an expert on fantasy and imagination, and the author of *Il re delle Volpi* (*The Fox King*). Together, they will tackle a big question that readers have pondered for ages: can you ever move on from the love of fantasy? We hope the answer is no!

The author will speak in French, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Institut Français Italia.

FROM 11
YEARS OLD

 **Rangoni & Affini**
S.p.A.

1 7 5 ONDE NASCA QUESTA GRAZIA

Peter Burke with **Emilio Russo**

17:00 CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA 7,50€

One of the best-selling and most significant books of the 16th century, especially for spreading Renaissance ideas beyond Italy, is Baldassarre Castiglione's *Il Cortegiano* (*The Courtier*). Published for the first time by Aldo Manuzio in Venice in 1528, this treatise by the humanist and diplomat of Mantovan origin caught the attention of noblemen, scholars, and writers all over Europe, acting as a guide to behaviour for both courtiers and ladies in the palace. However, its popularity has experienced ups and downs over time as social values have shifted and different interpretations of it have emerged, affecting its impact on literature. British historian Peter Burke discusses his book *The Fortunes of The Courtier* with Italian and Renaissance expert Emilio Russo (*Studi su Tasso e Marino*).

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

PALAZZO CASTIGLIONI
Luxury Suite in Mantova
www.palazzocastiglionimantova.com

1 8 4 EUROPE ON THE BORDER

Michael Ignatieff and **Kapka Kassabova** with **Luca Misculin**

19:00 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA 7,50€

Between 2004 and 2013, no less than eleven countries from the Balkans and Eastern Europe joined the European Union. Recently, some of these member states seem to be moving away from democratic values. Michael Ignatieff (*On Consolation*) discusses this issue, highlighting actions taken by Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, such as forcing the Central European University, where Ignatieff was Rector, to relocate its main activities from Budapest to Vienna. This raises questions about how views on the founding values of the European Union have shifted, especially in light of actions that make it difficult to develop a common policy. Ignatieff, along with Bulgarian writer Kapka Kassabova, will discuss the future of the Union and the extent to which its citizens feel like part of a larger community. Journalist Luca Misculin will conduct the event.

The authors will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Bulgarian Institute of Culture in Rome.



1 8 7 EVERY EMOTION IS AN IDEA

Jean-Baptiste Andrea with Elisabetta Bucciarelli

19:00 AULA MAGNA OF UNIMM UNIVERSITY 7,50€

In the words of *France24* reporter Clovis Casali, Jean-Baptiste Andrea "is not your typical French writer". Having approached fiction after numerous experiences as a screenwriter and director (he wrote and directed the cult horror film *Dead End*), the author from the Paris suburbs has demonstrated an innate talent for fiction. After *Ma Reine* and *Des Diables et des Saints*, he was awarded the prestigious Goncourt Prize in 2023 for *Veiller sur Elle*, a fresco on 20th century Italy set against Dumas' picaresque tales and centred around a sculptor. Indeed, by the author's own admission, art is one of his great inspirations, along with music and anything capable of arousing emotions: "I draw my inspiration from fifty-two years on this planet; everything that has hurt me, everything that I've loved, that's moved me". Accompanied by playwright Elisabetta Bucciarelli (*Chi ha bisogno di te*), Andrea will discuss the importance to his work of remaining a little bit childlike, using literature as an antidote to fears of the unknown.

The author will speak in French, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Institut Français Italia.

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1 8 8 ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

Richard Sennett with Marco Filoni

19:15 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ ▶

We've all seen it, on television, in talk shows, in interviews on the news: often in the political sphere, opportunities for confrontation almost turn into performances, where how leaders and government representatives present themselves can overshadow what they're actually saying. This emphasis on style over substance happens not just on screen but also in our daily lives and influences how we interact with others. American sociologist and author Richard Sennett (*The Corrosion of Character, Building and Dwelling, Designing Disorder*), a leading scholar on how economic systems and city life affect people's behaviour, has been looking at the trend of "ruling by acting". In *The Performer*, he focuses on how some political figures use charm, persuasive speaking, and body language as a form of performance. In a discussion with philosopher Marco Filoni, Sennett will explore both the positive and negative aspects of this all too often ambiguous art.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



1 8 9 CONNECTIONS BETWEEN LAGOS AND VENICE

Emmanuel Iduma and Maaza Mengiste with Mohamed Maalel

19:15 CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DELLA VITTORIA 7,50€

How do people from different cultures view the Western world? Emmanuel Iduma, who teaches at the School of Visual Arts in New York, knows Venice well. He currently lives in Nigeria and the UK. He curated the Nigerian pavilion at the 2017 Art Biennale and has recently used his gaze as a writer and intellectual of African descent to explore Venice's streets, squares and canals, through pictures and words in *La forma della luce. Riflessioni sulla fotografia (The Shape of Light. Reflections on Photography)*. Maaza Mengiste, meanwhile, has focused on the effects of the Italian occupation in Ethiopia (*The Shadow King*) and believes that our surroundings significantly influence how we think about a journey or set out on one. The two guests will join journalist Mohamed Maalel to discuss fresh perspectives that help us appreciate the comfort found in connecting with others.

The authors will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

Servizi Tecnici Professionali
BALDASSARI

1 9 1 WAR AND THE ETHICS OF JOURNALISM

Sorj Chalandon and **Lorenzo Tondo** with **Gigi Riva**

21:15 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO 7,50€

Pulitzer Prize winner Ernie Pyle once said, "I don't get paid to be neutral; I report everything I see and feel, and I do it with all my heart." In war journalism, it's crucial to share the truth clearly and honestly, revealing the realities that the media often misrepresents or oversimplifies for the sake of a false balance. For over thirty years, Sorj Chalandon (*Le Quatrième Mur, Retour à Killybegs*), a reporter for the newspaper *Libération*, has covered Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, and Northern Ireland. He will be joined by Lorenzo Tondo (*Il Generale*), who has reported for *The Guardian* on the Ukraine conflict since it began. Together, they will discuss how reporting has evolved over the years, how to combat propaganda, and the challenges of staying neutral while covering the harsh realities of war. The event will be moderated by Gigi Riva (*L'ultimo rigore di Faruk, I muri del pianto*), a former correspondent from the war zones of ex-Yugoslavia and the Middle East.

Sorj Chalandon will speak in French, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Institut Français Italia.

1 9 3 PROFESSION STORYTELLER

Andrés Montero with **Federico Buffa**

21:15 AULA MAGNA DEL SEMINARIO VESCOVILE 7,50€

The hypnotic power of storytellers to captivate us is compellingly illustrated in the tale of Scheherazade from *The Arabian Nights*. Even before writing began, cultural traditions were passed down orally. Songs, rituals, fairy tales, and legends have all been handed down through generations, creating a magical and dreamlike quality that lives on in the novels of the writer Andrés Montero. Director of the Casa Contada School of Oral Literature and Tradition, he has dedicated much of his life to preserving and sharing Chilean culture. He does this through theatre with his company La Matrioska and in his own writing, which blends fairy-tale elements with the grotesque. The author of *La Muerte viene estilando*, *Tony Nessuno* and *El año en que hablamos con el mar* will explain to Federico Buffa why storytelling offers an antidote to the hustle and bustle of city life.

The author will speak in Spanish, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

1 9 5 A WRITER HAS NO IDENTITY

Elif Shafak with **Olga Campofreda**

21:30 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ ▶

Interviewed by the young members of the Festaletteratura editorial team in 2019, Elif Shafak referring to the event title explained how the doors of literature must always be open so that they can connect with each of us. In *There are Rivers in the Sky*, she cleverly extends this idea, bringing together different cultures and time and space, linking modern London with the Mesopotamia of Ashurbanipal. Her work highlights important themes that show why hers is a key voice in contemporary Turkey. The Turkish-British author (*The Bastard of Istanbul, The Island of Missing Trees*) always focuses her thought on human rights, the rights of women and the marginalised, discussing identity, religion and feminism in relation to today's society and her native country. At the festival, she will be joined by Olga Campofreda (*Ragazze perbene*) to courageously give a voice to those forced into silence.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



Associazione
FILOFESTIVAL

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8

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER
2024

1 9 9 THE SOLACE OF WORDS

Michael Ignatieff with Alessandro Zaccuri

10:00 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO 7,50€

"What lesson can we learn during these dark times? Something very simple: we are not alone, and we never have been". Historian Michael Ignatieff has looked into profoundly complex moments in history to find examples of people who were united by the need to share and endure their own and others' suffering by finding comfort together. This state of mind known to the Romans as *consolatio* still resonates with us today, even in an age when religious promises or philosophical convictions seem overshadowed by the culture of success. About this invisible thread that links the authors of the Psalms to Cicely Saunders, Boethius to David Hume, Job to Primo Levi, the author of *On Consolation* will be talking to the writer and journalist Alessandro Zaccuri (*Preghiera e letteratura*).

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

2 0 0 BALKAN PSYCHOGEOGRAPHY

Kapka Kassabova with Elvira Mujčić

10:00 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA 7,50€

"I do not care for books written by those who merely watch from a safe distance, staying silent and feeling superior. To me, a true explorer is someone who looks into both the outside world and their own inner thoughts". This is how Kapka Kassabova (*To The Lake, Border*) explains the passion that for years has driven her to explore the most remote areas of the Balkans. The region where Kassabova is from has often been seen as a place torn apart by ethnic conflict, and she believes these prejudices come from a misunderstanding of one's neighbours and, in turn, a lack of understanding of oneself. Through her stories about the people and the beautiful places, the author of *Elixir* and *Anima* seeks to understand the Balkan mindset from different angles, going beyond borders and assumptions. She will be joined by writer and translator Elvira Mujčić (*La buona condotta*).

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Bulgarian Institute of Culture in Rome.

2 0 1 15 MINUTES FOR SUSTAINABLE CITY LIVING

Carlos Moreno with Luca Molinari

10:00 AULA MAGNA OF UNIMN UNIVERSITY 7,50€

Over the past decade, discussions and projects about renewing modern cities have focused on the idea that all essential services should be just a fifteen-minute walk away from our homes. According to this idea introduced by the Franco-Colombian urban planner Carlos Moreno, our cities become archipelagos of micro-neighbourhoods in which to recover the quality of daily life and rebuild supportive relationships. How can we think about the cities of the future while keeping important environmental and social issues in mind? The author of *The 15-Minute City* will be exploring the topic in a discussion with architect and curator Luca Molinari.

The author will speak in Spanish, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

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202 THE POETICS OF BEING A FATHER

Alejandro Zambra with Simonetta Bitasi

10:00 AULA MAGNA DEL SEMINARIO VESCOVILE 7,50€

Chilean poet Eduardo Molina used to say that “the novel is the poetry of fools because you have to explain everything to the reader.” Alejandro Zambra, on the other hand, finds fiction the best way to express the longing for his homeland and bring Mexico City closer to his native Santiago. One of the most highly respected authors in the Spanish language *Formas de volver a casa* (*Ways of Going Home*), *Mis documentos* (*My Documents*), he has explored Chile’s shift to democracy in the 1990s, focusing on themes like the challenges of masculinity, generational conflicts, and the struggles in relationships between fathers and children. In his latest work, *Literatura infantil*, he takes a more personal approach, reflecting on his own experiences as a parent. He observes how, just like members of the audience who miss the start of a film, our children often bring back forgotten memories of our own childhood. He is joined on stage by Simonetta Bitasi.

The author will speak in Spanish, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

WORK ON A HUMAN SCALE

Richard Sennett

ACCENTS

10:00 TENDA SORDELLO FREE ADMISSION  

Over fifteen years after the publication of *The Craftsman*, Richard Sennett returns to the key concepts of his analysis, taking into account the increasingly widespread phenomena of mass resignations and quiet quitting, evidence of a growing intolerance towards the prevailing rules in the workplace.

The author will speak in English, without interpretation.

206 BEING OURSELVES

Jenny Jägerfeld with Fabio Geda

10:00 AULA MAGNA “ISABELLA D’ESTE” 7,50€

Often a new start – a change of school, a holiday away, a theatre course or a sporting activity – gives us a chance to step outside the role others have assigned to us and show new people who we truly are. For Måns, a 12-year-old boy from Stockholm, this fresh start happens when he moves to Malmö with his mother and brings his beloved skateboard along. Here, he initially clashes with and then forms a close friendship with Mikkel, although he can’t bring himself to confide that he was born in a female body but has always felt like a boy. The story explores themes of being true to oneself, dealing with social and family expectations, and the importance of friendship and honesty with ourselves and others. The author of *Brorsan är kung* will be discussing the topic with Fabio Geda (*Song of Myself*).

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Kulturrådet / Swedish Arts Council.

THE SACRED FIRE OF WRITING

Deborah Levy with Elsa Riccadonna

12:00 THE BOOK PIAZZA FREE ADMISSION

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

On the sacred fire of writing SEE P. 9

GRAND HOTEL
San Lorenzo
☆☆☆☆



SCHIAVON HOTELS



ACQUA ENERGIA AMBIENTE

FROM 11
YEARS OLD

Bertoi Sport
2 RUOTE DAL 1900

Unical
BE ON FIRE

2 1 4 AN EXERCISE IN REVOLT

Sorj Chalandon with Carlo Lucarelli

12:15 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO 7,50€

One of the peculiarities of Sorj Chalandon's fiction is the urgency to rebel against inexorable states of affairs, be they painful losses such as the one that afflicts the main character in *Le Jour D'Avant*, or a medical report that prompts the bookseller in *Une Joie Féroce* to open up to life and friendship. His latest book, *L'Enragé*, is based on the real-life escape of fifty children from a prison colony on the island of Belle-Ile-en-Mer, off the coast of Brittany, in 1934. Although most of the children were caught quickly, one child was never found. What happened to him? Where was his voice? The conversation between Carlo Lucarelli and one of the most talented European novelists of recent years opens around these questions - and the need for literature as an exercise in revolt.

The author will speak in French, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Institut Français Italia.

2 1 5 WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT AFRICA

Dipo Faloyin with Veronica Fernandes

12:15 BASILICA PALATINA DI SANTA BARBARA 7,50€

"Don't get bogged down with precise descriptions (...) Africa is big: fifty-four countries, 900 million people who are too busy starving and dying and warring and emigrating to read your book. (...) keep your descriptions romantic and evocative and unparticular." This was just one of the caustic tips that, almost twenty years ago, the late Binyavanga Wainaina gave in his famous article *How to Write About Africa*. Against Wainaina's advice, Nigerian journalist Dipo Faloyin addresses the complexity of the continent in his book *Africa is Not a Country*, celebrating the many identities of Africa today. He talks about fundamental issues like colonialism, geopolitics, and how Africa is portrayed in the media, while also sharing his own experiences. Faloyin sets out to challenge the simplistic Western view that treats Africa as one single, exotic place filled with stereotypes. He will be joined on stage by journalist Veronica Fernandes.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

2 2 1 RETHINKING FATHERS

Jessa Crispin with Giulia Perona

15:00 PALAZZO SAN SEBASTIANO 7,50€

The American Midwest is known for its strong conservative beliefs, especially in politics and religion. Family, school, and the churches scattered across the territory are incubators for the most extreme expressions of the patriarchal system. Jessa Crispin (*Why I Am Not a Feminist*), born in Kansas, has thought a lot about how the prevailing culture shapes society to the detriment of women, not just on the Great Plains but everywhere. Drawing from her own experiences, she highlights how discussions around gender-based violence can be misleading, often involving blame directed at victims and the idea that "not all men" are part of the problem. The author of *My Three Dads* emphasises the need for a real shift in how society operates, suggesting that simply putting women into positions of power isn't enough if the underlying issues remain the same. She argues that having wealthy or powerful women who act in harmful ways does not change the overall situation. It's easy to talk about empowering women, but if they are fascists or if they work in companies that destroy the world and do not take care of society, then everything remains haunted by the spectres of patriarchy. She will be joined by Giulia Perona (*Senza rossetto*).

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

IV9L
litocartotecnica s.p.a.

PINK
NOISE

GRUPPO
HERA

2 2 2 IN THE DUTCH COUNTRYSIDE

Gerbrand Bakker with **Massimo Cirri**

15:00 AULA MAGNA DEL SEMINARIO VESCOVILE 7,50€

If you rent a bike in busy Amsterdam and ride for just half an hour, you can find yourself in picturesque countryside filled with charming old houses, peaceful canals, and vibrant flower gardens. "In a way, I need these things in my books, these landscapes, because I want to focus on the details, on the real things, and in a big city one can easily miss them. Speaking figuratively, I want to get rid of the noise," says former gardener Gerbrand Bakker, who spent his childhood on a farm and knows the northern part of the Netherlands well. Bakker is one of Holland's most influential contemporary writers, known for *Boven is het stil* (*The Twin*), *June*, and *The Detour*. He skilfully captures the rarefied atmosphere of rural life, whose peace often contrasts with profound reflections on pain, absence, and lost love—themes that are at times autobiographical and at the centre of his literary output. Allow yourself to be drawn in by the gentle pace of the author of the recent *The Hairdresser's Son*. If you close your eyes, you might even feel a soft breeze and smell the tulips. He will be talking to radio presenter Massimo Cirri.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

In collaboration with the Embassy and Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Letterenfonds (Dutch Foundation for Literature).

HellO Buddy
NOLEGGIO ACCESSIBILE
Wobley Project
Rangoni & Affini

2 3 3 THE ANGEL OF SECRET LIVES

Andrew O'Hagan with **Peter Florence**

17:15 AULA MAGNA DEL SEMINARIO VESCOVILE 7,50€

"In Andrew O'Hagan," said Hilary Mantel, "There is no page on which there is not something surprising or quotable or pleasurable or thought-provoking". Celebrated by writers including Norman Mailer, Jonathan Coe, and Joyce Carol Oates, O'Hagan has a unique talent for writing about a wide range of fictional topics. His books, including *Our Fathers*, *Be Near Me*, the poignant *Mayflies*, *The Secret Life*, and the biting *Caledonian Road*, all document an era with formidable precision. In an interview with Peter Florence, the Scottish writer will talk about surprising connections between the hidden lives of his characters, the burdens of loneliness, friendship, and vanity that affect them, and the ghosts from their past.

The authors will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

COOPERATIVA
LIBRAI
MANTOVANI

2 3 8 ON THE EDGE BETWEEN HORROR AND REALITY

Mona Awad with **Giulia Cuter** and **Giulia Perona**

18:00 MUSEO DIOCESANO 7,50€

Mona Awad has captivated and surprised readers around the world with unforgettable images and characters in her books. Dramatic storytelling, clever dark humour, a taste for satire, horror-themed fairytales and unsettling atmospheres are some of the distinctive features of her writing. The Canadian-born American author in novels such as *Rouge*, *Bunny*, *All's Well* and *13 Ways of Looking at a Fat Girl* offers a new take on what it means to be a woman in the contemporary world and the risk of existing on the edge of life and art. Joining her in conversation will be Giulia Cuter and Giulia Perona, authors of *Le ragazze stanno bene*.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.



2 4 1 THE FIGHT FOR TRUTH

Maria Ressa with Veronica Fernandes

18:30 PIAZZA CASTELLO 7,50€ ▶

In a world where fake news attacks democracy every day, to protect freedom of expression it is not only necessary to beware of corrupt governments, but also “of big tech, which has seized the reins of the world, for better or worse”. “It’s as if a virus of lies has been released into the information ecosystem; it infects people, changing what they think and how they act,” says Maria Ressa (*How to Stand Up to a Dictator*), Nobel Peace Prize winner in 2021. The Filipino-born journalist has been fighting for years against those who want to silence investigative journalists and distort the truth, and she has faced persecution from former president Rodrigo Duterte for her efforts. Alongside journalist Veronica Fernandes, Maria Ressa will discuss how algorithms and business interests often hold more influence than democratic values.

The author will speak in English, with consecutive interpretation into Italian.

MARCEGAGLIA

FESTIVAL LETTERATURA AND PALAZZO TE

This year, the collaboration between Fondazione Palazzo Te and Festivalletteratura is centered on the theme chosen by the Fondazione for its 2024 cultural programme: metamorphosis in art and music. The initiative will include an event, two concerts, and workshops designed for children. In conjunction with the opening of the exhibition *Picasso at Palazzo Te: Poetry and Salvation* (from September 5, 2024, to January 6, 2025), exhibition curator Annie Cohen-Solal will celebrate the extraordinary creative legacy of the Spanish artist at an event in Piazza Castello, featuring Nicolo Ammaniti as a special guest.

The Cortile d’Onore at Palazzo Te will serve as the main venue for innovative music, with a concert by Nicolas Jaar, one of the most internationally acclaimed artists on the electro-acoustic music scene, and a performance of *Music for 18 Musicians*, a minimalist masterpiece by Steve Reich, in a performance by Sentieri Selvaggi. Additionally, children will have the opportunity to explore a menagerie amid the frescoed rooms of Palazzo Te, accompanied by Eloisa Morra, Francesca Scotti, and Massimiliano Tappari, as part of a workshop aimed at creating a new bestiary for Mantova.

28

Thursday 5 – 14:45
Piazza Castello

PICASSO THE EXILE

Annie Cohen-Solal with Nicolo Ammaniti and Michele Fusilli

190

Saturday 7 – 21:00
Palazzo Te

MUSIC FOR 18 MUSICIANS

Sentieri Selvaggi

123

Friday 6 – 21:00
Palazzo Te

JAAR IN CONCERT

CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

SEGRETERIAT FESTIVALETTERATURA

Via Castiglioni, 4 - 46100 Mantova
tel. 0376.223989 **fax** 0376.367047
segreteria@festivaletteratura.it

FESTIVALETTERATURA ARCHIVE

Via Accademia, 47 - 46100 Mantova
tel. 0376.223989
archivio@festivaletteratura.it

INFORMATION

For information about any late changes to the programme (changes of venue for reasons such as bad weather) and of any events postponed, sold out or cancelled, the website www.festivaletteratura.it is kept constantly updated. You can also check in real time by enquiring at our **Information Point**, via **sms informa**, **Telegram**, the **Festivaletteratura app**, calling 0376.223989 or by sending an **email** to **info@festivaletteratura.it**

The **Information Point** in **Piazza Sordello** will be open during the whole of the Festival. General tourist information can be obtained from **Infopoint in Mantova** – piazza Mantegna, 6 (tel. 0376.432432, info@turismo.mantova.it; www.turismo.mantova.it), open every day 9.00 - 19.00.

PRESS OFFICE

Lara Facco P&C
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tel. 02 36565133 stampa@larafacco.com
www.larafacco.com

4 – 8 September:

Press room Festivaletteratura
Piazza Leon Battista Alberti Mantova
tel. 351.6564754

TEXT MESSAGE INFORMATION

Festivaletteratura has a text message info service for scheduled events.

Receive Festivaletteratura updates (in Italian) on your phone. Just **text the message "Festival On"** to **+39 353 3364700**.

The service, which is already active, is free of charge and ends on the evening of 8 September 2024. To disable the service before that, just text 'Festival Off' to the same number. Check your mobile phone plan to see if your provider applies a charge for the text you send to activate or deactivate the service. For details of Festivaletteratura's data protection policy, see www.festivaletteratura.it

FESTIVALETTERATURA APP

A new Festivaletteratura app is available for iOS™ and Android devices and can be downloaded free of charge from the stores. The app gives you real time updates, including any schedule changes, comprehensive biographical information on the authors at this edition; a chance to set up your own itinerary, with all the events you don't want to miss. The map includes all the Festival venues and even where to find Festival-friendly places to eat, sleep and shop.



DOWNLOAD
THE NEW APP

FESTIVAL BOOKSHOP 2024 WITH LIBRERIE.COOP

*In collaboration with Cooperativa Librai Mantovani
and thanks to the contribution of UNIPOL*

The Festival bookshop is in [piazza Sordello](#).

Open: **from Friday 30 August**

Opening hours 9:30 → 13:00,
15:30 → 22:00. On Festival days opening
hours: 9:30 → 24:00.

Sunday 8 September 9:30 → 20:00.

Books by the authors attending the Festival will be available at the bookshop and event venues. For information: 0376.360414 (from 9:00 - 19:00).



FESTIVALETTERATURA NEWSLETTER

Sign up to our newsletter and stay up to date on all the Festival news. Subscribe at bit.ly/newsletter-festlet



TELEGRAM

Get updates, practical news and information about the Festival on Festivaletteratura's Telegram channel. To subscribe, go to the 'Festivaletteratura' channel in the app or, on your phone click on t.me/Festivaletteratura.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep up with the latest news and share your experiences on Twitter and Instagram with the official hashtags: [#FESTLET](#)

- [Festivaletteratura](#)
- [@Festivaletteratura](#)
- [@festivaletteratura](#)
- [@festletteratura](#)
- [Festivaletteratura](#)
- [Festivaletteratura](#)

FESTIVAL LETTERATURA LOCATIONS 2024

- 1 Biblioteca Teresiana
- 2 Piazza Mantegna
- 3 Piazza Leon Battista Alberti
- 4 Consorzio di Bonifica Territori del Mincio
- 5 Camera di Commercio - Loggia del Grano
- 6 Cinema Oberdan
- 7 Pontile Peschiere di Giulio Romano
- 8 Basilica Palatina di Santa Barbara
- 9 Piazza Castello
- 10 Palazzo Ducale -
Appartamento della Rustica
- 11 Tenda Sordello
- 12 Piazza dei Libri (Book Piazza)
- 13 Seminario Vescovile
- 14 Piazza Virgiliana
- 15 Museo Diocesano
- 16 La Zanzara
- 17 Palazzo d'Arco
- 18 Aula Magna dell'Università
- 19 Chiesa di Santa Maria della Vittoria
- 20 Politecnico di Milano -
Campus di Mantova
- 21 SpazioArrivabene2
- 22 Aula Magna "Isabella d'Este"
- 23 Palestra "Usvardi"
- 24 Casa del Mantegna
- 25 Palazzo San Sebastiano
- 26 Palazzo Te
- 27 Biblioteca Baratta
- 28 Scuola Primaria "don Mazzolari"
- 29 Quartiere Lunetta
- 30 ATS Valpadana
- 31 Teatro Sociale
di Castiglione delle Stiviere
- 32 Teatro "Pagano"
di Canneto sull'Oglio
- 33 Teatro Comunale di Gonzaga
- 34 Palazzina Mondadori - Ostiglia
- A Author reception
- B Ticket assistance, Secreteriat
- C Press office, Web editorial staff
- D Coworking space
-  Festivalletteratura Space Off
-  Info-point
-  Festival bookshop
-  Shuttle stop - Piazza Sordello
-  Author/volunteer refreshment area
- FS Railway station
-  Refreshment areas
-  Flask refill station
-  Toilets
-  Fountains

* SPACE OFF | PIAZZA LEON BATTISTA ALBERTI *

The iconic piazza, symbol of the Festival, once again becomes a *Space OFF* where people can meet, have a chat, recover from their literary excursions, get a bite to eat, watch free events during the daytime and at the end of the evening, enjoy **VOLUME's** literary DJ sets.



BRESCIA - VERONA
LAGO DI GARDA

AZZ MIN NORD
PADOVA - FERRARA

PARMA - CREMONA
MILANO

AZZ MIN NORD
PADOVA - FERRARA

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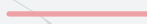
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CYCLING INTO TOWN




 recommended routes for safe cycling
Towards piazza Sordello

 other cycle paths

 park-and-ride with bike sharing

 park-and-ride with shuttle bus
and bike sharing

 shuttle stops in town from Campo Canoa
and piazzale Montelungo



PARCHEGGIO PRADELLA
300

Angeli
Le Grazie

Belfiore

Montanara
San Silvestro
Levata

Stazione di
Borgochiesanuova

VIA CREMONA
SP 10

SP 420

VIA CREMONA

VIA FIUME

VIALE PIANE

VIALE GORIZIA

VIALE OSLAVIA

VIALE MONTELELLA

VIALE POMPILIO

STR. LARGO PIAZZO

TANGENZIALE SUD

STR. CINCIANA



PARCHEGGI E VIABILITÀ

Parcheggio Pradella → Piazza Sordello 1,1 km

	12 min		5 min		15 min		10 min
	0 g co ₂		0 g co ₂		44g co ₂		165g co ₂
	53 kcal		18 kcal		11 kcal		8 kcal

Parcheggio P.le Montelungo → Piazza Sordello 1,7 km

	19 min		8 min		14 min		8 min
	0 g co ₂		0 g co ₂		68g co ₂		255g co ₂
	82 kcal		28 kcal		17 kcal		13 kcal

Parcheggio Campo Canoa → Piazza Sordello 1,4 km

	15 min		6 min		4 min		6 min
	0 g co ₂		0 g co ₂		56g co ₂		210g co ₂
	67 kcal		23 kcal		14 kcal		11 kcal

San Giorgio Bigarello

Lunetta

PIAZZA SORDELLO

PIAZZA D'ARCO

PALAZZO TE

Cerese

Cittadella

TANGENZIALE NORD

LUNGOLAGO DI MEZZO

PARCHEGGIO CAMPO CANOA

STR. CIPATA

CORSO VITTORIO EMANUELE II

VIA G. CHIASSI

VIA P. AMEDEO

VIA MAZZINI

VIA DELLA REPUBBLICA

PARCHEGGIO PIAZZALE MONTELUONGO

VIALE ALLENDE

VIA G. B. VISI

VIA DONATI

VIA PARMA

STR. BOSCO VIRGILIANO

SS 62

SP 10

VIALE

VIA POMPONETTO

LUNGOLAGO INFERIORE

CORSO GARIBALDI

GETTING AROUND

Getting to Mantova and moving about in town

In 2021 we made a pledge to limit the Festival's carbon footprint, reducing greenhouse gas emissions to a minimum for both our own and the public's transport. Here we provide you with all the information you need to plan your trip sustainably.

→ TRAINS

Direct rail connections to Mantova: MILAN, VERONA, MODENA, BOLOGNA, CREMONA. The station is just a few minutes' walk from the old town. Due to improvements on the Mantova-Milan line, a replacement bus runs in either direction between Mantova and Bozzolo.

→ BUSES

Several bus services connect the old town with other places in the province, outside the province and with the different neighbourhoods of the city. The LINEA CC is a circular bus route that takes you right round the old town, with departures every 15 minutes. Full details of all APAM city and intercity bus services are available online (www.apam.it) or by scanning this QR Code.



→ VISITORS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY

ANFFAS offers a dedicated service with purpose-trained staff and anti-covid measures. Departures from **Campo Canoa** and **Piazza Virgiliana** car parks. There is no charge for this service, but reservations must be made by Tuesday 3 September.

For information and booking: **0376.360515 – 338.6617278** (Graziella) from Monday to Friday 9.00-13.00 and 16.00-19.00.

→ TAXIS

Every day, non-stop from 5:00 am. to 1:00 am. | Tel. 0376.368844 - cell. 335.5959285 | www.radiotaximantova.it

Pick up points in Piazza Cavallotti (near Teatro Sociale), piazza Sordello (near entrance to Palazzo Ducale), piazza Don Leoni (train station).

→ PAY AND DISPLAY

There are 4 park-and-ride car parks located at entry points to the city: **Campo Canoa**, **Piazzale Montelungo** and **Cimitero degli Angeli** (free of charge) and the **Porta Pradella** underground car park (pay and display). From Campo Canoa and Piazzale Montelungo Apam operates a free shuttle service into town departing every 12 minutes from 7:00 to 24:00 on Festival days. Other car parks in town: **Anconetta**, **Porta Mulina**, **Piazza Virgiliana**, **Piazzale Gramsci**, **viale Risorgimento**, **viale Isonzo**, **viale Mincio** (pay and display zones).

→ CYCLING

Mantova is a mostly flat, **bike-friendly** town with a historic centre largely closed to traffic and good cycling infrastructure. Cycling is undoubtedly the most convenient and fastest way of getting around town. To encourage its use even over longer distances (in

urban routes between 5 and 10 km, the bicycle is faster than the car in terms of overall travel time and parking), we've created **a map with safe cycle routes to the centre both from the neighbouring municipalities** (Curtatone, Borgo Virgilio San Giorgio Bigarello and Porto Mantovano) and from the 4 park-and-ride car parks. The recommended routes follow cycle paths and pedestrian areas or low-traffic roads.

→ CAMPERS

Stopover points equipped with drainage, toilets and showers:

SPARAFUCILE AREA

via Legnano, 1/a - Mantova

PARCO PAGANINI AREA

via della Fiera, 1 - località Grazie di Curtatone (MN)

For information
info@camperclubmantova.com

archive

Festivaletteratura

Now declared of notable cultural interest by Lombardy Region's Superintending Body for Archives, the Festivaletteratura Archive was created in 2010, to preserve the material collected by the Comitato Organizzatore di Festivaletteratura (now Associazione Mantova Festival Internazionali NPO) and by the Associazione Filofestival (Friends of Festivaletteratura).

As reorganisation and cataloguing continue, the Archive remains open by appointment: visitors might simply want to re-experience a vividly remembered event, or to use the wealth of available material as the basis for new projects.

In 2019 we celebrated our first ten years of activity with a new portal, born as a joint venture between the Festivaletteratura Archive and Promemoria Group. Promemoria made this possible thanks to a bespoke update of its Archiui.com platform, with innovative graphics and enhanced functional features. Its faster, more intuitive search function lets you start exploring as soon as you're on the home page, where you can look up past editions, guests, venues and all events from 1997 to date. We also added a special area for our press reviews and featured topics, as well as a news and information section. The sound section of the Archive now contains over 2,700 audio recordings, spanning the various editions of the Festival, and a vast array of topics can be accessed online and enjoyed one by one. And you can expect a treasure trove of further surprises as the cataloguing continues - videos, photos, graphic art and related material, all providing a vivid record of an adventure that's still going strong after almost thirty years.

ARCHIVE STATS: **27** editions / almost **7000** events / more than **4,200** national and international guests/ more than **200** locations in town/ more than **4,400** sound recordings, of which **2,700** are already online and available to users/ more than **500** units preserved (administrative documentation, graphic design section, press reviews, etc.) / approximately **280,000** analogue and digital photos/ more than **3,300** analogue and digital videos.

Festivaletteratura archive /47 Via Accademia, Mantova / 0376223989. To make an appointment or consult material: archivio@festivaletteratura.it / archivio.festivaletteratura.it

archiui

The Festivaletteratura digital archive has been created in association with **Archiui**, a platform for organising and giving access to historic, artistic and corporate collections, developed by Turin-based IT company **Promemoria**.

MANTOVA FESTIVAL INTERNAZIONALI NPO

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Stefania Bertuccio, Benedetta Cantoni, Alessandro Della Casa, Sara Fravezzi, Donatella Gilioli, Marella Paramatti, Gioia Poletti, Salvatore Satta, Arianna Tonelli, Ton Vilalta

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Anna Corraini; area coordinators: Matilde Silla Sgarbi, Luca Ughetti (text), Maxim Klimashin, Sofia Bonino, Ilaria Masè Dari, Danyyl Pochtar, Gaia Scarpari (photos), Lorenzo Aprà, Niccolò Martini, Matilde Rima, Sara Tebaldi (videos), Lucy Chatburn (international), Silvia Lanfranchi (social media)

Radio Festival Letteratura: Verdiana Benatti, Matteo Blasio, Giancarlo Cinini, Stefano Santini (editorial staff)

"Stati Generali" coordinators: Marta Bacigalupo, Gianluca Candiani, Luca Pareschi, Noemi Ponzone

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Scientific consultant: Manuela Soldi

Archivists: Giorgia Nanni, Michele Triboli

Programme design: Pietro Corraini with Camilla Marani and Emma Cocco.

Cover illustration: Giulia Pastorino

Graphics: Maxistudio - Viadana

Printed by: Arti Grafiche Castello - Viadana

Translation: Isobel Butters

Editing: Laura Cangemi



MANTOVA
4 • 8 september
2024

Illustration by Giulia Pastorino



3 €