



L'ISOLA
- delle -
STORIE

Sardinian Literary Festival / 16th Edition

Gavoi, 4th – 7th July 2019

Prelude / Gavoi 16th June 2019

Press release

Gavoi, 8th June 2019 – Echoing voices, stories, music and readings among the alleys of the historic centre, guests' faces and eyes immortalised in the photos by Daniela Zedda, displayed on the walls along the streets, which will host and welcome the public to the village. And even exhibitions, readings, screenings and workshops: **L'Isola delle Storie – Festival Letterario della Sardegna (The Isle of Stories – Sardinian Literary Festival)** is this and much more. From **4th to 7th July** it will celebrate its **16th edition** in **Gavoi (NU)**, while the **Festival Prelude** will be held on **Sunday 16th June**.

The **Prelude** will officially inaugurate this 16th edition, on Sunday June 16th. It will be a day full of events, starting at 6 p.m. with the inauguration of two exhibitions which will be open until the first weekend of July.

MAN - Museo d'arte provincia di Nuoro will present *Sweets of Sin* (Le dolcezze del peccato) an exhibition by the Polish artist **Miroslaw Balka**, one of the most well-known figures on the international and European artistic scene nowadays. The project – curated by **Luigi Fassi** and hosted in the Museo del Fiore Sardo in Gavoi – revolves around the sculptural work **250 x 280 x 120 (Sweets of Sin)** created in 2004 as a tribute to James Joyce and his masterpiece *Ulysses*.

Miroslaw Balka is among the most famous figures on the European and international art scene and he bases his work on historical and social themes in relation to collective memory, with specific attention to European and autobiographical events. His works investigate the role of the human figure through sculptures created with common materials that evoke their symbolic presence, representing rooms, fountains, beds and seats. In the work *250 x 280 x 120 (Sweets of Sin)* Balka presents a reflection on the figure of James Joyce (1882-1941), the revolutionary Irish writer of the 20th century from whom the artist has drawn inspiration several times over the years, looking for

the reasons of their artistic and biographical similarities, like their common cultural mould that is strongly Catholic.

The second exhibition that will be inaugurated during the June Prelude is a new stage of *Intintos*: it is the photographic project in progress by **Daniela Zedda**, which portrays the Festival's guests – who are each year more and more involved in the local culture and traditions – and which, as usual, will be displayed outdoors, along the streets of Gavoi.

Then, at 6.30 p.m., in the courtyard of Casa Maoddi, after the musical interlude with Pierpaolo Vacca, there will be the presentation and the assignment of the prizes for the reading competition “Crescere leggendo” (3rd edition), carried out in collaboration with the 6th grade of Gavoi and the participation of the 6th grade of Orani and of “Maccioni” school in Nuoro.

Finally, at 7 p.m., the narrative performance *Memoria del vuoto. La leggenda della Tigre d'Ogliastra* (Memory of the void. The legend of the Tiger of Ogliastra) will close the Prelude day. It is based on the famous novel of the same name written by Marcello Fois, which narrates the life of the legendary bandit Samuele Stocchino and the many deaths he caused. It is produced by the cultural association Casa di Suoni e Racconti in Monastir (Province of Cagliari), with **Anna Brotzu** as reciting voice and **Andrea Congia** on classical guitar and synth.

The program of the long weekend of July, as usual, will be inaugurated with the evening show on Thursday, 4th July. This year it is entrusted to **Max Paiella** and his *Solo per voi* (Only for you). The famous comedian, singer and cartoonist, since 2004, has been a regular guest of the known radio show *Il Ruggito del Coniglio* (The Rabbit's Roar) by Rai Radio2 with Marco Presta and Antonello Dose. He will tell us about his very personal “emotional survival manual”, with his characteristic register that combines seriousness and humour. Holding his guitar, Max Paiella will guide us through our darkest and most luminous emotions, between anger and happiness, melancholy and fear, marking a carefree journey with his most amazing characters, his most hilarious imitations and, above all, his most exciting songs.

Starting from the morning of Friday 5th, the usual program of meetings, readings, workshops, shows and screenings will begin, accompanying the public until Sunday 7th July.

The appointment *Dal Balcone* (*From the Terrace*) confirms itself as one of the privileged places for listening and narrating female voices with three meetings about being a mother. In fact, this year **Rossella Milone** with her *Cattiva* (Bad, Einaudi, 2018), **Teresa Ciabatti** with *Matrigna* (Stepmother, Solferino, 2018) and **Elvira Serra**, recently back to the bookstores with *Le stelle di Capo Gelsomino* (The stars of Capo Gelsomino, Solferino, 2019) will look out of the balcony of Sant'Anna 'e Susu. **Alessandro Giammei**, writer and professor of Italian literature at Bryn Mawr College in the United States, will do the honors in this appointment, one of the most beloved of the Festival.

On the stage of the spectacular Sant'Antriocu Square, as usual, the series of meetings “Mezzogiorno di Fuoco” will be held– chaired by the writer **Giacomo Papi** whose title is *Il censimento dei radical chic* (The census of the radical chic). It will also host the evening meetings before and after dinner.

Among the international guests we find: the Polish writer **Wojciech Tochman**, published in Italy by Keller publisher and who is here in Gavoi thanks to the cooperation of the Istituto Polacco (Polish Reportage Institute) in Rome; **Catherine Dunne** – interviewed by Chiara Valerio – published in Italy by Guanda. Through her last novel ***Come cade la luce*** (The Way the Light Falls), published in 2018, she presents a new and great family story; the American **Eli Gottlieb**, whose recent novel ***Un ragazzo d'oro*** (Best boy, Minimumfax, 2018), was welcomed in Italy with positive enthusiasm and won the prize *The Bridge* as best unreleased American novel in Italy. Through his novel he accomplished to tell all about autism; **Rachel Cusk**, an English writer of Canadian ancestry, who is changing the contemporary novel and whose last book - ***Transiti*** (*Transit*, Einaudi, 2019) - published in Italy, has been elected as book of the year by *The Guardian*, *The New Statesman*, *The Observer* and *The Spectator*. This renewed series of meetings called “Storie di altri luoghi” has been produced with a new partnership this year with the **Festival Florinas in giallo**.

On the other hand, among the Italian guests we will have the former Minister and now Head of the **Istituto della Enciclopedia italiana (Institute of Italian Encyclopedia)** **Massimo Bray**; **Marco Varvello**, journalist and manager of the Rai correspondence office in the UK, with his recent *Brexit Blues* (Mondadori, 2019), a great surreal, ironic and grotesque story about the feeling of annoyance which has marked and continues marking the UK political and non-political daily life; **Pippo Civati**, founder of the publishing house People; **Pietro Bartolo**, the famous doctor, hero of Lampedusa together with **Maurizio Zaccaro**, screenwriter and director of the movie *Lacrime di sale*. It was inspired by a book of the same name where Bartolo describes his work of receiving and taking care of the migrants in Lampedusa, which he has carried out for 25 years; the critic and writer **Emanuele Trevi** – one of the authors of the recent *Sogni e favole* (Dreams and fairy tales, Ponte alle grazie, 2019) – and the former astronaut **Paolo Nespoli**, interviewed by the journalist **Elvira Serra** for the “Storie di altri luoghi” meeting.

Afternoon readings will be held at the Municipal Garden with: **Wanda Marasco** – finalist for the Premio Strega this year – with her *La compagnia delle anime finte* (The company of fake souls, Neri Pozza, 2017); the writer **Maurizio de Giovanni** with his latest novel *Il pianto dell'alba* (The crying of dawn, out soon with Einaudi); **Francesca Mannocchi**, who will be introduced by **Marco Damilano**, executive director of *L'Espresso*, and who will read *Io Khaled vendo uomini e sono innocente* (I, Khaled, sell men and am not guilty, Einaudi, 2019).

In the afternoon, the meeting of the cycle ‘Altre Prospettive’ will also be held on Square Mesu Biddu, this year directed by the journalist and communicator **Ignazio Caruso**. The guests of the first three meetings are: **Paolo Colagrande**, who has won the prize Campiello Opera Prima in 2007 and who has recently come back to the bookstores with *La vita dispari* (*Odd life*, Einaudi, 2019); **Svetlana Žuchová**, Slovakian writer, published by Mimesi eLit in Italy (meeting held with the cooperation of Istituto Slovacco); the writer **Stefano Sgambati**, who, with irony and sensibility, tells us about the uncertain path toward fatherhood in *La bambina ovunque* (The little girl is everywhere, Mondadori, 2018). He will be presented along with **Ofelia Prodan**, Romanian poet who is part of a new generation of poets who created a new way of doing poetry in the Romanian literary world of the 2000s (meeting held with the collaboration of the Istituto Romeno); **Marina Mander** – author of *L'età straniera* (The stranger age, Marsilio, 2019), with the Austrian **Carolina Schutti** who is about to publish, through the publishing house L'orma, her first novel translated into

Italian entitled *L'erba di ieri* (Yesterday grass, meeting held with the collaboration of Forum Austriaco).

There will be a comeback of “Fronte del Palco” this year, a section whose main focus is the language of young people and teenagers. It was launched last year and it is handled by **Fabio Geda**. It will be held in the Municipal Garden at 11:00 a.m. and at 6:30 p.m. in Casa Maoddi.

The scheduled guests are: the young and promising American writer **Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah** who made his debut in the USA with a collection of short stories entitled *Friday Black*, recently published in Italy as well by Sur; **Elisabeth Arquinigo**, a woman of Peruvian descent who became famous because of her commitment in the defence of migrants' rights; **Stefano Catone**, cofounder with Pippo Civati of the publishing house People; the writer and screenwriter **Simona Sparaco** with her *Nel silenzio delle nostre parole* (In the silence of our words, DeA, 2019) – with which she won the prestigious Premio DeA Planeta 2019 – an intense novel packed with humanity, which focuses on those circumstances in which life and death are so close that they can almost become one and on those in which distances dividing people can be overcome by absolute love, unconditional love; the sociologist **Stefano Laffi** who is devoted to social change, youth cultures, processes of marginalization, consumption and addictions. He and **Fabio Geda** are the editors of the volume *Quello che dovete sapere di me* (What you have to know about me, Feltrinelli, 2016); **Andrea Colamedici** and **Laura Gancitano**, philosophers and writers who wrote *Liberati dalla brava bambina* (Get rid of the good girl, HarperCollins, 2019) – creators of the project *Tlon* (School of Philosophy, Publishing House and bookshop theatre) through which they mainly focus on social dynamics and self-improvement.

With regards to the space dedicated to children and youngsters by **Associazione Lughenè** by Davide Meloni and Francesca Frongia, as usual there will be many scheduled meetings and workshops for the next three days.

The meetings held at Casa Maoddi at 4.30 p.m. and guided by **Alfonso Cuccurullo**, actor and narrator, will have three guests: on Friday the 5th, the illustrator **Noemi Vola** with *Un orso sullo stomaco* (Bear with me, Corraini, 2017), awarded the Premio Nazionale Nati per Leggere in 2018; on Saturday the 6th, **Luigi Garlando** with the book *Quando la luna ero io* (When I was the moon, Solferino libri, 2018) and on Sunday the 7th, **Christian Hill** who will introduce his new book *Il ladro dei cieli* (The thief of the skies, Rizzoli, 2019). On Saturday he will also hold a workshop about paper engineering, *Il paracadute di Leonardo*.

Noemi Vola will also be the protagonist of one of this year's illustration exhibitions. She will introduce her book *Di qui a molto lontano* (From here to far away, Corraini, 2019). During the exhibition, for all the three days, the illustrator will hold a special guided visit and an illustration workshop. This meeting is called *Raccontare un finimondo* (Telling a pandemonium). The other exhibitions held at the Ex-Caserma will be *L'Isola delle Storie a matita* by **Claudia Piras** and two bibliographic exhibitions called “*A riveder le stelle*”: *stories, images, music and movies about astronomy and science* by the **Biblioteca ragazzi Città metropolitana Cagliari** and *Il vento dei 20. Buon compleanno nati per leggere 1999-2019* (The wind of the 20 years).

The workshops that will be held in Gavoi this year are the following: **Gianni Atzei** with his laboratories about art and creativity such as *Cavallini dal maniscalco buontempono* and *Cavalli*

liberie un po' matti, a volte...meno/matti; the **Sistema Bibliotecario del Sulcis** that will present *Sbarchiamo sulla luna*, a workshop about narration and game and *Lassù che c'è*, a workshop which discovers the sky and the stars; the **IED - Istituto Europeo di Design** in Cagliari with *Manuale indossabile per terrestri ribelli*, which is a laboratory about drawing and decorative techniques; the **Centro Internazionale del fumetto** (International Comic Centre) in Cagliari will introduce a workshop about illustration and comics named *Super fumetti*; the **Inaf-Osservatorio Astronomico** (Astronomical Observatory of Cagliari - National Institute of Astrophysics) in Cagliari with *Blu la Luna*; the **Museo delle Maschere in Mamoiada** with the experimental laboratory *Trasformiamoci*; **Marco Valentino** with *Come suonano gli alieni*, laboratory for the construction of sound objects; the **Bibliobus** in Nuoro with *Che genio Leonardo!*

This year there will be two LabCamps, three-day laboratories for the same group of children: *CineMoon* with **Claudia Piras**, a workshop between cinema and animated gifs and the *Piccolo Principe in the space*, a pop-up laboratory applied to the theatre, edited by **Teatro Silfo**.

To these are added three laboratories/performances by **Alfonso Cuccurullo** – *Pagine selvatiche: faccia a faccia con le bestie incontrate nei libri e non solo...*, *Sorrisi al sole. Carrellata di storie ironiche per raddrizzare lo spirito* and *Brivido caldo. Rassegna di racconti del brivido per cuori impavidi*. Another one is *Buon compleanno Nati per leggere!*, consisting in readings for parents and children aged between 0 and 5 years, edited by the **Biblioteca della Città Metropolitana** in Cagliari. The **Associazione Lughenè** that takes care of the space will present in the next three days *Gle-grandi giochi in legno*.

Finally, always in Casa Maoddi, on Friday the 5th at 9 p.m., the **Inaf-Osservatorio Astronomico** in Cagliari will accompany us on a special sunset walk towards the Gavoi countryside to observe the constellations with telescopes, together with the Festival guests. At the same time on Saturday 6th, the show *Cartoni Animalì* of **Teatro Silfo** of Murcia, with live music by **Marco Valentino**, will be held.

The tributes of this 16th edition - read by the actors **Anna Brotzu**, **Camilla Soru** and **Agnese Fois** - will be dedicated to Leonardo Sciascia, 30 years after his death, to Alla Luna and to Primo Levi for the 100th anniversary of his birth.

Then, as usual the Parish Hall on Piazza San Gavino will host Spazio Cinema, on Saturday 6th, with a selection of science fiction short films from all over the world, organized by **Skepto Association**, while on Sunday 7th July, at 11:20 a.m., **Jacopo Cullin** and **Nevina Satta** - director of the Sardegna Film Commission Foundation, thanks to whom this meeting is realized - will introduce *L'uomo che comprò la luna* (The man who bought the moon) by Paolo Zucca. The movie will be shown at the end of the meeting and will be rerun in the afternoon at 4 p.m.

Also for the two-year period 2019-2020, L'Isola delle Storie was awarded the European "EFFE label" quality mark for the profuse commitment in the field of arts, in the involvement of the communities in which they work and in internationalization.

Foreign authors will be supported by the translations by **Monika Carta**, **Mauro Barindi**, **Susanne Scholl**, **Juana Sommermann Weber**.

The musical interludes made in collaboration with the **Luigi Canepa Conservatory** in Sassari, which will accompany the audience at the beginning of the meetings on Piazza Sant'Antriocu and at the Municipal Garden, before the afternoon reading, this year will be carried out by: **Bianca Frau Quartet, Kojiro Yorimoto** and **Bittersweet Cellos Quartet**.

This year too, in collaboration with Tiscali media partner, Moovioole, Streamera and the young people from Ipotesi Cinema, media technical partner, it will be possible to follow many of the scheduled appointments via web on live streaming.

For the fifth consecutive year, **Angelo Monne's** drawings - graphically elaborated by Sabina Era - will tell the story of the Festival, while **BAM Design** will take care of the stage set-ups.

The Festival is organized by the Cultural Association "Isola delle Storie" with the support of the Autonomous Region of Sardinia, Department of Education, Cultural Heritage, Information, Entertainment and Sports of the Region of Sardinia, Department of Tourism, Crafts and Trade of the Sardinia Region, Municipality of Gavoi, Chamber of Trade, Industry, Crafts and Agriculture of Nuoro, Foundation of Sardinia, Enel Green Power, Union of Municipalities of Barbagia, Bim Basin Imbrifero Montano del Taloro, with the patronage of President of the Regional Council of Sardinia and that of Rai Sardinia.