

BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR, 3RD - 6TH APRIL 2017

BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARD: THE WINNERS AND SPECIAL MENTIONS OF THE 52ND EDITION

1354 books from over 42 countries

A space for art narrated for children with the *Special Section for Art Books* and a focus on our planet with the return of *Books & Seeds/Libri & Semi*

Bologna February 13th - **Since 1966 the BolognaRagazzi Award** has been among the world's most highly regarded international prizes in the sector of children's publishing. The award, which honours the best productions in terms of their graphic-editorial qualities, has become a leading international launch pad for authors and illustrators thanks to the high profile recognition that the winners receive during the **Bologna Children's Book Fair**. The Fair is due to take place this year from the 3rd to the 6th April in the pavilions of BolognaFiere. The Bologna Ragazzi Award is much more than a publishing prize, it also offers a key business opportunity for the sale of copyrights on the international market.

Again this year participation in the competition has been remarkable: **1354 books from over 42 countries**. A prestigious international and specialized jury, composed of **Marwa Obaid Rashid Al Aqroubi** (president of UAEBBY, UAE), **Julia Eccleshare** (Children's Books Editor, *The Guardian*, Great Britain), **Paula Jarrin** (Specialized bookseller, Spain), **Guido Scarabottolo** (illustrator, Italy) and **Tomáš Klepoch** (illustrator, Slovakia), met on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th February at BolognaFiere to judge the four main categories of the award: **Fiction, Non Fiction, New Horizons and Opera Prima** (First Works). Each year's edition sees publishers enter the very best of their production, guaranteeing an excellent standard of competition. The Bologna Ragazzi Award is a precious stimulus for authors, illustrators and publishers to pursue the considerable artistic and literary quality that children's books require. This year's edition of the award was notable for the publishers' growing courage to invest in brand new talent: the section Opera Prima enjoyed a wealth of international entrants. The focus returned to children's feelings: emotions, fear and the changes of childhood were the central themes of many books. This year too saw confirmation of the trend for telling stories connected to themes currently in the news: stories of child refugees, migrants and wars continue to play a leading role in books from many parts of the world.

FICTION: WINNER

Picture books have always been the richest section of BRAW. The **2017 winner of the Fiction section is "A Child of Books" by Sam Winston and Oliver Jeffers, published by Walker Books (Great Britain).**

FICTION: SPECIAL MENTIONS

"Un Jardín" by Isidro Ferrer and María José Ferrada, illustrations by Isidro Ferrer, published by A buen paso, Mataró, (Spain).

"Still Stuck" text and illustrations by Shinsuke Yoshinsuke, published by Bronze Publishing (Japan).

"Jeg Rømmer (I'm Out of Here)", text and illustrations by Mari Kanstad Johnsen, published by Gyldendal Norsk Forlag (Norway).

"Teeth Hunters", text and illustrations by Wonhee Jo, published by Iyagikot (South Korea).

NON FICTION: WINNER

The winner of the 2017 Non Fiction section is **"The Wolves of Currumpaw", text and illustrations by William Grill, published by Flying Eye Books (Great Britain).**

NON FICTION: SPECIAL MENTIONS

"Planète Migrants" by Sophie Lamoureux, illustrations by Amélie Fontaine, published by Actes Sud (France).

"Les Mondes Invisibles des Animaux Microscopiques", text and illustrations by Hélène Rajcak and Damien Laverdunt, published by Actes Sud (France).

"Anatomie" by Jean-Claude Druvert, illustrations by Hélène Druvert, published by De La Martinière Jeunesse (France).

"Spellbound", text and illustrations by Maree Coote, published by Melbournestyle Books (Australia).

NEW HORIZONS: WINNER

The section dedicated to countries with an emerging publishing sector enjoyed over 80 entries and this year was won by ***"La mujer de la guarda"* by Sara Bertrand, illustrations by Alejandra Acosta, published by Babel Libros (Colombia).**

NEW HORIZONS: SPECIAL MENTIONS

"Cuéntame", text and illustrations by Ana Palmero Cáceres, published by Ediciones Ekaré (Venezuela).

"El Camino de Marwan" text by Patricia de Arias, illustrations by Laura Borràs, published by Editorial Amanuta (Chile).

OPERA PRIMA: WINNER

The section that aims to acknowledge the very best debut books this year enjoyed entries from some of the world's leading schools of illustrations and publishers keen to seek out new talent. **The winner of the 2017 Opera Prima section is *"The Museum of Me"*, text and illustrations by Emma Lewis, whose work has also been selected for this year's Illustrators' Exhibition, published by Tate publishing (Great Britain).**

OPERA PRIMA: SPECIAL MENTIONS

"Max et Marcel", text and illustrations by Alice Meteignier, published by Éditions MeMo (France).

"Contes au Carré", text and illustrations by Loïc Gaume, published by Éditions Thierry Magnier (France).

"Les Farceurs", text and illustrations by Anne-Hélène Dubray, published by L'Agrume (France).

THE NEW CATEGORY BOOKS & SEEDS: WINNER

2015 was the year of Expo Milan and its theme "Feed the Planet, Energy for Life". In keeping with this theme the BolognaRagazzi Award presented **Books & Seeds/Libri & Semi**, a special section of the award that aimed to acknowledge the children's books, published all over the world during the last five years, that dealt with the issues at the heart of the universal exposition. Later this year Bologna will see the opening of **FICO Eataly World** and in collaboration with this new reality Bologna Children's Book Fair has decided to make **Books & Seeds/Libri & Semi a permanent category in its historic award**, with the aim of providing recognition year after year to excellence in international publishing relating to these issues in addition to building, over time, an extensive library dedicated to young readers from all over the world who arrive in Bologna to visit the new theme park. The proposals for this category have been evaluated by a special jury of experts, in collaboration with the BRAW international jury. **The winner of the category Books & Seeds is *"Un Grand Jardin"* by Gilles Clément, illustrations by Vincent Gravé, published by Cambourakis (France).**

BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARD SPECIAL SECTION ART BOOKS: WINNER

Also for this year's edition the Award dedicated a special category to the in-depth study of a theme of particular relevance: for 2017 exhibitors were invited to present **works published in the last eleven years about the discovery of art, its history and its present**. This special category of the award highlights the care and commitment that many publishers all over the world dedicate to this genre of books. Art is universal and children's publishing has an opportunity to safeguard, preserve and promote awareness of humanity's artistic legacy. **The winner of this special award, chosen by the prestigious international BRAW jury and a jury of experts, is *"Cloth Lullaby - the woven life of Louise Bourgeois"* by Amy Novesky, illustrations by Isabelle Arsenault, published by Abrams (USA).**

SPECIAL SECTION ART BOOKS: SPECIAL MENTIONS

"Le Lutin des Arts", text and illustrations by Chiara Carrer, published by Éditions La Joie de Lire, (Switzerland).

"Jak se dělá galerie (How to Make a Gallery)" by Ondřej Chrobák, Rotislav Koryčánek and Martin Vaněk, illustrations by David Böhm and Jiří Franta, published by Moravská Galerie (Czech Republic).

"The Gift", text and illustrations by Page Tsou, published by Taipei Fine Arts Museum (Taiwan).

"Książka Do Zrobienia (This is a book to make)", text and illustrations by Aleksandra Cieślak, published by Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry (Poland).

THE FULL LIST OF BOOKS COMPETING:

<http://www.bolognachildrenbookfair.com/en/the-fair/bologna-childrens-book-fair-awards/bolognaragazzi-award/list-of-participating-works-2017/2136.html>

THE BRAU INTERNATIONAL JURY:

<http://bolognachildrenbookfair.com/en/the-fair/bologna-childrens-book-fair-awards/bolognaragazzi-award/jury/3637.html>

THE SPECIAL JURY BOOKS & SEEDS:

<http://bolognachildrenbookfair.com/en/the-fair/bologna-childrens-book-fair-awards/bolognaragazzi-award-books-seeds/jury/7120.html>

THE SPECIAL JURY ART BOOKS:

<http://bolognachildrenbookfair.com/en/the-fair/bologna-childrens-book-fair-awards/bolognaragazzi-award-for-art-books/jury/3806.html>

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