

WEDNESDAY, 3 DECEMBER

10 a.m. – 11 a.m. PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Reviewer: María Osorio,
Publisher, Babel Libros
(Colombia).
Languages: English/Spanish

11 a.m. – 12 p.m. THE ILLUSTRATORS' FIRST AID STATION: "FOUR ARTISTS, NO FILTER: ASK US (ALMOST) ANYTHING"

Speakers: Ivan Canu,
Illustrator, Director of
Mimaster Illustrazione
(Italy); Henrique Coser
Moreira, Illustrator and
Graphic Designer (Brazil);
Sergio Ruzzier, Picture
Book Author and Illustrator
(Italy); Valerio Vidali, Author
and Illustrator (Italy).
Topic: Style and creativity,
self-promotion, publishing
markets, representation
agencies, editorial workflow.
Language: English

12.15 p.m. – 1.15 p.m. PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Reviewer: Constanza
Recart, Foreign Rights
Manager, Amanuta (Chile).
Languages: English/Spanish

2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. WORKSHOP: "BUILDING CHARACTERS: THE ART OF THE COMIC DUO"

Speaker: Sergio Ruzzier,
Picture Book Author
and Illustrator (Italy).
Topic: Exploring how two
characters find their rhythm
together. Through *Fox and
Chick* and *The Real Story*,
Sergio Ruzzier shares his
playful approach to building
character relationships
and guides participants in
creating their own characters.
Language: English

3.45 p.m. – 4.45 p.m. PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Reviewer: Araya Goitia,
Editorial and Foreign
Rights, Ekaré (Spain).
Languages: English/Spanish

5 p.m. – 6 p.m. PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Reviewer: Manuel Rodríguez
Silvar, Founder and Publisher,
Limonero (Argentina).
Languages: English/Spanish

Besides the events of **The Illustrators Survival
Corner**, BCBF invites the international children's book
community attending FIL to join the conversation:

"ARTISTIC CREATION AND AT-RISK CHILDHOODS"

The panel explores how the harsh realities faced by children
and youth due to conflicts and inequalities affect the
artistic creation intended for them, while questioning the
impact on editorial production aimed at young audiences.

TUESDAY, 2 DECEMBER

3 p.m. – 3.50 p.m.

Foro de Industria - Aisle HH - International Area

Speakers: Dolores Prades, Founder, Director, and
Editor, Instituto Emilia (Brazil); Adolfo Córdova,
Author (Mexico); Joan Negrescolor, Author and
Illustrator (Spain); Sara Bertrand, Author (Chile);
Amanda Mijango, Author and Illustrator (Mexico).

Languages: English/Spanish



BOLOGNA PORTFOLIO AWARD - FIL25

A Bologna Children's Book Fair initiative designed
to recognize the illustrator's portfolio as a key
professional tool.

The winner will be awarded a **free trip to Bologna**
for the next Book Fair (13–16 April 2026).

The Award is open to all participants in the **Portfolio
Review sessions at The Illustrators Survival Corner**
during the 2025 FIL Guadalajara.

Find out more:



Attendance at the events is free of charge.
Just register on our Eventbrite page.
Unless otherwise specified, all
events will be held at the Bologna
Children's Book Fair booth.



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THE BOLOGNA GRAND TOUR

Fifth stop:

GUADALAJARA

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

COME VISIT US
INTERNATIONAL AREA
BOOTH HH7

Bologna Children's Book Fair (BCBF) brings to Guadalajara every year one of its flagship features: **The Illustrators Survival Corner**, an original project created in partnership with **Mimaster Illustrazione** (Milan, Italy), designed to support the new generation of illustrators. This year, the programme of masterclasses, workshops, and portfolio reviews is richer than ever, featuring some of the most prominent illustrators on the contemporary scene. Thanks to the collaboration with **FIL Guadalajara**, the programme takes place not only within The Illustrators Survival Corner area at the BCBF stand but also extends to key FIL initiatives such as **FILustra** and the **International Publishers and Professionals Forum**.

SATURDAY, 29 NOVEMBER

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
THE ILLUSTRATORS' FIRST AID STATION: "WHAT AM I DOING HERE?"
Speakers: Mónica Bergna, Founder and Publisher, Alboroto Ediciones (Mexico); Giacomo Benelli, Coordinator, The Illustrators Survival Corner (Italy).
Topic: An open and honest discussion on the profession of an illustrator, book fairs, building a career, and the challenges of getting started.
Languages: English/Spanish

3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Elisabeth Pérez Fernández, Editor-in-Chief, Illustrador and Writer, Bonito Editorial (Spain).
Languages: English/Spanish

4.15 p.m. – 5.15 p.m.
MASTERCLASS: "INSIDE TWO MICE. THE CREATIVE PROCESS OF SERGIO RUZZIER"
Speaker: Sergio Ruzzier, Picture Book Author and Illustrator (Italy).
Topic: How does a picture book come to life?
Sergio Ruzzier retraces the making of *Two Mice* through sketches, ideas, and anecdotes from his collaboration with publishers.
Language: English

5.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Arianna Squilloni, Publisher, A Buen Paso (Spain).
Languages: English/Spanish

SUNDAY, 30 NOVEMBER

10 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.
MEETING: "FROM ILLUSTRATION TO SPACE"
Featuring Valerio Vidali, Author and Illustrator (Italy).
Language: English
FILustra – Salón de Profesionales - International Area
Organized by FIL in collaboration with BCBF

11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Peggy Espinosa, Publisher, Petra Ediciones (Mexico).
Languages: English/Spanish

12.30 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.
THE ILLUSTRATORS' FIRST AID STATION: "THE PORTFOLIO: WHAT IS IT, WHAT'S ITS USE, AND HOW TO CREATE ONE?"
Speakers: Maru Aguzzi, Director, Gran Salón México (Mexico); Giacomo Benelli, Coordinator, The Illustrators Survival Corner (Italy).
Topic: How to create a professional illustrator's portfolio, from choosing the images and information to defining its structure.
Languages: English/Spanish

2.45 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.
THE BOLOGNA PORTFOLIO AWARD: "SHAPING CAREERS AND RECOGNIZING TALENTS"
Speakers: Elena Pasoli, Director, Bologna Children's Book Fair (Italy); Ivan Canu, Illustrator, Director of Mimaster Illustrazione (Italy); Giacomo Benelli, Coordinator, The Illustrators Survival Corner (Italy); Mariana Alcántara, Illustrator and Winner of the Bologna Portfolio Award – FIL24 (Mexico).
Topic: The award in the words of its first winner, the new edition, and a preview of BCBF 2026
Language: English

4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
LIVE PAINTING WORKSHOP: "GARDEN OF LETTERS"
Speaker: Mariana Alcántara, Illustrator and Winner of the Bologna Portfolio Award – FIL24 (Mexico).
Topic: A garden is a place of collaboration, beauty, and collective growth. This workshop takes inspiration from the harmony of plants to reflect the spirit of creativity and collaboration that animates every book fair, expressed through colors, typography, and the joy of drawing together.
Language: Spanish

MONDAY, 1 DECEMBER

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Ivan Canu, Illustrator, Director of Mimaster Illustrazione (Italy).
Language: English

11.15 a.m. – 12.15 p.m.
MASTERCLASS: "A JOURNEY INTO THE FOREST WITH VALERIO VIDALI"
Speaker: Valerio Vidali, Author and Illustrator (Italy).
Topic: Through sketches, drafts, and reflections, Valerio Vidali will share how ideas take shape and stories grow within the wild landscape of illustration, revealing how he uses die-cut and embossed pages to add depth and texture to his work.
Language: English

12.30 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.
THE ILLUSTRATORS' FIRST AID STATION: "BRINGING A PICTURE BOOK TO LIFE"
Speakers: María Celina Alonso, Editorial Director, Lectorita Ediciones (Argentina); Giacomo Benelli, Coordinator, The Illustrators Survival Corner (Italy).
Topic: The journey of a picture book: exploring the collaboration between creatives, editors, and publishing needs.
Languages: English/Spanish

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Helena Garcia, Sales Manager, Kalandraka (Spain).
Languages: English/Spanish

3.15 p.m. – 4.15 p.m.
MASTERCLASS: "MY FIRST DAYS AS AN ILLUSTRATOR"
Speaker: Henrique Coser Moreira, Illustrator and Graphic Designer (Brazil).
Topic: This session explores the crucial first steps in an illustrator's career: from the creative spark to the professional hustle, through the words and images of Henrique Coser Moreira.
Language: English
In collaboration with Fundación SM

4.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.
BOLOGNA COCKTAIL AT THE BCBF STAND
By invitation only

TUESDAY, 2 DECEMBER

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Sergio Ruzzier, Picture Book Author and Illustrator (Italy).
Language: English

11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
MASTERCLASS: "ONE VOICE, MANY WORLDS: A DIVE INTO ARMANDO FONSECA'S CREATIVE PROCESS"
Speaker: Armando Fonseca, Illustrator (Mexico).
Topic: Let's discover together how a singular, strong visual identity is leveraged to communicate diverse narratives and messages across multiple publishing targets.
Language: Spanish

12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
THE ILLUSTRATORS' FIRST AID STATION: "BREAKING THE BLOCK: HOW TO RESTART AND RECHARGE YOUR CREATIVITY"
Speakers: Gema Sirvent Laguna, Editorial Director, Editorial Libre Albedrío (Spain); Giacomo Benelli, Coordinator, The Illustrators Survival Corner (Italy).
Topic: Bring your fears and your questions; together we'll figure out how to recharge your creative engine and get back to making art.
Languages: English/Spanish

12 p.m. – 2.50 p.m.
ILLUSTRATION WORKSHOP
Featuring Henrique Coser Moreira, Illustrator and Graphic Designer (Brazil).
Language: English
FILustra - Hall B - First Floor - International Area
Organized by FIL in collaboration with Fundación SM and BCBF

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Nicolò Minetti, Foreign Rights Manager, White Star (Italy).
Language: English

3 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.
WORKSHOP: "TELLING STORIES THROUGH IMAGES"
Speaker: Valerio Vidali, Author and Illustrator (Italy).
Topic: The art of Visual Storytelling: exploring visual metaphors and the dynamic relationship between text and image to craft compelling, layered narratives.
Language: English

4.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Guillermo Pérez Aguilar, Publisher, Tres Tigres Tristes (Spain).
Languages: English/Spanish

5.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.
PORTFOLIO REVIEW
Reviewer: Mónica Bergna, Founder and Publisher, Alboroto Ediciones (Mexico).
Languages: English/Spanish

6.15 p.m. – 7.15 p.m.
MEETING: "FROM MANUSCRIPT TO READERS: THE ROLE OF LITERARY AGENTS IN CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE"
Featuring Ivan Canu, Illustrator, Director of Mimaster Illustrazione (Italy); Sergio Ruzzier, Picture Book Author and Illustrator (Italy).
Language: English
International Publishers and Professionals Forum - Salón de Profesionales - International Area
Organized by FIL in collaboration with BCBF