



THE 60TH BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR

Still rocking at 60!

13TH Bologna Children's Book Fair – Fundación SM International Award for Illustration The Italian illustrator Andrea Antinori wins the 2023 edition

The Bologna Children's Book Fair and Fundación SM, both active in the field of education and the promotion of children's books, set up the **Bologna Children's Book Fair – Fundación SM International Award for Illustration** in 2009 with the aim of unearthing, nurturing and supporting new talents in illustration.

Open to artists aged under 35 whose work has been selected for the *Illustrators Exhibition*, the prize for the winner is a cheque for 15 thousand euros which is intended to provide the winning illustrator with the peace of mind to create, over the course of one year, an illustrated book that will be published and launched on the global market by the Spanish publisher SM. The original illustrations will then be presented at a solo exhibition at the following year's edition of the Bologna Children's Book Fair. This year's winner was announced on Wednesday 8 March 2023 at the Illustrators Café during the 60th edition of the Bologna Children's Book Fair.

The 2023 jury, comprising **Monica Bergna** (Alboroto Ediciones, Mexico); **Lara Peces** (SM Madrid, Spain); **Nina Wehrle/ It's Raining Elephant** (Illustrator, Switzerland), awarded the 13th International Award for Illustration Bologna Children's Book Fair - Fundación SM to the Italian illustrator **Andrea Antinori**.

Below the jury statement:

The drawings of Andrea are very compelling. We could easily relate to the funny characters with their strong personalities and sense of humour. It all looks so light and depurated but we recognize a great mastery. The limited palette of shapes, colours and a few lines create a vibrating graphical expression, reminding of electric city lights.

The set-up is not accidental, each element has its own, well-defined weight and a clear intention. Each one of his illustrations express a clear intention for all kinds of audience.

The decision was unanimous and the Jury is sure that Andrea will continue his career following his own voice even more radically.

***Andrea Antinori** lives in Bologna. He studied Graphic Design and illustration at ISIA (Urbino, Italy) and at the Escola Massana (Barcelona, Spain). Since 2013 he has been working as an illustrator with publishing houses both in Italy and abroad. In 2021, 2020 and 2017 he was selected for the *Illustrators Exhibition*. In 2017 he won the Italian Andersen Award in the category "Best book 6/9 years" and in 2019 the "Best international picture book" award at the Shanghai Book Fair with *La grande battaglia*.





Bologna, 8 March 2023

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