

SILENTBOOKCONTEST2025

GIANNI DE CONNO AWARD

IL PETTIROSSO

by Mania Eghrarian
Carthusia Edizioni

WINNING PROJECT

SILENT BOOK CONTEST – GIANNI DE CONNO AWARD 2025

INTERNATIONAL JURY PRIZE



IL PETTIROSSO is the **winning** book of the **twelfth edition** of the **Silent Book Contest – Gianni De Conno Award 2025**, the first international competition dedicated to the book **without words**, a demanding bet for the international world of illustration: illustrators are called to participate in a competition for the creation of a “silent” book and evaluated by an important International Jury.

The twelfth edition of the Silent Book Contest – Gianni De Conno Award 2025 has **Carthusia Edizioni** as **organizer and main promoter** flanked by important partners such as the **Bologna Children's Book Fair**, the **Turin International Book Fair**, the **Municipality of Mulazzo** and the **Montereggio Paese dei Librai Association**, **IOB International Organization of Book Towns**, the **Center for books and reading**, **IBBY Italia**, **BPER Banca** and **Rai Kids** and **Rai Radio 3** as **Media Partners**.

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BPER:



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Since 2018, the competition has been dedicated to **Gianni De Conno**, in memory of its creator and great artist who passed away in August 2017.

The **International Jury**, chaired by **Walter Fochesato** (teacher of children's literature and history of illustration – Italy), is composed of **Emanuela Bussolati** (illustrator – Italy), **Chiara Bidoli** (journalist and editor-in-chief of Corriere della Sera – Redazione Salute), **Eros Miari** (member of the editorial board of the Turin International Book Fair – Italy), **Elena Pasoli** (director of the Bologna Children's Book Fair – Italy), **Sonja Riva** (writer and journalist of RSI – Switzerland), **Sara Wang** (CEO of Sidee Cultural Communication – China), **Javier Zabala** (illustrator – Spain) and **Patrizia Zerbi** (publisher of Carthusia Edizioni – Italy).

Last February the Jury, with the support of **Costanza De Conno** and **Francesco Zamboni** of the SBC Organizing Secretariat, selected, among **275 works** from **47 countries around the world**, **16 unpublished finalist projects**:

Ba Biling (China) – **Look at the deer!**

Bealuz Villavicencio (Philippines/South Korea) – **Pancia della balena**

Silvia Biondi (Italy) – **Felice**

Silvia Franchini (Italy) – **Verso la rotta di immaginaria**

Ekaterina Suvorova (Kazakhstan/Russia) – **Out of the Void**

Agnese Leone (Italy) – **Save the forest**

Daria Gemma (Italy) – **The inner world**

Giulia Gardelli (Italy) – **Clair de lune**

Giorgia Zanin (Italy) – **Ali di carta**

Mania Egharian (Iran) – **Bird**

Melina Lebel (Germany) – **Near neighbors, far away friends**

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Iris Samartzi (Greece) – **Routes**

Dandin Espina (Philippines/USA) – **Rocky Boy's Sunday**

Zixiao Chang (China/UK) – **Shadow**

Riccardo Francaviglia and Margherita Sgarlata (Italy) – **Mia mamma è un dinosauro**

Elizaveta Iakovleva (Russia/Germany) - **The flower thief**

After meeting a second time, the International Jury chose the **winning project of SBC 2025**.

IL PETTIROSSO tells a simple story that brings a very powerful message. On a cold winter day, an old man makes his regular trip to the cemetery to pay a visit to the woman he shared precise his whole life with. This melancholic moment is interrupted by a very particular find: a frozen bird lays on the grave. The old man decides to bring it home, where he will take care of it, and the bird will bring some warmth and joy back into the man's life. These feelings spring spontaneously when someone decides to take care of something, donating a part of their heart. The soft shapes and warm colours of this silent book invite the reader to enter a serene world, full of emotions and imagination.

*"Il pettirosso was born from the idea that the smallest acts of kindness are what make the world a place worth living in" says the author **Mania Eghrarian**. "This book was an intense journey, in which I eagerly took up the challenge to communicate emotions through images only. I admire the Silent Book Contest very much because it celebrates visual storytelling, and it was the perfect occasion for me to share my art."*

The author Mania Eghrarian loves to draw serene landscapes and intimate moments. Her style combines neat shapes with brilliant colours, which invite the observer to explore the world through her eyes. She loves to draw especially everyday moments, enriched with captivating details to make the ordinary extraordinary.

IL PETTIROSSO joins the **"SILENT BOOK"** series published by **Carthusia Edizioni**, which today collects 34 titles, including **SBC winners and finalists**. Great books without words to tell stories through the magic of images, "silent" books by great authors, both winners and finalists, who participated in the prestigious Silent Book Contest.

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It will be available **in bookstores** throughout the country starting from **May 30, 2025**.

The **Award Ceremony of the winning book** was held
Saturday, May 17th at 3:30 PM
during the **Turin International Book Fair**,
at the **Yellow Room in Hall 4**.

At the event, **Walter Fochesato, Eros Miari, Emanuela Bussolati, Chiara Bidoli, Lorena De Vita, Franco Fornaroli, Claudio Novoa, Patrizia Zerbi e Costanza De Conno** were present.

For the entire duration of the Book Fair, from May 15th to May 19th, the physical exhibition of the **finalists of the Silent Book Contest 2025** could also be visited **in the Bookstock Area**.

Per maggiori informazioni:

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