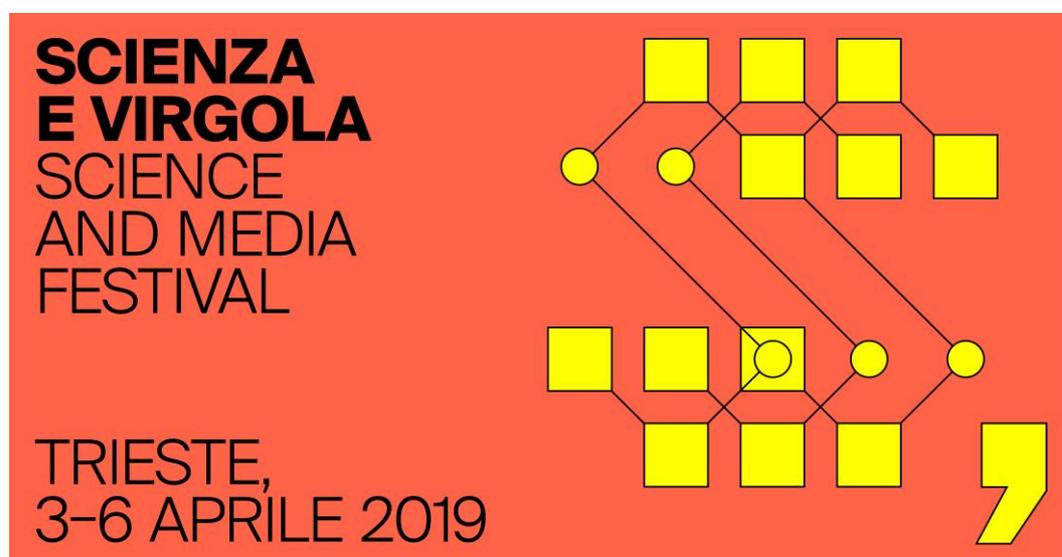


PRESS RELEASE

Scienza e Virgola is back, this year the scientific publishing event opens to other media

More than just books. The 2019 edition presents itself as a real Science and Media Festival. From the environment to astronomy, from the impact of technologies on politics to the latest discoveries on the Universe, besides presenting the latest and most interesting publishing works in Italy, the rich programme of events will focus on science: workshops for children, documentaries and a play



Trieste, 2 April 2019

The fourth edition of **Scienza e Virgola**, the event dedicated to the scientific publishing sector organised by the **Master Course in Science Communication "Franco Prattico"**, **SISSA**, scheduled from 3 to 6 April in the Miela Theatre and in several bookshops of Trieste, was presented this morning. It proposes many new works and sees the involvement of important cultural realities of Trieste: Bonawentura, Associazione Casa del Cinema di Trieste and TriesteBookFest. The presentations in the Lovat, Ubik and Antico caffè bookshops and the San Marco bookshop will be joined by the events at the Miela Theatre (documentary screenings and one theatre performance) and children's workshops organised by TriesteBookFest.



The 2019 edition also takes place within the context of proESOF and, in view of the EuroScience Open Forum of 2020, it opens to cross-border cultural contexts, with an event dedicated to science communication in Slovenia. All the meetings are open to the public and there is no admission fee.

"Scienza e Virgola shows how important science is for media and how it is revisited and interpreted." States Nico Pitrelli, scientific and organisational head of the event. "It is crucial to organise an appointment once a year where we give an original contribution to exploring how the media representation of science changes in Italy if we consider that its public image strongly depends on the way in which books, cinema and theatre describe it. From this point of view, the event of Trieste is unique in the national panorama".

A window on scientific modernity: Scienza e Virgola presents the major new works by Italian authors and authoresses

The books chosen by the scientific committee for this edition, following a selection based on proposals sent by the major Italian publishing houses are:

"Stregati dalla Luna. Il sogno del volo spaziale dal Jules Verne all'Apollo 11" (**Moonstruck. The dream of space travel from Jules Verne to Apollo 11**) by Maria Giulia Andretta and Marco Ciardi, published by Carocci, which will be presented on Wednesday 3 April at 6 pm in Lovat;

"Le simmetrie nell'arte e nella scienza" (**Symmetries in art and science**), posthumous book by Giancarlo Ghirardi, published by Carocci, at the centre of a dialogue between a physicist and an art historian on Thursday 4 April at 5.30 pm in Caffè San Marco;

"Perché è difficile prevedere il futuro. Il sogno più sfuggente dell'uomo sotto la lente della fisica" (**The reason why it is difficult to predict the future. Man's most elusive dream under investigation by physics**), by Luca Gammaitoni and Angelo Vulpiani, published by Dedalo, will be the topic of discussion on Friday 5 April at 5.30 pm in the Miela Theatre;

"Potere digitale. Come Internet sta cambiando la sfera pubblica e la democrazia" (**Digital power. How Internet is changing the public sphere and democracy**), by Gabriele Giacomini, published by Meltemi, will be presented on Saturday 6 April at 10:30 am in Ubik;

"Tutto l'universo per chi ha poco spazio-tempo" (**The entire universe for those with little space-time**), by Sandra Savaglio, published by Mondadori, will be presented on Saturday 6 April at 3.30 pm in Caffè San Marco;

"Numeralia" (**Number talk**), written by Maurizio Codogno, published by Codice, always on Saturday 6 April at 4.30 pm in Caffè San Marco.

The authors and authoresses will be present at all the meetings. The books **"Stregati dalla luna"** (**Moonstruck**) and **"Perché è difficile prevedere il futuro"** (**The reason why it is difficult to predict the future**) will be also be

presented to the schools of Trieste during two meetings organised in the Dante-Carducci Higher Secondary School on the mornings of Thursday 4 and Friday 5 April.

More than just books: different media focus on science

Thanks to the involvement of important cultural realities of Trieste, Bonawentura, Casa del Cinema and TriesteBookFest, the event opens to other media and formats, including workshops for children, documentaries and an innovative and engaging theatre performance.

On Thursday 4 April at 9 pm, the Miela Theatre will screen “**Una Scomoda Verità 2**” (**An inconvenient truth 2**), a documentary by Bonni Cohen and Jon Shenk, a provocative sequel to the successful *An Inconvenient Truth*, which captured the attention of world public opinion on climate change.

On Friday 5 April at 7 pm, the Miela Theatre will screen **Il Complotto di Cernobyl - The Russian Woodpecker (The Chernobyl Conspiracy – The Russian Woodpecker)**, a film documentary from 2015 focused on the Chernobyl accident and its possible connections with Duga, an antenna which sent a signal rebaptised "Russian Woodpecker" to radios round the world at the time of the Cold War.

On Saturday 6 April at 11 am, the Miela Theatre will screen the video “**La scelta. Edoardo Amaldi e la scienza senza confini**” (**The choice. Edoardo Amaldi and science without borders**) which describes the life of physicist Edoardo Amaldi through unpublished testimonies: the years spent in via Panisperna next to Enrico Fermi, his commitment for the revival of Italian and European science during the post-war period, the battles for the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Always on Saturday 6 April and always in the Miela Theatre, the 2019 edition of *Scienza e Virgola* will draw to a close at 9 pm with *Micromega*, a music-theatre-science show by Ottodix, based on a concept album dedicated to physics, astrophysics and the similarities that nature and science reveal in the Universe, in relation to man and his behaviour.

One year from ESOF2020: looking eastwards

The 2019 edition takes place a year from the EuroScience Open Forum – ESOF, the important event which will be celebrated by Trieste European City of Science. In the spirit of the 2020 edition of ESOF, *Scienza e Virgola* dedicates a special event to scientific publishing and communication in Slovenia with a talk on **Saturday 6 April at 6.30 pm in the Miela Theatre** by Sašo Dolenc, editor-in-chief of the popular online scientific journal *Kvarkadabra* and author of 12 books

and more than 400 scientific texts on the interaction between science, philosophy and history of ideas.

“The connection between *Scienza e Virgola* and ESOF is consolidated in view of 2020.” States Paola Rodari, Programme Manager of *Science in the City Festival*, the popular event which accompanies the EuroScience Open Forum and which will be held from 27 June to 11 July 2020 in Trieste. “We are already at work with the organisers to include the next edition of the festival in the Programme. Each year, *Scienza e Virgola* brings writers, artists, journalists, communicators and scientists to enrich the spaces of the city to describe science informally, innovatively, critically and even amusingly. The days of *Science in the City* will be characterised by the same spirit, so it is no surprise that a synergy has been created between the two initiatives”.

USEFUL LINKS

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<http://bit.ly/ScienzaeVirgola2019>

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