

Editori Laterza

Rights Guide

Spring 2026



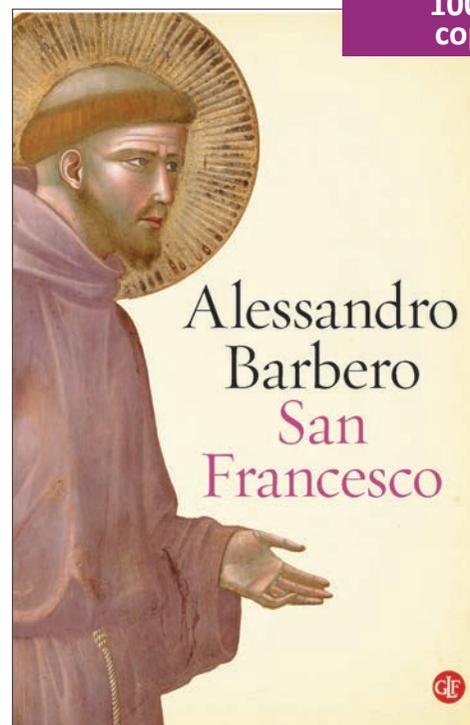
The incredible untold story behind the making of a Saint.

Saint Francis is one of the most beloved figures in Christian history, yet the man behind the legend has been carefully rewritten. In the decades after Francis's death, early witnesses left radically conflicting accounts of his life. So contradictory were these testimonies that, in 1266, the Franciscan Order took an unprecedented step: it ordered all existing biographies destroyed and replaced with a single "official" version, Bonaventure's *Legenda Maior*. Only centuries later did the suppressed manuscripts resurface, revealing a far more complex Francis: tormented, severe, luminous, and deeply human.

With his distinctive narrative skill, bestselling historian Barbero reconstructs these lost voices, offering a gripping historical investigation into how sanctity is built — and what is erased in the process.

Alessandro Barbero is one of Italy's most renowned historians and intellectuals. He is professor of Medieval History at the University of Eastern Piedmont. Among his numerous books with Laterza: *Dizionario del Medioevo* (with Chiara Frugoni); *Carlo Magno*; *La battaglia. Storia di Waterloo*; *9 agosto 378 il giorno dei barbari*; *Lepanto. La battaglia dei tre imperi*.

His latest book *Dante* (Laterza, 2020) has sold more than 250,000 copies and has been translated into over twenty languages.



100,000
copies!

Alessandro Barbero St. Francis

448 pages
Medieval History
2025, October

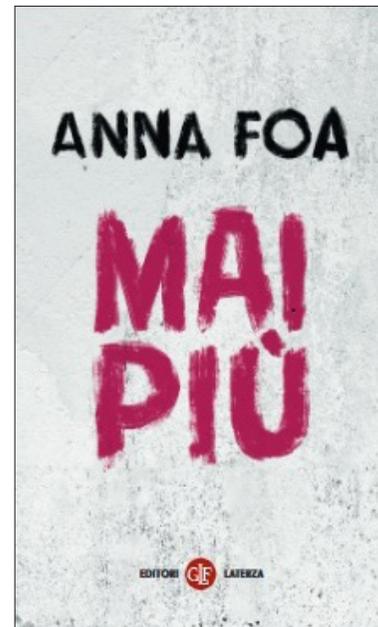
Rights sold to:

Princeton UP (world English)
Flammarion (French)
Taurus (world Spanish)
Atticus (Russian)
Quetzal (Portuguese/Portugal)
PT Kansius (Indonesian)

“Never Again!” After Gaza’s endless slaughter, can it still mean anything?

“Never again” has long been the moral foundation of Holocaust memory, a universal promise against genocide, antisemitism, and persecution. But today the phrase has become contested terrain. Who does it apply to? Only Jews? Or all victims of genocide, wherever they may be? And does using the term genocide diminish the uniqueness of the Holocaust? Based on decades of historical research, Foa examines how the meaning of “Never again” has evolved over time. She focuses in particular on the present moment, when the word antisemitism is invoked everywhere — from the persistence of anti-Jewish stereotypes in public debate to Israeli authorities and their supporters labeling any criticism of Israel as antisemitic. But then, what is antisemitism? Who are the antisemites? How does it differ from anti-Zionism? And if antisemitism is indeed everywhere, how can we identify it and confront it? Anna Foa addresses these urgent questions, showing that what we have witnessed in the last two years puts at risk the values built around the memory of the Shoah — and argues that a “Never again” today must be truly universal, affirming the rights, dignity, and humanity of all people, regardless of faith or identity.

Anna Foa taught Modern History at the University of Rome La Sapienza. She has worked on the history of culture in the early modern age and the history of the Jews. Among her books with Laterza: *Diaspora. Storia degli ebrei nel Novecento* (2009); *Portico d’Ottavia 13. Una casa del ghetto nel lungo inverno del ’43* (2013); *La famiglia F.* (2018); *Gli ebrei in Italia. I primi 2000 anni* (2022, a coedition with Princeton UP) and *Il Suicidio di Israele* (2024) which sold more than 60,000 copies and won the Strega Non Fiction Book Prize 2025.



Anna Foa
Never Again
88 pages
2026, March

*Anna Foa, winner of the 2025 Strega Non-Fiction Prize for the bestselling *The Suicide of Israel*, returns to a subject that has shaped her work for decades: the meaning and legacy of Holocaust memory.*

A groundbreaking essay that interrogates
the very idea of memory,
born from the ashes of the Shoah.

What does it feel like to meet Achilles,
Hector, and Helen face to face?
The *Iliad*, more alive and human than ever.

The *Iliad*, the seminal epic of European literature, is far more than a story of war or heroic feats. It is a vast and astonishing symphony, where the ideology of battle collides with the intimate emotions and vulnerabilities of its characters.

Rather than summarizing or paraphrasing the epic, Morosi builds his guide around extended passages from the *Iliad* itself, allowing Homer's language and scenes to remain at the center of the reading experience. The poem is approached through its great thematic tensions: war and destruction; the nihilism of the hero; love and desire in the figure of Helen; the fatal errors of Hector; and, ultimately, the profound meditation on weakness. Through these lenses, the struggles, desires, and failures of its characters illuminate a timeless reflection on courage, loss, and moral choice.

Written with elegance and narrative flair, Morosi challenges the common perception of the epic as a poem of force, revealing it instead as a poem of weakness — and the *Iliad* as a mirror of the human heart. Seen in this new light, the first epic of war, the origin of both the aesthetics and ethics of violence, emerges as a delicate and moving meditation on human fragility, still strikingly relevant three millennia after it was composed.

Francesco Morosi is a classical scholar at the University of Udine. Trained at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa and the University of California, Berkeley, he has specialized in ancient theater (Aeschylus, Sophocles, Aristophanes) and epic poetry (Homer, Apollonius of Rhodes). In 2025, he edited a new comprehensive commentary on the *Iliad* (Einaudi).



Francesco Morosi
Face to Face with the *Iliad*

224 pages
2026, May

A contemporary reading of the Big Bang of
European literature for both first-time readers
and longtime admirers of Homer.

**A work of rare intellectual intensity
and imaginative power.**

The stories of the world's beginning are not accounts of prehistory or early science, but metaphysical visions. They are narratives through which human cultures have sought to give meaning to existence.

Moving across sacred texts — from the Enuma Elish to the Bible and the Qur'an, from the Hindu Vedas to Buddhist and Taoist classics — as well as myths, rituals, and ascetic traditions, Massimo Raveri reflects on how different civilizations have imagined the origin of everything. What emerges is not a catalogue of beliefs, but a meditation on the foundational choices through which cultures conceive of God, humanity, nature, and destiny.

Stories of origin speak not only of creation, but also of finitude, suffering, and evil. They reveal whether the world is born from divine will, sacrifice, desire, or play — and how each vision shapes our understanding of life and death.

The Dawns of the World is an original essay on myth, meaning, and the human need to imagine a beginning... and an end.

Massimo Raveri, one of the leading scholars of religions and philosophies of East Asia, taught Religions and Philosophies of East Asia at Ca' Foscari University in Venice. An anthropologist, he has conducted field research in India and Japan. For many years he has been engaged in the study of coexistence and dialogue between religions. For Laterza, he is the author of *Le vie di liberazione e di immortalità: India ed Estremo Oriente* in *Manuale di storia delle religioni* (1998).



**Massimo Raveri
The Dawns of the World**

328 pages
2026, March

From Babylon to the Bible, from the
Vedas to Taoist cosmologies, an evocative
map of metaphysical visions:
the stories of the world's beginning.

A compelling hybrid of medical insight and narrative storytelling.

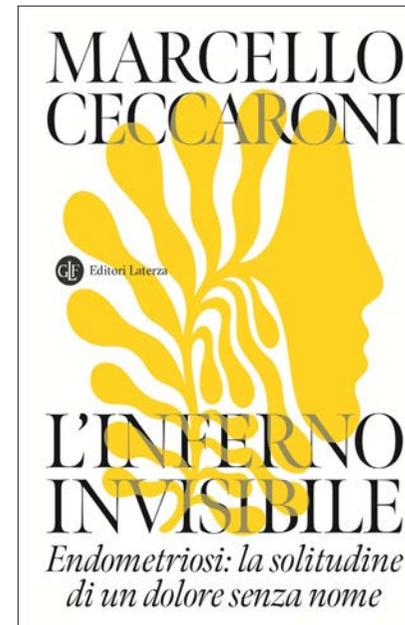
Endometriosis affects millions of women worldwide — yet it remains largely invisible, misunderstood, and tragically underdiagnosed. For millions of women, it turns everyday life into a silent ordeal of chronic pain, infertility, isolation, and professional marginalization.

Marcello Ceccaroni — one of the world’s leading surgeons in the treatment of severe endometriosis — breaks through decades of stigma, medical neglect, and cultural silence surrounding what is still dismissed as a “women’s issue.”

Drawing on over twenty years of clinical experience at an internationally renowned center of excellence, Ceccaroni reveals how a disease that is both common and highly recognizable is routinely diagnosed an average of ten years too late, often when irreversible damage has already been done.

Blending scientific clarity with powerful real-life testimonies, this book takes readers on a journey into the hidden anatomy of pain: how endometriosis infiltrates the body, reshapes organs, devastates fertility, and erodes emotional and social lives. At the same time, the author offers a way out of this invisible hell, showing how early diagnosis, awareness, and modern minimally invasive surgery can radically change outcomes — and lives.

Marcello Ceccaroni is an internationally recognized gynecologic surgeon and a leading expert in the treatment of severe endometriosis. He heads the Department for Women’s Health at the Sacro Cuore–Don Calabria Hospital Negrar in Italy, a major international referral center. He has developed minimally invasive surgical techniques adopted worldwide and is actively engaged in global education and awareness on women’s health.



Marcello Ceccaroni **The Invisible Hell**

Endometriosis: The Loneliness of a
Pain Without a Name

198 pages
2026, June

Not just a book about a disease:
The Invisible Hell is also a powerful critique of a
society that has chosen to look away
from women’s pain.

The essential insight into understanding Marx's *Capital* today.

Karl Marx's *Capital* is one of the most influential books ever written — and one of the least read. Long, complex, and demanding, it is often cited, praised, or condemned, but rarely approached directly by non-specialist readers. Roberto Fineschi offers a new and accessible engagement with Marx's masterpiece. Without simplifying or distorting its theoretical depth, the book reconstructs the inner logic of *Capital*, guiding readers through its key concepts (commodity, value, surplus value, accumulation, circulation, crisis), while showing why they remain essential to understanding contemporary capitalism. Drawing on Marx's original texts and on decades of scholarly work, Fineschi explains how the dynamics described by Marx continue to shape today's world, from financialization and technological change to ecological crisis and global inequality. Written for a broad but intellectually curious readership, *Face to Face with Capital* makes one of the great classics of modern thought readable — without losing its complexity or critical power.

Roberto Fineschi is one of the leading Marx scholars in Europe. He teaches History of Philosophy and Political Philosophy at the Siena School for Liberal Arts. He edited a new edition of the first volume of *Capital* (Einaudi, 2024), drawing on the materials made available by the historical-critical edition of the works of Marx and Engels (Marx-Engels-Gesamtausgabe).



Roberto Fineschi
Face to Face with *Capital*
192 pages
2026, April

Marx's *Capital* is long, difficult...
and urgently contemporary.

An essay that sheds a new light on the crisis of contemporary democracy.

The ruling elite in the United States, and increasingly around the world, sees democracy as outdated, a relic of the past to be replaced by a “techno-enlightened” despotism, governing on behalf of a childlike populace. This vision is spreading rapidly across the globe.

In this incisive essay Marco Revelli demonstrates how contemporary democracies have lost their original promises. The gap between ideals and reality has grown so wide that the foundational principles (representation, participation, transparency, and information) are nearly unrecognizable.

With rigorous analysis, the book dissects the forms of democratic decline: from “executive democracy,” where parliamentary functions are replaced by the efficiency of a strong leader, to “democracy without a people,” where abstention becomes a form of negative participation; from the “democracy of the few,” increasingly oligarchic, to the “democracy of money,” where market forces dictate every relationship; from the “democracy of disinformation,” warped by media and algorithms, to “artificial democracy,” where artificial intelligence threatens to replace political representation.

Yet Revelli does not stop at diagnosis. In his conclusions, he calls for a new beginning from the ground up: a radical regeneration to revive a democracy that is deeply in need of renewal, but not dead.

Marco Revelli is one of Italy’s most insightful and illuminating political theorists. He is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Eastern Piedmont. For Laterza, he has published *Sinistra Destra. L’identità smarrita, I demoni del potere, Post-Sinistra*, and “*La lotta di classe esiste e l’hanno vinta i ricchi. Vero!*”.



Marco Revelli Does Democracy Still Have a Future?

176 pages
2026, May

Autocracies and authoritarian regimes
are rising everywhere.
Is democracy really over?

Debunking the Myths of a Thousand Years of European History.

Knights, castles, “dark centuries,” and lost knowledge: the Middle Ages still haunt our imagination. Yet most of what we think we know about medieval Europe was invented long after it ended. In modern European discourse, the Middle Ages have become a synonym for backwardness, obscurantism, and cultural regression. In this book, Giuseppe Sergi, one of Italy’s leading medieval historians, dismantles the most persistent clichés that shape our perception of a millennium of European history: the so-called “feudal pyramid,” a barter-based economy, the omnipotent pope, the myth of *ius primae noctis*, and the idea of a static, closed rural society. By stripping away these legends, Sergi reveals a historical period far more complex, dynamic, and intellectually vibrant than any popular myth. A rigorous yet accessible work of historical fact-checking, this book invites readers to rethink how the past is manipulated — and why understanding the real Middle Ages matters today.

Giuseppe Sergi is Professor Emeritus of Medieval History at the University of Turin and a member of several major academic institutions dedicated to medieval studies. He is the author and editor of numerous influential works on medieval history and historiography, translated and cited internationally.



Giuseppe Sergi
Inventing the Dark Ages
176 pages
2026, March

Every time we say “we’re going back to the Middle Ages,” we are not talking about history — we are talking about ourselves.

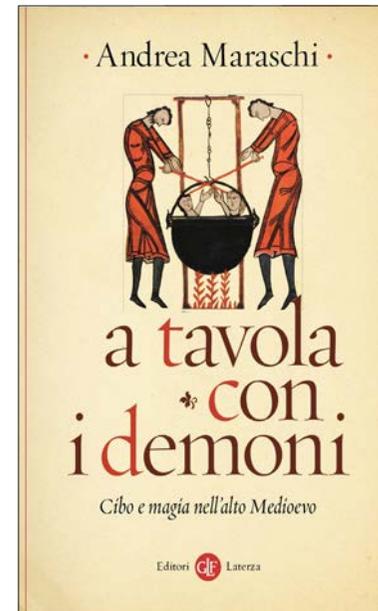
**Where food nourished bodies...
and summoned demons, healed illnesses,
and worked miracles.**

In the early Middle Ages, food was never just nourishment. It was a means to heal, to protect, to curse, to seduce — and to negotiate with the supernatural.

This book offers a fresh contribution to medieval studies, food history, and the anthropology of belief by exploring how everyday foods were used to understand and influence reality. Bread, salt, milk, herbs, meat, and bodily substances appear in magical formulas, medical remedies, and religious practices, revealing a world in which the boundaries between the ordinary and the marvelous were remarkably fluid.

Drawing on a wide range of sources — penitential texts, pastoral literature, hagiographies, collections of spells, medical recipes, and theological treatises — Maraschi shows that magic in the early Middle Ages was not marginal or deviant, but deeply embedded in daily life and closely intertwined with medicine and faith. Centered on early medieval Western Europe and open to a broader Mediterranean perspective, this book offers a new lens on how people made sense of the world — and sought to act upon it — through what they ate.

Andrea Maraschi is a medieval historian specializing in cultural history, food practices, and magical and medical traditions. He teaches at the University of Bologna and is the co-author of *Food, Heresies, and Magical Boundaries in the Middle Ages* (Amsterdam University Press, 2024).



Andrea Maraschi
At the Table with Demons
Food and Magic in the Early Middle Ages
176 pages
2026, June

**An original study of how food, magic,
medicine, and religion intertwined
in everyday life in the early Middle Ages.**

**By presenting a history from below,
an indispensable tool to understand the social
and political dynamics of contemporary Iran.**

To understand Iran today, you must understand the people who resisted it for 45 years. This book is an original journey through Iranian history from 1979 to the present, told from the perspective of those who have truly shaped the country: students, women, workers, and ethnic minorities.

Since the 1979 revolution, Iran has often been portrayed in the West as the number-one enemy — a central country in the so-called “axis of evil,” seen as a threat by Europe and the United States. Yet Iran is also a vast and complex society, where a theocratic regime faces a strong and resilient opposition.

This book guides readers through one of the key arenas of today’s international crises from a fresh perspective: that of social movements. Rather than centering on state leaders such as Khomeini, Khamenei, or Ahmadinejad, it follows protests and the histories of political organizations that have organized, and mobilized over time, decisively shaping both national and international politics — culminating in the “Women, Life, Freedom” movement.

Paola Rivetti is Associate Professor of International Relations at Dublin City University (Ireland). She is Co-Director of the Institute for Research on Genders and Sexuality and co-leads the “Voci Kwir” project for the publisher Le Plurali. She serves on the editorial boards of the academic journals *Iranian Studies* and *Partecipazione e Conflitto*.



Paola Rivetti

A History of Iran

Revolution, War, and Resistance,
1979–2025

272 pages

2026, January

“This book is essential because it shows that history is never made by great men, but by peoples who organize themselves in resistance.”

Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi, City University of New York

“A necessary book to grasp the vitality and liberating audacity of protests that create resistance and influence both Iranian and global politics.”

Donatella della Porta, Scuola Normale Superiore

On the trail of Saint Luke: relics, DNA, and two thousand years of history.

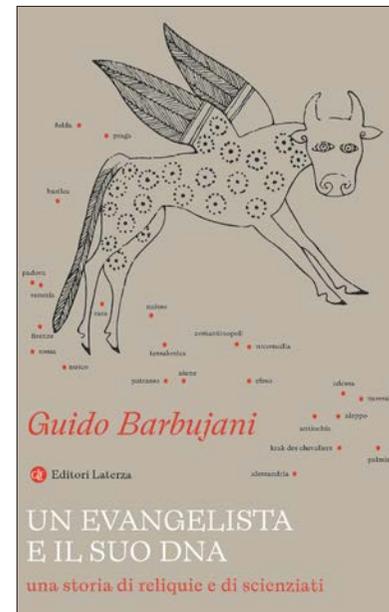
In the Basilica of Santa Giustina in Padua sits an urn that, according to tradition, holds the remains of Saint Luke the Evangelist. Inside, amid a jumble of objects — and the unexpected presence of countless snake vertebrae — lies the headless skeleton of a man about 1.6 metres tall.

Could these really be the remains of Saint Luke?

In 1998, the Bishop of Padua assembles an extraordinary commission of historians, chemists, philologists, archaeologists — and even a paleontologist, because of the snakes. The geneticist charged with analyzing the skeleton's DNA is Guido Barbujani. Through his eyes, we follow an adventure spanning two thousand years of history, from Emperor Julian and the Crusades to the modern Middle East.

The story reveals how experts from different disciplines piece together fragments of the distant past, highlighting both the power and the limits of scientific inquiry, the clashes of ideas, and the personal motivations that drive knowledge forward.

Guido Barbujani is a population geneticist, evolutionary biologist and literary author. He has worked at the State University of New York (Stony Brook), at London University, at the Universities of Padua and Bologna, and since 1996 has been professor of Genetics at the University of Ferrara. He has published more than 150 research papers in scientific journals. His last book, *Come eravamo. Storie dalla grande storia dell'uomo* (Laterza, 2022) sold over 20,000 copies and it has been translated in more than 20 countries.



Guido Barbujani A Story of Relics and Scientists

176 pages
2026, March

Strange things could happen in the life of a scientist, such as being asked to confirm the identity of a saint from preserved remains.

The astonishing story of sound. From Pythagoras to the age of AI music.

From Pythagoras and Galileo to Athanasius Kircher and Isaac Newton, the greatest minds in history have tried to unravel the secrets of sound, sometimes with imaginative hypotheses, always pushing our knowledge forward, step by step. Along the way, they revealed the deep connection between sound and mathematics, the principles behind musical harmony, and the physical laws that govern musical instruments and human hearing. What exactly is sound? Why is Western music built on mathematical ratios? Why are there seven notes, and how arbitrary is that choice? Why do all melodic instruments rely on just two fundamental-producing mechanisms? And how is it that the human ear, still not fully understood, outperforms even the most advanced algorithms? Finally, the book explores how our relationship with sound has been transformed over little more than a century, from electricity to computers, from early recording devices to synthesizers, CDs and MP3s.

Marco S. Sozzi is Full Professor of Experimental Physics at the University of Pisa. His research focuses on elementary particle physics, on matter–antimatter asymmetry, studied through quark and neutrino experiments at major international laboratories. He is the author of numerous scientific papers and of the monograph *Discrete Symmetries and CP Violation* (Oxford University Press, 2012), and co-author of the short story collection *Scusate il disturbo* (2019).



Marco S. Sozzi
History of Sound
272 pages
2026, January

A lively narrative history of one of nature's most mysterious forces, where physics, music, and mathematics converge.

What shapes female identity?

What if the differences we attribute to “male” and “female” brains are mostly cultural myths?

For centuries, gender differences were believed to be hardwired in biology. In this sharp and accessible neuroscientific essay, Raffaella Rumiati dismantles the idea of a biologically fixed “female mind,” showing instead how identity, empathy, sexuality, and cognitive abilities are shaped by experience, stereotypes, and social expectations. Moving across neuroscience, culture, and society, *The Female Mind* examines how women’s bodies and minds function, and how scientific research, historical frameworks, and collective narratives have contributed to shaping — and often distorting — their interpretation. Structured in clearly focused, self-contained chapters, the book approaches topics such as gender identity, empathy, mathematical ability, sexuality, objectification, and consent, revealing the brain as a profoundly plastic organ, continuously shaped by its social and cultural environment.

A clear, rigorous, and essential guide to what contemporary neuroscience actually says about gender today.

Raffaella Rumiati is Professor of Neuropsychology and Cognitive Neuroscience at the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) in Trieste, where she directs the Neuroscience and Society Lab. She also teaches psychology at the University of Rome Tor Vergata. A former Vice President of the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research (ANVUR), her research focuses on the relationships between brain, cognition, and society.



Raffaella Rumiati
The Female Mind

136 pages
2026, March

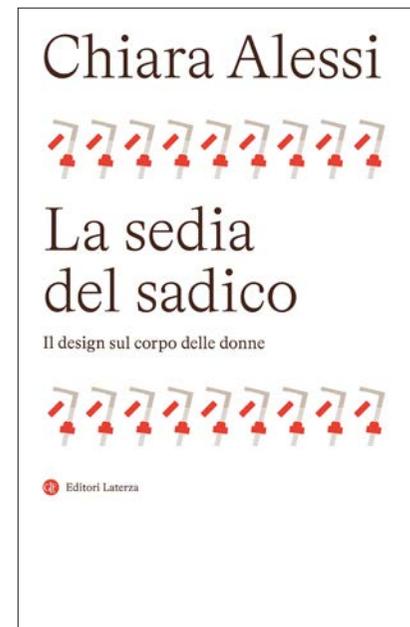
For centuries, differences between women and men were believed to be hardwired in the brain.
Modern neuroscience tells a different story.

Are objects neutral or “sexist”? Does design contribute to the patriarchal system of oppression?

For much of the twentieth century, industrial design was built around a single, implicit user: the “average man.” Tools, objects, and standards were shaped according to male bodies, needs, and experiences.

In this revealing essay, Chiara Alessi looks at design through a feminist lens to expose how exclusion operates also through everyday objects. She shows how the history of design — often written even by women — has reproduced male-centered logic: by celebrating a few famous names, by adapting women-designed objects to male standards, or by narrating women’s material production in passive or oppressive terms. And this is not only a matter of gender, but of everyone whom dominant design paradigms systematically fail to see. But this book does more than critique. By examining concrete cases — from gynecological chairs and speculums to self-diagnosis tools, menstrual devices, and products designed for sexual pleasure — Alessi shows how rethinking design can open up new possibilities for autonomy, health, safety, and desire.

Chiara Alessi focuses on material culture and design, writing, teaching, and curating exhibitions. Among her publications are *Le caffettiere dei miei bisnonni* (Utet, 2018), *Tante care cose* (Longanesi, 2021), and *Lo Stato delle cose* (Longanesi, 2022). For Electa, she curates the “Oilà” series, dedicated to twentieth-century women. For Laterza, she has published *Dopo gli anni Zero. Il nuovo design italiano* (2014) and *Design senza designer* (2016).



Chiara Alessi
Design and Women’s Bodies
144 pages
2026, February

An eye-opening essay that renegotiates
design as a tool for gender critique.

An illustrated, fast-paced guide to the power of Big Tech.

In little more than a decade, a handful of technology companies have risen to the top of the global economy. Microsoft, Alphabet, Amazon, Meta, Apple, Nvidia, and companies controlled by Elon Musk form a small club of firms now worth more than one trillion dollars. Before them, no one had ever reached such heights. How did they get there? And how do they use these seemingly limitless resources? If their empire was built on the digital revolution, today the same companies are leading the development of artificial intelligence. And not only that. The new space race, intelligent robotics, e-commerce, and much more are once again in the hands of the usual players. To secure their dominance, they build energy-hungry data centers that leave a lasting mark on the planet. They launch satellites and lay cables across the ocean floor. They reshape cultural consumption worldwide and influence information flows and democracy itself. In short, few areas of everyday life escape this top-down revolution, where decisions are made by a new technological oligarchy. Luca Balestrieri retraces the rapid path that has brought us here, describing the technological ecosystem we are immersed in and its dense network of connections—geopolitical ones included.

Luca Balestrieri is an expert in technological innovation. He teaches Digital Media Economics at LUISS Guido Carli University. His most recent publications with LUISS University Press include *The Image Industry* (2016); *Digital War* (with Francesca Balestrieri, 2019); *Platforms of the World* (2021); *Technologies of Empire* (with Francesca Balestrieri, 2024).



Luca Balestrieri
Big Tech
296 pages
2026, February

They steer the global economy, dictate government agendas, and influence our choices.
Can we really afford to know nothing about them?



Dario Guarascio
Digital Imperialism

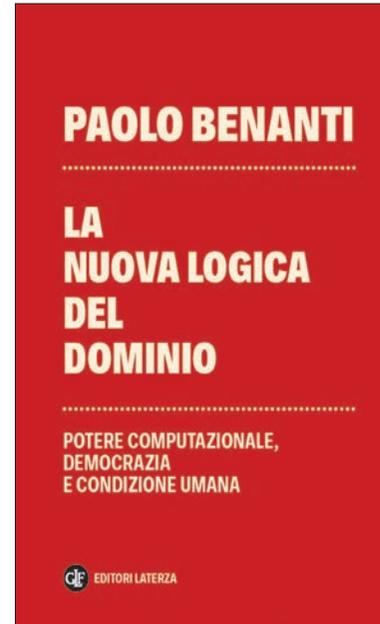
Economy and War in the Age of
Platforms and AI

296 pages
2026, February

Big Tech are no longer just economic actors, but integral parts of military power and geopolitical domination.

In recent years, a relationship of mutual dependence has emerged between states and Big Tech, rooted in the evolution of the U.S. military–digital complex. This nexus enables the development of autonomous weapons systems, the conduct of large-scale military operations, and the use of AI for intelligence and surveillance. It’s the rise of a new form of digital imperialism, in which states grant privileged access to collectively produced data and actively protect the global expansion of digital platforms into foreign markets. And the “revolving doors” — with the same individuals moving between leadership roles in Big Tech companies and military or security institutions—makes this convergence explicit.

Dario Guarascio is a Professor of Economic Policy at La Sapienza University of Rome. He is an external affiliate of the National Institute for the Analysis of Public Policies (INAPP) and the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa.



Paolo Benanti
Algocracy

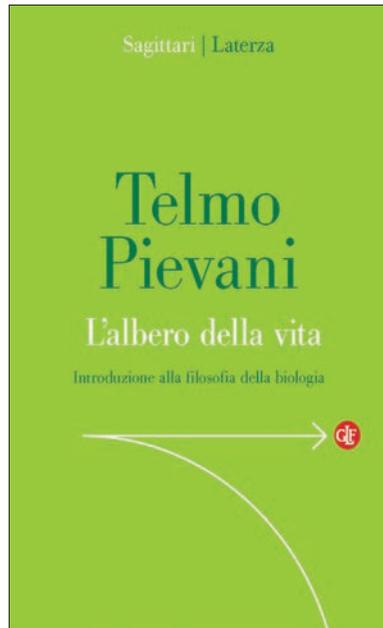
The New Form of Power Shaping
Democracy and the Human Condition

288 pages
2026, April

An urgent book on computational power, and the ethics we need to protect democracy.

Algorithms and digital infrastructures aren’t neutral tools: they silently influence behavior and reshape political and social life. This emerging regime can be described as an *algocracy*, where calculation moves from predicting reality to prescribing it, generating new forms of control and a growing democratic deficit. The book highlights the ethical and political risks of algorithmic governance and argues for *algorithcs*: a shared ethical and regulatory framework capable of placing limits on computational power and restoring human agency.

Paolo Benanti is an Italian moral philosopher and one of Europe’s leading voices on the ethics of artificial intelligence. He teaches at LUISS Guido Carli University in Rome and at Seattle University, and serves on international advisory boards on AI governance.



Telmo Pievani
The Tree of Life

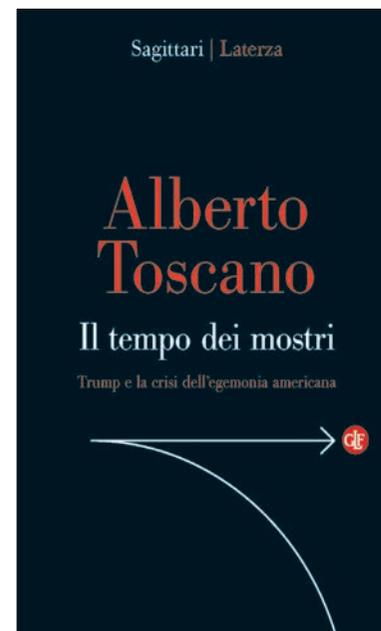
An Introduction to the Philosophy of
Biology
304 pages
2026, April

A bold guide to evolution,
life, and the human mind.

Over the past thirty years, biology has seen an unprecedented surge of discoveries, reshaping our understanding of nature, evolution, and humanity.

Both an introduction and a critical synthesis, *The Tree of Life* is a must-read guide for understanding contemporary challenges — from pandemics and biodiversity loss to climate change and the coevolution of humans and technology — through a long-term evolutionary perspective.

Telmo Pievani is Professor of Philosophy of Biological Sciences at the University of Padua and Visiting Scientist at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. A leading philosopher of biology and expert in evolutionary theory, he is the author of numerous national and international publications. For Laterza, he edited Charles Darwin's *Notebooks* (2008) and authored *Introduction to Darwin* (2012).



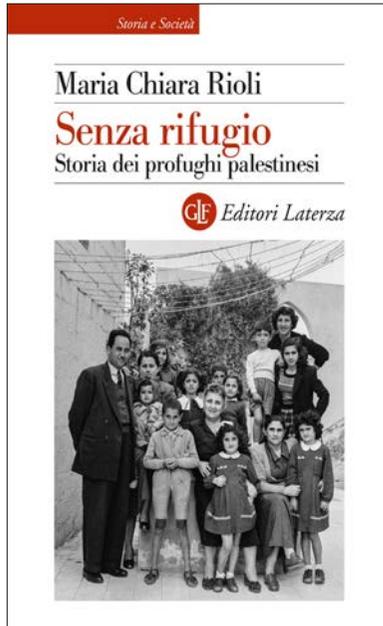
Alberto Toscano
The Time of Monsters

Trump and the Crisis of U.S. Hegemony
144 pages
2026, April

Trump didn't break U.S.
democracy. He exploited
its fractures.

A sharp analysis of Trump's return to power, this book presents him not as the cause of crisis but as its symptom. Alberto Toscano situates Trumpism within the structural contradictions of contemporary capitalism and the decline of U.S. global hegemony. Drawing on Marx, Gramsci, and Weber, he shows Trump as a Caesarist leader who governs through coercion and policing rather than consent. This is a rule without hegemony: domination that survives by exploiting fractures, fear, and permanent crisis, rather than seeking legitimacy or universal leadership.

Alberto Toscano is a contributing editor for the magazine "In These Times" and the curator of "The Italian List" and "Seagull Essays" series for Seagull Books. He is also the author of several books, including *Late Fascism: The Racist Roots of the Right in Power* (Verso Books, 2023).



Maria Chiara Rioli
A History of Palestinian Refugees

144 pages
2026, February

Any serious account of the contemporary history of Palestine must begin with the history of its refugees.

Drawing on previously unexplored documentary sources and an extensive collection of visual material from archives around the world, this book reconstructs the history of Palestinian refugees over a very long time span. It traces patterns of migration from the late nineteenth century within the Ottoman Empire, through the pivotal expulsions of 1948 and the occupation of 1967, to the most recent developments. This long-term perspective reveals historical continuities and ruptures often obscured by contemporary accounts, offering original interpretive tools for understanding the present.

Maria Chiara Rioli teaches Contemporary History at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. Her publications include *A Liminal Church: Refugees, Conversions and the Latin Diocese of Jerusalem, 1946–1956* (Brill, 2020) and *L'archivio Mediterraneo. Documenting Contemporary Migrations* (Carocci, 2021).



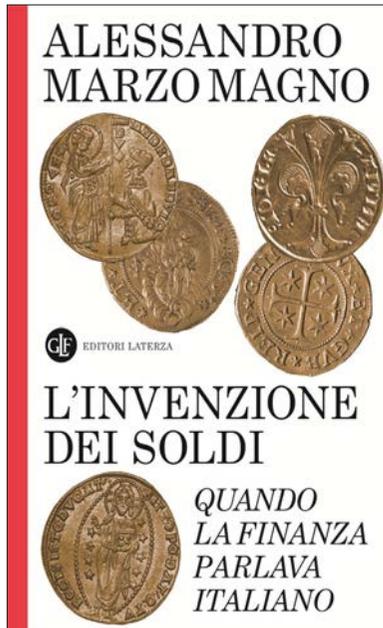
Nicolás Rapetti
Ni Olvido, Ni Perdón
Argentina 1976-2026

288 pages
2026, March

Neither forgetting nor forgiving: a fifty-year struggle for truth, justice, and memory in Argentina.

In 1976, a military coup plunged Argentina into one of Latin America's most brutal dictatorships, leaving 30,000 desaparecidos, thousands of exiles, and countless political prisoners. The Madres and Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo — initially dismissed as “the crazy women of the square” — forged a pioneering form of peaceful, collective resistance that transformed private grief into public struggle. Their fight contributed to the megatrials, leading to hundreds of convictions, the identification of clandestine detention centers, and the recovery of the identities of abducted children. Drawing on official sources, archival records, and firsthand testimonies, the book reconstructs Argentina's complex and ongoing path toward truth and justice.

Nicolás Rapetti, a sociologist and photographer, served as chief of staff and Undersecretary for Human Rights under President Alberto Fernández. This is his first book.



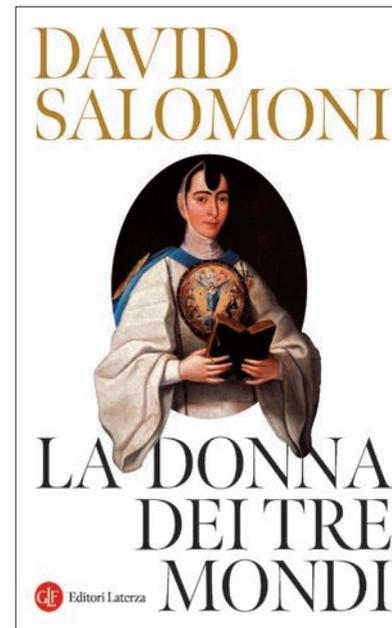
Alessandro Marzo Magno
The Invention of Money

288 pages
2026, June

Before finance went global,
it spoke Italian.

Long before modern capitalism, many of the tools of global finance took shape in Italian cities. From Genoa to Florence to Venice, merchants and bankers developed practices and instruments that would later spread across Europe: public debt, bills of exchange, double-entry bookkeeping, and early forms of risk management. Alessandro Marzo Magno traces how medieval and early modern Italy played a central role in the emergence of modern finance, drawing a provocative line from Renaissance banking to today's cryptocurrencies. A lively and accessible history of how money became what it is.

Alessandro Marzo Magno is an Italian historian and journalist. His book *Venezia, una storia di mare e di terra* (Laterza, 2022) sold over 15,000 copies and has been translated into multiple languages.



David Salomoni
The Woman of Three Worlds

248 pages
2026, March

Pirates, storms and faith:
the extraordinary
seventeenth-century
journey of a cloistered nun.

In 1620, the cloistered nun Ana de Cristo left Toledo and embarked on a nearly impossible journey: to travel across three continents and two oceans to found the first women's monastery in Manila. Drawing on a rare contemporary chronicle written by Ana herself, this book reconstructs a forgotten female epic of travel, faith, and transformation. *The Woman of Three Worlds* is both a women's coming-of-age journey and a vivid historical portrait of the early modern world, shaped by religious conflict, colonial expansion, and spiritual longing — seen through the eyes of a powerful woman erased from history.

David Salomoni is a professor at the University of Siena. He has worked at the the University of Lisbon as part of the project "Making the Earth Global" and was a Berenson Fellow at the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies. Among his most recent books *Magellano* (2022) and *Francis Drake* (2023).



Bruno Maida
The Drums of War Make Me Tremble

Childhood in Ukraine
144 pages
2026, April

A unique, child-centered perspective on a contemporary conflict.

The war in Ukraine erupted in 2022, and as in all modern conflicts, children have been its first victims, but also active protagonists. Mobilized by war, they act, remember, and make sense of violence like all civilians caught in conflict. Drawing on traces left by everyday life under bombardment, the destruction of schools, emergency education initiatives, healthcare under attack, forced displacement, and Russian-led abduction policies, this book reconstructs the lived experience of war through childhood. A history of the present told from the perspective of those who rarely enter history books.

Bruno Maida teaches Contemporary History and History of Childhood at the University of Turin. His recent publications include *La Shoah dei bambini* (2013), *L'infanzia nelle guerre del Novecento* (2017), *I treni dell'accoglienza* (2020), and *Sciuscià. Bambini e ragazzi di strada nell'Italia del dopoguerra 1943-1948* (2024).



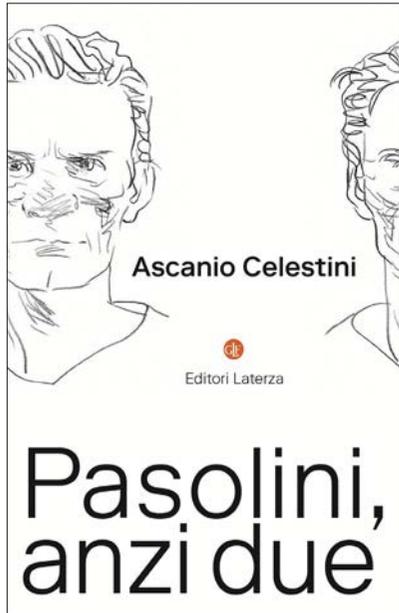
Valentine Lomellini
Carlos the Jackal

The global architecture of Cold War terrorism
296 pages
2026, April

Carlos the Jackal was not just a terrorist. He was a product of the Cold War.

Ilich Ramírez Sánchez was the most notorious international terrorist of the Cold War era. Active across Europe and the Middle East in the 1970s and 1980s, he became “Carlos the Jackal”, a symbol of transnational political violence. Drawing on previously unexplored archival sources, this book reconstructs the enormous networks of violence that made Carlos possible: militant organizations, intelligence services, state sponsors and informal diplomatic channels operating between Europe, the Middle East and the Soviet bloc. Lomellini traces Carlos’s evolution from Palestinian militancy to mercenary-style terrorism, questioning whether he acted as a lone operator or as part of a broader strategy of Cold War destabilization.

Valentine Lomellini is Professor of Terrorism and Security Cooperation at the University of Padua and Affiliate at Georgetown University, Washington DC. She is an award-winning scholar on terrorism, Cold War history, and state security.



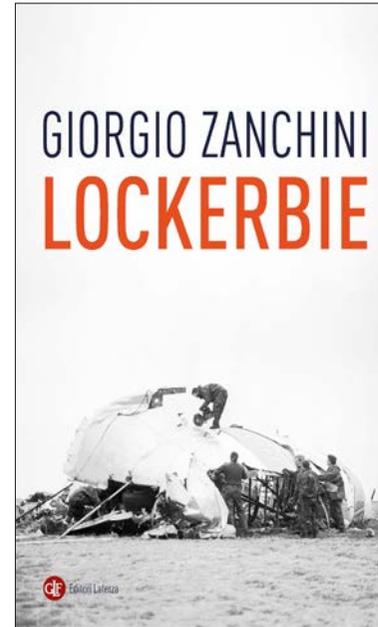
Ascanio Celestini
Pasolini, or Rather Two

176 pages
2026, June

Laid bare against his time.
And against ours.
A radical rethinking of Pier
Paolo Pasolini.

Fifty years after his death, Pier Paolo Pasolini remains one of the most influential and controversial figures of Italian culture. Across the political spectrum, the same question keeps returning: What would Pasolini say today? Ascanio Celestini refuses this easy nostalgia — and proposes a far more radical approach, placing Pasolini back in his own time. Blending historical insight, storytelling, and sharp political intuition, Celestini restores Pasolini as a living interlocutor: not an icon to be quoted, but a restless, unsettling presence, essential for understanding the present.

Ascanio Celestini is one of Italy's most acclaimed writers, playwrights, and performers, widely known for his work in civic and political theatre. Among his numerous works, he directed the award-winning films *La pecora nera* and *Viva la sposa*, both presented at the Venice Film Festival.



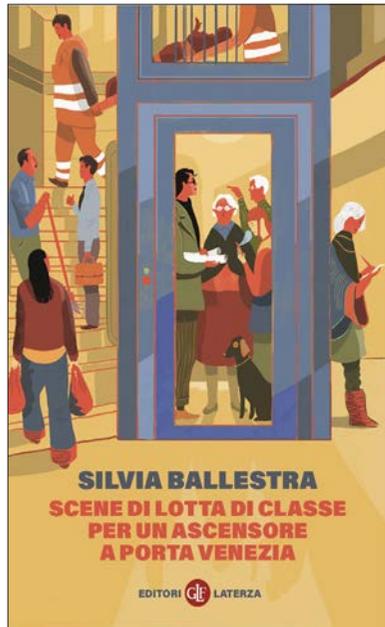
Giorgio Zanchini
Lockerbie

160 pages
2026, April

Terror attacks leave long
afterlives. An investigation
into what remains after the
explosions.

For the Anglo-Saxon world, few attacks are as shocking as Lockerbie, when Pan Am Flight 103 exploded over southern Scotland on December 21, 1988, killing 270 people. In this narrative essay, Giorgio Zanchini intertwines a personal investigation — the search for a young English woman he had met in Paris days before the explosion — with the sprawling official inquiry into the massacre. The book explores memory, justice, and the gap between legal and historical truth, spanning Paris, the U.S., Lockerbie, London, Libya, and Malta. Blending ordinary lives and power, a gripping reflection on violence, memory, and the enduring difficulty of achieving justice.

Giorgio Zanchini is one of Italy's most beloved journalists, widely recognized by Italian radio and television audiences for his work as a broadcaster, author and cultural commentator.



Silvia Ballestra
**Scenes of Class Struggle over
an Elevator in Porta Venezia**

160 pages
2026, June

A staircase, an elevator, and
a city sold piece by piece.

A narrow staircase in a Milan apartment building becomes the battleground for a ruthless conflict: elderly residents, real-estate speculation, short-term rentals, and the new language of urban power. What begins as a dispute over an elevator quickly exposes a wider system of corruption, gentrification, and expulsion. Written with fierce irony and punk-like speed, this book is a counter-narrative of today's "cool" cities — where public space is privatized, inequality is rebranded, and those who can no longer afford to live are quietly pushed out. A love letter and a searing critique, all at once.

Silvia Ballestra is an acclaimed Italian novelist. Her book *La Sibilla. Vita di Joyce Lussu* (Laterza, 2022) was a major critical success, winning prestigious literary awards. For Laterza she is also the author of *Una notte nella casa delle fiabe* (2024).



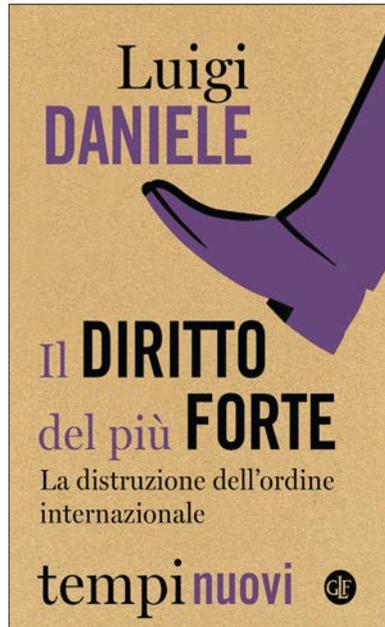
Francesco Fabretti
One Night at Leopardi's House

232 pages
2026, May

Spend a sleepless night in
Leopardi's house, where the
poet's world still breathes
after closing time.

For thirty years, Francesco Fabretti has been the custodian of the House of Giacomo Leopardi in Recanati (Marche). Moving through corridors and hidden rooms by moonlight, he opens doors, listens to the house at rest, recalls the stories of visitors and students, uncovers forgotten legends from Leopardi's family, and brings to life the everyday atmosphere that shaped one of Europe's greatest poets. An immersive nocturnal journey leading to dawn on the hill of *Infinity*.

Francesco Fabretti lives and works in Casa Leopardi in Recanati, where he has spent decades guiding visitors through the poet's home and imagination. He writes on literature, travel, and cultural memory.



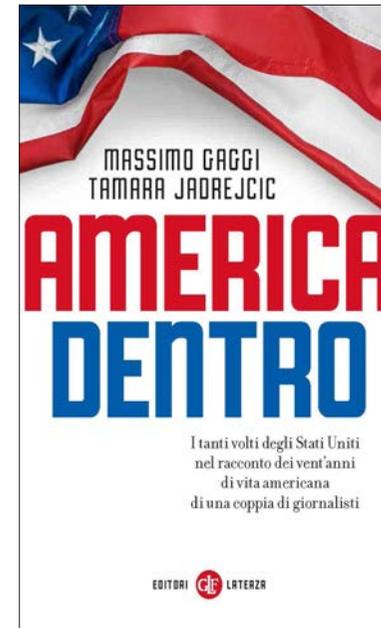
Luigi Daniele
Might Makes Right

The destruction of the international order
144 pages
2026, June

What remains of justice
when force becomes law?

For decades, adherence to international law was a defining marker of democratic legitimacy. Today, that foundation has eroded. Through a detailed analysis of recent conflicts in the Middle East and beyond, Luigi Daniele argues that systematic violations of international law — carried out with Western acquiescence — have normalized force as a source of legitimacy in global politics. Examining Gaza, Iran, Syria, and Lebanon, the book traces the collapse of legal constraints between states and asks whether justice can survive an emerging global order built on impunity.

Luigi Daniele is Associate Professor of International Law at the University of Molise. He has taught International Humanitarian and Criminal Law at Nottingham Law School (Nottingham Trent University) and coordinated the Centre for Rights and Justice. He is the author of *Indiscriminate and Disproportionate Attacks in International Law* (Hart Publishing, 2026).



M. Gaggi - T. Jadrejcic
America Inside

208 pages
2026, April

Twenty years in the U.S.
through the eyes of a
journalist couple.

Massimo Gaggi and Tamara Jadrejcic spent twenty years in the United States (2004 – 2024), witnessing its social and political transformations from Bush to Biden. Blending reportage and personal experience, they explore America's hopes and divisions, from post-9/11 security and gun culture to tech innovation, everyday life, and hidden histories, offering a vivid portrait of a nation in flux and its fragile democracy.

Massimo Gaggi was a correspondent for *Corriere della Sera* in the United States, based in New York, from 2004 to 2024.

Tamara Jadrejcic worked as a journalist for the daily *Vjesnik* in Zagreb. She moved to the United States in 2004, writing for the Croatian daily *Jutarnji list*, the weekly *Globus*, and as a food writer for various websites.

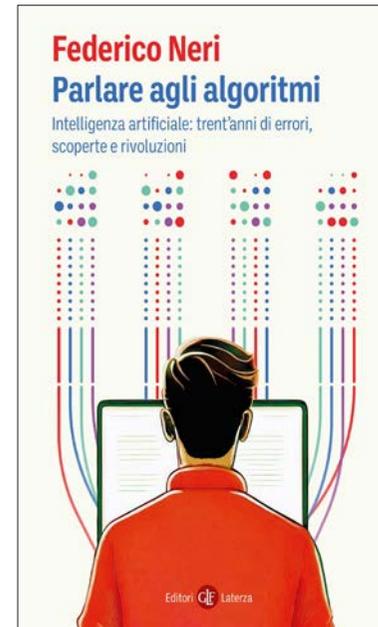


Guido Saracco
Digital Allies
Our personal AI
248 pages
2026, February

A journey into the near future, where AI becomes a digital ally at our side in daily life.

Artificial intelligence is already part of our everyday lives. The real challenge is to integrate it consciously, responsibly, and in an educational way. Guido Saracco envisions a future in which each of us will have a personal AI: not an all-powerful piece of software replacing human intelligence, but a true digital assistant that evolves alongside the individual, supports the development of critical thinking, and gradually strengthens our reasoning abilities. An AI that does not substitute the human mind, but stands beside it—helping us study, work, and live better.

Guido Saracco is Full Professor of Chemical Foundations of Technology at Politecnico di Turin, where he served as Rector from 2018 to 2024. He is the curator of Biennale Tecnologia and of Prometeo – Tech Cultures. For Laterza he is the author of *Tecnosofia* (2023), co-written with Maurizio Ferraris.



Federico Neri
Talking to Algorithms
208 pages
2026, January

AI: thirty years of breakthroughs, blunders, and revolutions.

This book is a journey through thirty years of artificial intelligence, told by someone who experienced it firsthand. Federico Neri, one of Italy's pioneers in AI applied to language, guides readers along a path that stretches from the symbolic rule-based systems of the 1990s to today's Large Language Models, from university laboratories to confidential meetings with intelligence agencies, and from the semantics of military patents to the generative systems now reshaping work, society, and the future. This is not only the story of algorithms, but of the people who built them: a unique blend of technology and personal experience.

Federico Neri is a physicist and technologist who has worked in AI applied to language for over thirty years. A pioneer of text mining and sentiment analysis in Italy, he began his career collaborating with IBM's Scientific Centre in Paris and leading major industrial AI projects. Since 2024, he has been a Partner at Deloitte.



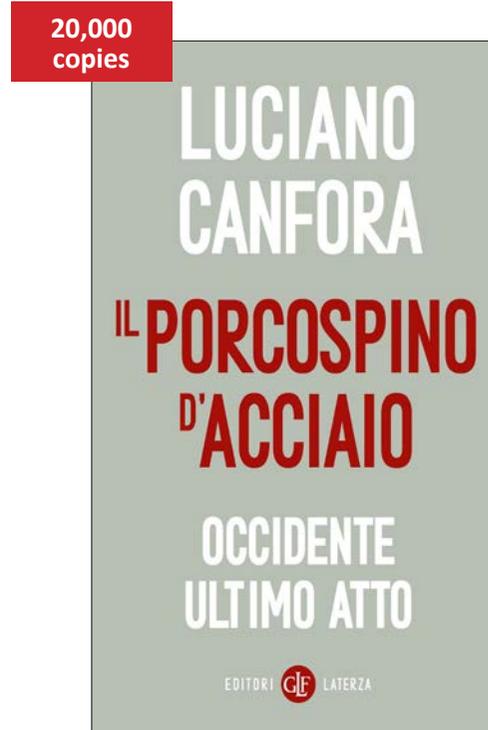
Stefano Mancuso
The Song of the Earth

176 pages
Illustrated
Science Narrative
2025, November

Rights sold to:

Other Press (world English)
UBU (Portuguese/Brazil)
Galaxia Gutenberg (world Spanish)
Atticus (Russian)
Alfa (Turkish)

With striking power, Stefano Mancuso unveils St. Francis's *Canticle of the Creatures* as a timeless guide for survival in the anthropocene.



Luciano Canfora
The Steel Porcupine
The West's Final Act

96 pages
Politics
2025, November

Rights sold to:

Lux Editeur (French)
Papyrossa (German)

A sharp, incisive indictment of the myths of the West and its self-congratulatory illusions.

Recent Sales

Piero Martin, *Questo è quanto. La fisica quantistica in 5 idee*
Quantum Physics in 5 ideas
(Eyrolles/French)

Carlo Greppi, *Figlia mia. Vita di Franca Jarac, desaparecida*
My Daughter. Life of Franca Jarac, desaparecida
(Critica/world Spanish)

Alessandro Volpi, *La guerra della finanza*
The Financial War: Trump and the end of Capitalism
(Scala/Turkish)

Paolo Fonzi, *Genocidio*
Genocide. A Political and Cultural History
(Almedina/Portuguese in Portugal)

Luciano Canfora, *Democrazia. Storia di una ideologia*
Democracy. History of an Ideology
(Akal/world Spanish)

Luciano Canfora, *La grande guerra del Peloponneso*
The Great War of Peloponneso
(Monographi/Turkish; Perrin/French; Editorial Ariel/
world Spanish; Liberdade/Portuguese in Brazil, Crete
UP/Greek)

Maurizio Viroli, *Il sorriso di Niccolò*
Niccolò's Smile. A Biography of Machiavelli (new edition)
(Liberdade/Portuguese in Brazil; Tusquest/world Spanish;
New Literary Observer/Russian; Orient Publishing/
Chinese Simplified; Cambridge UP/world English)

Recent Acquisitions

Omer Bartov, *Israel. What Went Wrong + The Broken Promise*
(FSG/via TILA)

Thomas Gomart, *L'accélération de l'histoire*
(Tallandier/via BAM/via Anna Spadolini Agency)

Hu AnYan, *I Deliver Parcels in Beijing*
(2Seas Agency)

Branko Milanovic, *National Market Liberalism*
(Penguin Press)

Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, Michael Greenstone,
Just Economics
(The Wylie Agency)

Lyuba Vinogradova, *Motherland. The Untold History*
(Andrew Nurnberg Associates)

Jane Rogoyska, *Hotel Exile*
(David Higham Associates)

John Dickie, *The Strange Death of Cosa Nostra*
(Andrew Nurnberg Associates)

Robert Gerwarth, *The Age of Civil Wars + The Weimar Republic*
(The Wylie Agency)

David Motadel, *Global War*
(The Wylie Agency)

Foreign Rights Manager
Agnese Gualdrini
gualdrini@laterza.it

Portugal

Ilidio Matos Literary Agency
Goncalo Gama Pinto
goncalo.gamapinto@ilidiomatos.com

Turkey

Atlas Publishing Lab
Eda Çaçá
eda@atlaspublishinglab.com

Japan

Japan Uni Agency, Inc.
Eriko Takeuchi
eriko.takeuchi@japanuni.co.jp

Russia

Elkost Literary Agency
Alexander Klimin
klimin@elkost.com

Mainland China

Niu Niu Culture
Sara Wang
nnculture@qq.com
Spring Nie
nnculture.nic@qq.com

Editori Laterza

A stylized, colorful illustration of a city scene. In the foreground, a person wearing a red jacket and headphones stands next to a green car, which is plugged into a charging station. To the left, another green car is parked. The background features tall, green buildings with white windows, stylized trees with large leaves, and a bright yellow sky with a large white sun or moon and several small white stars. Red birds are flying in the sky. The overall style is modern and artistic.

via di Villa Sacchetti 17, 00197 Roma

Piazza Umberto I, 54, 70721 Bari

www.laterza.it

Foreign Rights

gualdrini@laterza.it

