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Italian Comics in the New Millennium. Volume I

Continuity and Innovation

VERNON PRESS





Edited by Alessio Aletta

Italian Comics in the New Millennium. Vol. 1

Continuity and Innovation

SERIES IN ART

A thought-provoking, critical roller-coaster ride which deftly highlights the variety of contemporary Italian comics production, from the most venerable publishing houses to the most recent web-based formats. These two volumes are a welcome homage to a deep-rooted comic tradition that keeps reinventing itself.

Vittorio Frigerio Emeritus Professor Dalhousie University

These two volumes on Italian comics, conceived and edited by Alessio Aletta, immediately establish themselves as landmark contributions for both scholars and enthusiasts. Contemporary comics emerge among the most radically self-reflective artistic forms of our digital era, while also claiming a vital place within the broader framework of the history of books and publishing.

Dr. Andrea G.G. ParasilitiArtist & Writer andreaggparasiliti.it

About the editor

Alessio Aletta holds a Ph.D. in Italian Studies from the University of Toronto. His research interests include Italian Modernism, Literary Geography, and Contemporary Italian Comics. He has published numerous articles on Italian comics artists, including Leo Ortolani, Gipi, Roberto Recchioni, and Zerocalcare. He co-founded "TICS" (Toronto Italian Comics Studies), the first study group in North America entirely dedicated to the subject of Italian Comics.

Summary

The first issue of a two-volume collection, this book explores the transformation of Italian comics in the new millennium, offering a comprehensive analysis of the evolving landscape of "fumetti" through both historical and contemporary lenses. The book examines iconic serials from Disney Italia and Sergio Bonelli Editore, alongside innovative auteur-driven works, providing readers with an in-depth look at how Italy's most influential comics publishers have adapted to shifting cultural and industrial contexts. Contributions focus on the challenges of maintaining the essence of beloved series while integrating modern sensibilities, exploring shifts in audience, narrative strategies, and thematic explorations.

The volumes also delve into the works of influential Italian comic artists, from the groundbreaking legacy of Andrea Pazienza to the contemporary innovations of Gipi and Zerocalcare, offering fresh insights into narrative styles, intermedial experimentation, and socio-political commentary. With contributions from leading scholars in the field, this collection highlights the vibrant, dynamic nature of Italian comics and their growing international recognition.

This work provides a vital resource for anyone interested in the intersection of popular culture, artistic innovation, and the evolving nature of graphic storytelling. Drawing on a rich variety of methodological approaches, the book serves as both a reference tool and a thought-provoking exploration of the role of comics in contemporary society in the Italian context.

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SUBJECTS Art, Sociology, History

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