



MELTEMI

RIGHTS GUIDE 2024

ABOUT US

Meltemi is the name of a wind that blows in the Mediterranean and the *Melusina*, the two-tailed siren, is the unmistakable logo of the publishing house. Protagonist of a mythical French tale, the siren symbolizes the founders' desire to publish books that guide the “navigators of thought”.

The history of the publishing house begins in 1994 with the publication of some essays in human sciences which still today represent the flagship of the catalogue, published in Italy for the first time by Meltemi. Anthropology, aesthetics and visual cultures, sociology and cultural studies, political science, colonial and postcolonial studies are the privileged areas of a catalogue of about 800 titles and a network of authors that includes the greatest scholars of contemporary thought: from Bruno Latour to Tim Ingold; from Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o to Peter Handke; from Nancy Fraser to bell hooks; from Pierre Bourdieu to Wim Wenders; from Edgar Morin to Marc Augé and Judith Butler.

Reborn in 2017, the publishing house has brought volumes of great cultural importance back to bookstores. Books that had been missing from shelves for some years along with the publication of new titles confirm the desire to continue publishing the best non-fiction on the many sides of modernity and current affairs. It is on the basis of this mission that the series “Atlantide”, “Culture Radicali”, “Geoarchivi” and “Visioni Eretiche” were born.

Website

www.meltemieditore.it

Contact

Virginia Ascione: rights@meltemieditore.it

Address

Piazza Don Mapelli 75, 20099 Sesto San Giovanni (MI)

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MASSIMO MAGGIARI

IN THE HEART OF THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE. FOLLOWING THE TRAIL OF INUIT EXPLORERS AND SHAMANS.

pp 260

Publication May 2024

MEMOIR – GEOGRAPHY - TRAVEL

People who travel are free to do it in a thousand ways. However, those who intend to travel into the different souls of the world, into the hidden places of distant lands, do not travel in search of trophies or commercial chimeras. This book tells the story of the places where Roald Amundsen, the legendary Norwegian explorer, experienced the great adventure of the Northwest Passage. Thanks to the story told by Massimo Maggiari, who over the course of more than twenty years has retraced those territories with his favorite poems in his heart, the reader meets the people of the Great North on the vast frozen plains, on the gatherings of icebergs and among the reflections of waters inhabited by whales and polar bears. The author tells us about the dances of the Northern Lights - in whose harmonies the natives know how to read the well-being of the Poles - but also about the life of "the last guardians of the Arctic", sober and generous people, masters of the art of survival in extreme conditions and at the same time aware of the soul of the world that manifests itself in the frozen lands and in the animals which live there.

Massimo Maggiari teaches Italian language and cultural studies at the University of Charleston, South Carolina. He started out as a travel writer, developing an interest in arctic shamanism. Among his publications, we remember *Al canto delle balene* (Giunti, 2018) and *Leggere nel cuore* (Giunti, 2022).



Fidaa I A Abuhamdiya, Silvia Chiarantini

POP PALESTINE

pp 280

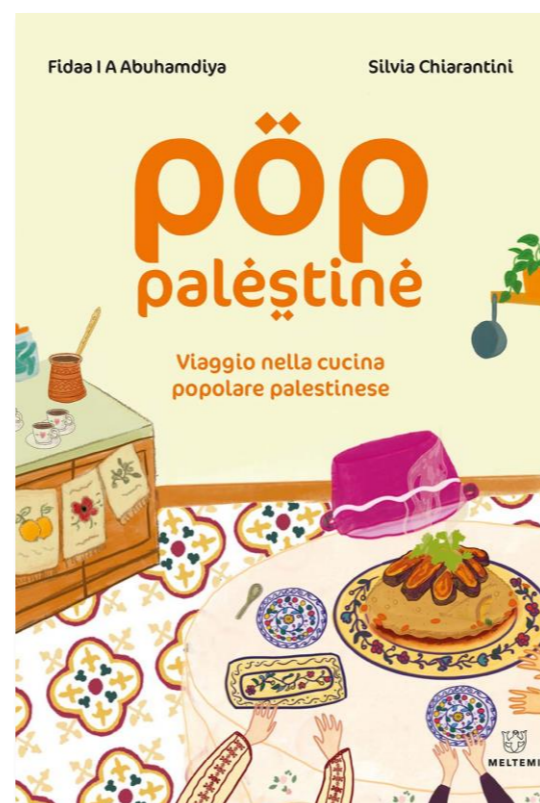
Publication March 2024

GEOPOLITICS – COOKERY – TRAVEL - PALESTINE

“This is an adventure novel, a sailor’s logbook, a volume of history compiled by an old scholar locked away in his dusty library. This book is so immersed in the stories that the recipes become a moment of respite, of peace before the sweet, melancholic and poetic storm, given us by these adventurous fellow travellers. Because talking about Palestine is nonsense, no one talks about it in these terms, few people think of it as a tourist destination, no one imagines that there is a life beyond the war, that there is a cuisine that is not camp cuisine. This book tells the story of Palestine through a series of ingenious narrative devices: the recipes, the travels, the smiles, the beautiful things. We seem to forget, but the more the journey becomes light, the more one perceives the dignity, the imagination of these people, their courage, and it emerges the discomfort of living with them every small lesion of the dignity they experience in the everyday life. Put like that, we can say that this is a travel and cookery book. One of a very few. Because often, too often, we forget the heart of the matter: what is cooking? And what does it represent? It represents the everyday life of people, their being in the world, their facing difficulties and then sitting down for a moment to refresh themselves, and to do so, they connect with their ancestors, they sit down with their guests, and they prepare cakes that for a few moments make reality more beautiful. Cooking is like poetry. It makes things more beautiful. This is not a travel book, not even a cookbook, but it is the cuisine of casual, wandering, generous encounters. Therefore, it is a collection of poems.” Don Pasta

Fidaa I A Abuhamdiya is a Palestinian cook, food writer, interpreter and teacher. She promotes Palestinian culture and history through food and wine events and tours in Palestine. Her recipes are on Instagram [@fidaa.abuhamdiya](https://www.instagram.com/fidaa.abuhamdiya)

Silvia Chiarantini is a cook, food writer, passionate about the history and culture of the Middle East. In 2022 she published “Parkour. My kitchen, boundless and moving.” She writes cooking stories on the blog www.popcuisine.it and on Instagram [@popcuisine.it](https://www.instagram.com/popcuisine.it)



ANGELA BALZANO

VIRAL EVE. LIFE BEYOND SPECIES, GENDER AND NATION

pp 210

Publication May 2024

QUEER – FEMINISM - BIOLOGY

Living well does not mean "growing endlessly" but finding an agreement with other forms of life to resist together. Bacteria, viruses, algae, fungi, cetaceans and the Earth teach us this basic concept every day. However, over the centuries, many human beings have ignored it, presumptuously considering themselves the species that can use the planet and other creatures to its advantage: thanks to capitalism, human beings have not only devastated entire ecosystems and exterminated countless forms of life, but they have also excluded women, LGBTQI+ people and all non-human otherness from access to the production and circulation of knowledge. To reverse this trend, it is necessary to start again from ethics and sciences which over the centuries have been considered heretical, weaving their stories together with those of viruses, diatoms and bacteria to discover how, changing positions and points of view, other worlds are always possible. With *Viral Eve* we will understand that life develops ignoring the boundaries of gender, species and nation. We will discover that there is no reason to believe that only the patriarchal West owns life and, to rewrite the plot of apocalyptic narratives, we will learn that survival is increasingly dependent on the end of capital.

Angela Balzano teaches at the University of Turin and Roma Tre. She is an eco/cyborg/trans feminist activist. With Meltemi he has already published *To End with family* (2021) translated in Spanish.



TOMMASO RAGONESE

ALICUDI AND THE ERGOT. THE ORIGINS OF A COLLECTIVE HALLUCINATION

pp 170

Publication April 2024

ANTHROPOLOGY

Dating back to pre-Christian paganism and Greek literary cults, those of the Aeolian archipelago are myths and imaginaries with an Indo-European feel. By reconstructing its history this book tries to give a non-scientific explanation to the visions of the inhabitants of Alicudi: their sighting of flying women, spirits and werewolves would have been nothing more than collective hallucinations. The first to formulate this thesis was Elio Zagami, a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst of Aeolian origins, according to whom the phenomenon underlying numerous mythologies (not only the Aeolian ones) would be intoxication: from the ergot of Alicudi to the Soma-Haoma of the Asian Indo-Aryans and to the mysterious ecstasy of ancient Greece. After having lived in Alicudi and having collected various testimonies (even today it is not possible to distinguish between memory, collective memory, myth and hallucination), the author wonders whether Zagami's theory is not just a possible explanation of facts, but rather the symptom of a loss of ability, that of mediating between the dream world and the physical world, between experience and knowledge.

Tommaso Ragonese graduated in Philosophy from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



BENEDETTA SABENE

UKRAINE. COUNTER HISTORY OF THE CONFLICT

pp 280

Published 2023

POLTICS – JOURNALISM - GEOPOLITICS

It doesn't happen only in Russia. Even in our media, several unverified news on the conflict in Ukraine have been spread in. Non-compliant voices have been listed and accused of intelligence with the enemy: a hunt for the "Putinian" that silences every complexity and which risks undermining our democracy. This book aims to provide a critical point of view on the conflict, moving away from the Manichean narrative according to which we are witnessing a clash between civilization and barbarism; the same narrative that in the early 2000s led the West into ruinous wars across the planet. After having closely studied the Ukrainian reality - traveling from Donbass to Kiev to collect precious documents, interviews and testimonies -, the author brings together information ignored in the West to reveal how the distinction between good and evil does not hold up to the facts. Very little or almost nothing is known about the adherence to the principles of freedom of post-Euromaidan Ukraine: Kiev's laws on language and the media, the repression of the opposition, the corruption and the excessive power of the oligarchs put the "attacked" and the "aggressor" much closer than they seem.

Benedetta Sabene, international relations scholar, has been following the Donbass conflict since 2017. Since the beginning of the Russian invasion, she has carried out conflict analysis and dissemination work.



ANGELO TONELLI

THE GREEKS IN US. FROM THE ORIGINS OF OUR CULTURE TO THE TRANSHUMANIST DRIFT

pp 180

Publication July 2023

GREEK PHILOSOPHY

This book aims to be a thoughtful cry of alarm addressed to all those who inhabit planet Earth in this era of transformation, as well as a proposal for individual and collective regeneration in the light of Greek wisdom and the teachings contained in the myths. A return to the source to draw spiritual blood that allows us to acquire a free gaze on the crisis of the now and on the possibility of a positive anthropological evolution. Our cultural roots lie in that grandiose period of Greece, and above all of Magna Graecia, in which Hellenic wisdom flourished. The so-called "superhuman philosophers", such as Pythagoras, Parmenides, Empedocles and Heraclitus, associated the nurturing of interiority with commitment to social life: the wise man was also political, mysticism was combined with civil action. Since this model disappeared, today's collective human story is pushed by unhealthy economic and political forces, which directs us to form of globalist governance based on the expansion of digitalization and artificial intelligence for a progressive and growing control over the living.

Angelo Tonelli underlines the urgency of a recovery of the Hellenic model: the unity, integrity and awareness promoted by Greek wisdom can provide an uncontaminated look at individual and collective life with respect to the themes of fear, technique, death, knowledge and politics.

Angelo Tonelli, poet, performer, theater director, is among the greatest Italian scholars and translators of Greek classics.



MARCO PACINI

CRITICAL ZONE

pp 160

Publication January 2024

CLIMATE - PHILOSOPHY

After the success of *Imagining the End*, Marco Pacini returns to the eco-problem of our time offering us the tools for developing a philosophy of the Anthropocene starting from the scientific idea of the critical zone: "The subtle living skin of the Earth, which goes from the top of the plant cover to the bottom of the aquifer layer". In these pages the author invites us to interpret and extend this idea beyond the boundaries of the "hard sciences" to arrive to social sciences. The critical zone becomes a concept that focuses on the connections not only between all natural subjects, but also between social, economic and political phenomena and processes: a theater of exchange, complexity, symbiosis, catastrophes and balance, but above all metamorphoses. This book helps us to develop an ontology of the present capable of taking on all the consequences of the activity of Homo Sapiens on Earth and of all its connections. Consequently, the impact of every politics, theory or practice, not only has to be analyzed in reference to social and human dynamics, but also to the actions and reactions of all other inhabitants of the critical area.

Marco Pacini was editor-in-chief of "L'Espresso" until 2020, after a long journalistic experience. In 2005 he conceived the cultural project "close/far" which gave life to the homonymous festival and the Terzani Prize. He is currently part of the editorial staff of the philosophical magazine "aut aut" and of the jury of the Terzani Prize.



IMAGINING THE END. PUBLIC SPEECH AND CLIMATE CRISIS



The recent acceleration of the climate and environmental crisis does not find adequate solutions. The hypothesis from which Marco Pacini's essay starts is that in order to take a way out of it, the practice of an active and creative pessimism is indispensable, rather than the preaching of an obtuse optimism. In other words, it would be necessary to culturally and psychologically develop a "imagining the end" so as to be able to avoid it, a thinking that escapes the short-circuits responsible for inaction or, worse, for actions imprisoned in a sort of double link between green and standard duties of life that are indispensable because they are presumed sustainable. The maturation of a thought capable of supporting the challenge has to start from the words that feed the public speech, so as to subject them to a "stress test" in what Bruno Latour has defined as a "new climate regime".

MARIO COLUCCI, PIERANGELO DI VITTORIO

FRANCO BASAGLIA. THOUGHT, PRACTICES, POLITICS

pp 320

Publication March 2024

PSYCHIATRY - BIOGRAPHY

More than forty years after his death, Franco Basaglia's experience continues to be the subject of discussions and reflections. This monograph shows the complex profile of the Venetian psychiatrist, where philosophical passion coexists with practical and political commitment, bringing out an intellectual figure fully inscribed in the cultural panorama of the twentieth century. The authors retrace the stages of an experience of institutional transformation that has never stopped intertwining with critical reflection: from the early interest in psychiatric currents inspired by phenomenology and existentialism, to experimentation, nourished by the analyzes of Foucault, Goffman and Fanon, of the first therapeutic community in Gorizia; from the birth of the anti-institutional movement, to the creation of Democratic Psychiatry, up to the experience of Trieste, in which the foundations were laid for the definitive overcoming of mental hospitals and law 180.

Mario Colucci, is a psychiatrist and a psychoanalyst. He is editor at the magazine "aut aut".

Pierangelo Di Vittorio, is a philosopher and a writer. Among his publications: Foucault and Basaglia (1999); (with B. Cavagnero) After law 180. Witnesses and experiences of mental health in Italy (2019), Ragione acrobatics (2021), Fitzcarraldo Fragment. The sublime, the techne, the social bond (2023). He is editor at the magazine "aut aut".

RIGHTS SOLD: France and Spain



ELENA CERKVENIČ

I'M SCHIZOPRENIC AND I LOVE MY MADNESS

pp 100

Publication: September 2024

MEMOIR - PSYCHIATRIC

In the nineties, Elena - the author of this touching diary - is a young teacher, full of dreams and projects. One day, suddenly, while She is in Munich for a course, she experiments madness, which falls into her life out of the blue. Schizophrenia: this is the diagnosis of the psychiatric hospital where she is admitted. Returning to Trieste, the city where she was born, she begins a long and painful journey, during which she learns to put her illness "in the corner", even to love it as part of herself. The result is pages full of emotions, a detailed story in the form of a diary that the author feels the urgency to share, to explain without rhetoric that even when madness seems to annihilate everything, despite dark moments, there is always space for a full happy life. In the background we find the Trieste of Franco Basaglia, the genius who made all this possible, reforming and innovating the psychiatric discipline in Italy.

Elena Cerkvencič was born in Trieste to a family of Slovenian origin. Graduated in Languages, she taught German in middle and high schools. She is currently involved in initiatives for the diffusion of Slovenian language and culture. Among her publications we remember the collections of poems *Love, who knows if* (Editrice San Marco, 2010) and *DiVine Flavours* (Ibiskos, 2012)



FRANCO LA CECLA

THE INDIGENOUS PARADIGM. ART AND ANTHROPOLOGY COMPARED

pp 140

Publication: September 2024

ANTHROPOLOGY – VISUAL ART

All over the world today we are witnessing a rise in movements linked to indigenous peoples. This book tells about the meetings with these communities to draw a picture of the decolonization processes linked to the indigenous paradigm: a constantly evolving reality, with all the ambiguities, contradictions and impulses of living things. New Indigenism is a type of internationalism that unites the Maori of New Zealand, tribal peoples in India, Australian Aborigines and indigenous communities in America: a world that is emerging culturally, politically and demographically. Franco La Cecla, with the mind of the anthropologist and the pen of the traveler, offers us a fascinating story of the encounters with the indigenous peoples and their capacity for vision and invention of the world, an art of living that goes, also and above through museums and the reclamation of objects, the remains of ancestors, their lands of origin and architecture capable of coexisting with and respecting the environment. All this can only call into question the representation that the West has always defined and imposed in the fields of art and cultural institutions.

Franco La Cecla is an anthropologist, traveler and writer. Among his recent publications we remember: *Against architecture* (Bollati Boringheri, 2004); *Being friends* (Einaudi, 2019); *Betraying feelings* (Einaudi, 2022). He teaches Anthropology and Art at IULM and Visual Anthropology at NABA.



AND MORE TITLES...

MAURIZIO RICCIARDI

IL POTERE TEMPORANEO

2019

Rights sold: UK

Power, the forms of political mediation and the exercise of command are a field little frequented by studies on Marx.

Temporary power proposes to fill this gap by trying to reconstruct the complex itineraries through which Marx confronts history and current events.



FEDERICO ZAPPINO

QUEER COMUNISM. Notes for a subversion of heterosexuality

2019

Rights sold: Catalan; Spanish; French

The thesis of *Queer Communism* is that exploitation and exclusion within capitalist societies have not only a universal but also a particular character. Consequently, if we want to effectively fight against capitalism, we must face each of the single forms of oppression from which it draws lifeblood and substance to assert and reproduce itself. In the case of gender and sexual oppressions, its matrix is heterosexuality. Aiming for the subversion of heterosexuality means fighting against capitalism, starting with its causes rather than its more immediate or visible effects. It is therein that lies the difference between any other form of anti-capitalism and queer communism.



RACHELE BORGHI

DECOLONIZING AND PRIVILEGE.

Feminist Practices and Critique of the World-System

2020

Rights sold: French

To get out of colonialism, one cannot limit oneself to deconstructing, but one must find a way of acting to transform the world. Not to create a new paradigm but to destroy existing paradigms. How many times have you thought about what lies behind the word "scientific"? How many times have you taken for granted that the scientific nature of a knowledge was valid for everyone, that is, it was universal?

