



## FESTIVAL INTERNAZIONALE DEL FUMETTO, ANIMAZIONE, CINEMA E GAMES

### ALESSANDRO BILOTTA, GREAT COMIC BOOKS SCRIPTWRITER, GOLDEN ROMICS OF THE 25TH EDITION

#### A TWENTY YEAR CAREER IN THE NINTH ART FROM GIULIO MARAVIGLIA TO DYLAN DOG AND THE DETECTIVE OF PAPAL ROME MERCURIO LOI

Alessandro Bilotta, scriptwriter and story editor of the most famous comics series and father of the series *Mercurio Loi* will receive the Golden Romics Award during the XXV° edition of the Festival. An important tribute for this prolific author of the ninth art.

Born in Rome in 1977, Bilotta started his career as a scriptwriter for the comics series *Martin Mystère*. In 1999, in accordance with other authors he founded the publishing house Montego, for which he curated the re-edition of *Altai & Jonson* by Sclavi and Cavazzano and wrote *Povero Pinocchio, Il dono nero* and *Le strabilianti vicende di Giulio Maraviglia - inventore*, the last mentioned in collaboration with Carmine Di Giandomenico, an illustrator together with whom Bilotta established a professional partnership. Thanks to *Giulio Maraviglia* Bilotta began to receive his first important honors: in 2001 he won two categories of the Fumo di China Award, "best new author of realistic comic book" and "best character". Another great success was *La Dottrina*, again in partnership with Di Giandomenico in 2006.

In 2007 he made his debut as a scriptwriter for *Dylan Dog* with a story published for the series Gigante N°16 for which he also created the saga *Il Pianeta dei Morti*. He was also scriptwriter and story editor of the animated series *Winx Club*, a worldwide success.

According to Bilotta the comic art, being expression of the human creativity, has more dignity compared to the other forms of arts and can be regarded as an instrument of dialogue with the public. His last creature, *Mercurio Loi* was also conceived for this reason:

«Talking with the public is my obsession. *Mercurio Loi*, the new character, is the outcome of this obstinate confidence». (From an interview with Bruno Ventavoli, Tuttolibri – La Stampa).

Appeared for the first time in the albo 28 of the series *Le Storie*, *Mercurio Loi* became the protagonist of the homonymous monthly series starting from 2017, with covers illustrated by Manuele Fior. *Loi*, is an university History professor, extremely curious, who loves to walk around the streets of Rome in 1826, much intrigued by the people he meets. Only a few action scenes, fights are very rare, great introspection, a lot of desire to explore the potentiality of the narrative. The references to art, literature and psychoanalysis constitute a dense plot of elements in each of his works: in *Valter Buio* (a series created and curated for Star Comics that in 2010 won the Romics/Repubblica XL Prize as "Italian Character of the Year") we find Céline, Cioran and many authors, highly appreciated for their ability of inspecting the human soul.

Comics is infact according to Bilotta, also a way to represent human fears and fragility.

The success of Bilotta is not confined to national borders, but is extended to France, where he collaborated with Les Humanoïdes Associés, Editions Delcourt and Vents d'Ouest. With the last mentioned he published *Romano* receiving very good consents almost everywhere.



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Among other collaborations as a scriptwriter deserve a mention the series *Corsari di classe Y* for Il Giornalino and that for Bonelli in the albo of Dampyr 172, *La papessa di Roma* and the series *Le Storie*, for which he wrote *Il lato oscuro della luna* and *Nobody*.

A special author who has chosen the stage of Romics to greet the last episode of his more important creature: *Mercurio Loi* that will end in March 2019 after two years of outstanding success.

**Alessandro Bilotta will be meeting the public to talk about his extraordinary career.**

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