

Novels and essays.

All texts in Italian.

1. **Quando gli italiani dipingevano Parigi.** Istituto Matteucci-Edizioni d'Arte, Viareggio, 2018
About the last part of the life of three great Italian painters in Paris (Zandomenighi, Boldini, De Nittis)

2. **Andreas Vesalius: l'uomo che cercava nell'uomo.** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2018
Accompanying this great anatomist along his last travel: which were the thoughts of a man that had to give a new foundation to medicine? How did he die and why?

3. **La crociata dell'amore.** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2019
The story of an imaginary love between Godefroy de Bouillon and a girl whom he saved during the ferocious massacre of 70,000 people on July 15, 1099 in Jerusalem. How did Godefroy die and why?

4. **E se poi fosse? Passeggiate nell'improbabile.** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2019.
A tribute to doubt! About the greatest doubts of mankind, presented ironically and with a (bitter) smile.

5. **Che ci crediate o no – Interrogando la fede.** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2020
My own views on theology in five steps: the Soul, the Limb, the Hell, the Purgatory, the Paradise (on Dante's path).

6. **Quando il genio incontra il dolore – Due vite dimenticate (Mario Puccini e Silvestro Lega).** Aracne Ed., Roma 2020
Life and emotions of two very unfortunate but great painters (Silvestro Lega, a celebrated master of the Macchiaioli group, and Mario Puccini, belonging to the next generation).

7. **Gli amori impossibili (antifavole).** Aracne Ed., Roma 2020
A collection of strange tales in a dreamlike environment about unfortunate love stories.

8. **Rivivendo i miti dell'eros.** Aracne Ed., Roma 2020
These are two novels in one, with a common theme that (just apparently) is Eros, which makes an ironic background. Actually, Eros is a path through which the protagonists ask themselves about the meaning of life.

9. **L'ispirazione.** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2020
My personal tribute to Carla, untimely passed away. A great declaration of love.

10. **Romanzando,** Aracne Ed., Roma 2020
A curious Chinese box of novels that grow one in another on the background of a strange homicide.

11. **Lontano negli occhi,** Aracne Ed., Roma 2021
The story of an unfortunate girl who becomes a successful writer.

A trilogy on Byzantine women:

12. * **Anna Comnena (1083-?) - La donna che sognava l'impero.** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2021

The story of the writer of the *Alexiades* and of her dream to succeed her father Alexius I on the Byzantine throne.

13. ** **Teofano (941-?): l'ammaliente assassina sul trono di Costantinopoli,** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2021

The incredible woman who ruled over Constantinople through difficult times with a cynic approach.

14. *** **Zoe (978-1050) e Teodora (980-1056): lussuria e virtù nell'impero bizantino,** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2021

Two sisters who hated each other but had to share the throne.

15. **Ringraziando le donne**, Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2021

A tribute to the women who helped the author after the loss of his love and to the feminine sensitivity in general.

16. **Il complotto eretico-erotico**, Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2022

A satiric novel about conspiracy theorists in the wake of Covid-19.

17. **Berthe Morisot – Tormentata, Coraggiosa, Impressionista**. La Bussola, Roma, 2022

A novel on the life of a great painter in a time that was difficult for women to be successful in an artistic, revolutionary career.

18. **Lu e i suoi gatti: una storia dell'anno mille**. Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2022

A tale from the middle ages that ultimately leads to suggesting how elusive the perception of time is.

19. **Dialoghi sul prima e sul poi**. Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2022

Two optimistic dialogues concerning solitude, particularly of elderly people, and the aspiration of being remembered. Each of the dialogues takes inspiration from an aria by Henry Purcell and mimics formally Galilei's celebrated work *Dialogo sui massimi sistemi del mondo*.

The Sunset of an Empire:

20. * **Andronico I di Costantinopoli: Lo spietato imperatore che inventò le corna**. Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2022

A cruel man with an incredible charm who paved his way to the throne with terrible murders, while the second crusade was on the background.

21. ** **Bisanzio addio**. Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2022

The tragic fall of Constantinople resulting from the diversion of the fourth crusade by the old and smart Venice doge Enrico Dandolo. All this happens after the third crusade, where great characters like Richard the Lionheart and Saladin come into play.

22. **Jean Baptiste Lully - Il fiorentino che danzò col Re Sole**. La Bussola, Roma, 2023

Born in Florence, the talented boy Giovanni Battista Lulli was taken to Paris to entertain a noble young lady. There he became Lully and made a fantastic career at the court of Louis XIV, opening new horizons to music.

23. **Lo Stilita**. Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2023

In the V century Simeon the Stylite spent the last 37 years of his life on top of a high column. This novel inquires his thoughts in his last days when he discovers hurting contradictions in his lifelong faith. The character is real, his heretical ideas come instead from the author.

24. **Il diavolo, che diavoleria!** Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2023

A light-hearted story of the Devil, from the "origins" up to the year four billion two thousand and twenty three...

25. **Amore dal Cosmo**. La Bussola, Roma, 2023

A mature woman falls in love with astronomy (and an astronomer), a love which will change her life and her personality. Astronomy is in the background, from the Greeks to the recent discoveries.

26. **La riserva di sogni**. Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2023

Giulia Solari is a single woman, next to retirement, who works in Rome as a coroner. Her life is monotone, but one day a young apprentice, fond of the history of medicine, comes to her laboratory bringing a new atmosphere. Dreams bloom again in Giulia's head, but very soon he will involve her in a series of crimes, though in a happy world.

27. **La ragazza che giocava col tempo**. Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2023

This novel is actually a tribute to Maurits Cornelis Escher, the great Dutch graphic artist. The protagonist is a woman who isolated herself because of a tremendous loss, living secretly her trauma in a dissociated time. She meets a man who can rebuild her life, but only when she will visit Escher, towards the end of the artist's life, she will understand that,

like in his baffling engravings, the way of perceiving space and time can eventually find a rational solution. Then she will reach happiness. In this way the reader is invited to discover the emotional contents in Escher's seemingly abstract art.

28. Splendori, amori, orrori nella Spagna di Goya. La Bussola, Roma, 2023

Main events and people in Spanish history at the time of Goya seen through his art. A immense painter and a series of incredible characters.

29. La danza delle parole. Edizioni Tassinari, Firenze, 2024

Two overlapping stories take place, one "real" and one imaginary, which nevertheless intertwine with each other. A frustrated character, who has done secondary tasks in the film business and is about to retire, wants to fulfill his life's dream: to write a screenplay. He then creates a psychological drama that sees two very old but very brilliant people, a male architect and a female psychiatrist, dueling with witty and sharp dialogues (the dance of words). Both stories, the lived one and the written one, will have a surprise ending.

30. Il vecchio e il libro. La Bussola, Roma, 2024

Inspired to Hemingway's "The old man and the sea", this is the story of an old disillusioned writer who daily fights with what he thinks could be his masterpiece. He parallels his fight with the one of Hemingway's old unlucky fisher and his marlin. However, the core of the story is the confrontation between two deadly enemies, in which that book will physically play a key role, while its writer is nothing but a dummy pawn.

In preparation

31. Cosimo III de' Medici. Il Granduca che inventò il D.O.C.

The penultimate Grand Duke of Tuscany of the Medici dynasty was quite a debatable character, very pious and conservative, whose reign was characterized by a sharp economic and political decline. However, he is remembered for his law protecting the wine producing Tuscan areas, in a time when wine trade was affected by fraud with label forgery. This novel is about his life during a complex historical background, with an eye to the rich artistic life of that time.

32. Il tempo della follia.

A girl working for a local newspaper conducts a series of interviews with an old scientist hospitalized in a psychiatric facility. The old man is suffering from a compulsive mania for writing and a legend is being born around his mysterious writings. Are they important? Is the old, but fascinating man really crazy? A rather shady story will reveal it.

In addition, I collaborated in writing the biography

Quadri di vita di un mercante d'arte (to appear)

The exciting biography of an art dealer (Giuliano Matteucci) who unfortunately died soon after the book was completed.