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**NEW YORK RIGHTS FAIR INAUGURATES VISUAL BOOK PROGRAM:
“TALKING PICTURES: SELECTED BOOKS”
HONORS BOOKS IN 5 CATEGORIES**

New York Rights Fair (NYRF), Parsons School of Design and Hamelin Cultural Association Collaborate on Juried Awards for Excellence in Book Design



Talking Pictures Jurors (l to r) Ilaria Tontardini, Hamelin Cultural Association; Emilio Varrà, Hamelin Cultural Association; Seymour Chwast, Graphic Designer; and Steven Guarnaccia, Parsons School of Design

NEW YORK, NY – May 8, 2018 – New York Rights Fair (NYRF), in collaboration with Parsons School of Design and Hamelin Cultural Association, today announced the 15 top honorees and 15 honorable mentions of the “TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books” inaugural program. “TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books” celebrates excellence in book design in five categories

and is an offshoot of “TALKING PICTURES: The Visual Book Now,” a cultural initiative of the New York Rights Fair.

The program awards were determined by a core jury of representatives from *Publishers Weekly*, Parsons School of Design and Hamelin Cultural Association. Outside experts in each category were brought in to help determine the books of exceptional merit in their respective areas of expertise. The chosen books span the visual gamut, in categories that include architecture and graphic design, art and photography, cookbooks, comics and graphic novels and children’s picture books.

Conceived by Steven Guarnaccia of Parsons School of Design and members of the Hamelin Cultural Association at the behest of NYRF, “TALKING PICTURES: The Visual Book Now” embraces the graphic ingenuity and creativity of adult and children’s illustrators and editors, book designers and publishers, photographers and stylists. A TALKING PICTURES symposium, free and open to the public with pre-registration, takes place on Tuesday, May 29, 2018, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., at Parsons School of Design, 66 Fifth Avenue at West 13th Street in New York City.

“The idea was to bring designers and graphic arts specialists into the conversation about the book and to give these incredible pieces of work global visibility through the New York Rights Fair,” said Elena Pasoli of BolognaFiere, one of NYRF’s sponsors. “As the Bologna Children’s Book Fair organizers, we are very focused on picture and visual books. We wished to bring some of the flair of Bologna to New York, so it was natural to think about a cultural program dedicated to these kinds of books. ‘TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books’ is the result.”

“There is a renaissance of the visual book. In visual books—children’s books, art books, comics and particularly cookbooks—you see great innovation and energy. ‘TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books’ is a celebration of the visual book in all its manifestations,” said Steven Guarnaccia, associate professor in the illustration program at Parsons School of Design. “One place the visual medium reigns supreme is children’s books. It was from the Bologna Children’s Book Fair that we were inspired to explore the idea of an off-site symposium and intelligent discussions at the New York Rights Fair.”

Ilaria Tontardini of the Hamelin Cultural Association and member of the core jury said, “The number and variety of books we received from publishers was astonishing, especially given that it is the first year of the program.” She added, “As jurors from varied backgrounds, Italian and American, we found a balance by discussing each book and defending our points of view. The book selection involved finding a balance between our own ideas and the sharing of ideas. Each discussion was nourishing, and the final selections reflect that.”

Publishers Weekly issued a call for submissions to publishers on April 9, 2018, and received 517 titles from 170 publishers by the April 23, 2018 deadline. Members of the jury, including outside expert jurors Seymour Chwast and Jonathan Wajskol, then spent the week of April 23, 2018 in the *Publishers Weekly* offices in Manhattan, assessing the hundreds of submitted titles. Criteria included overall design excellence for books published in 2017. Submissions arrived from around the world, and the 30 notable books hail from publishers in Japan, Italy, France, Switzerland, the U.K., Portugal, Spain, Canada and the U.S.

The 'TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books' 15 top honorees and 15 honorable mentions will be on display at the New York Rights Fair, May 30 – May 31, 2018, from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and on June 1 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011. A special panel discussion about the selection, followed by a reception open to all badge holders, will take place at the Metropolitan Pavilion on Level 4 in the Program Hall, on May 30 at 4:30 pm. The cost of entry is \$125 per day, with tickets available at www.newyorkrightsfair.com or at the door. BookExpo badge holders (Rights, Media and Exhibitors badges) are invited at no charge.

TOP HONOREES FOR 2017

Art & Photography

The Black Trilogy. Photographs by Ralph Gibson; text by Gilles Mora (University of Texas Press)

The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin and Steve Schapiro (Taschen)

Artists Who Make Books, edited by Andrew Roth, Philip E. Aarons and Claire Lehmann (Phaidon)

Cookbooks

Catalonia by Jose Pizarro (Hardie Grant Publishing)

Igni by Aaron Turner; photographs by Julian Kingman (Hardie Grant Publishing)

On Vegetables by Jeremy Fox with Noah Galuten; photographs by Rick Poon (Phaidon)

Children's Picture Books

Cabanes by Aurélien Débat (Les Grandes Personnes)

Town Is by the Sea by Joanne Schwartz and Sydney Smith (Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press)

Nos Vacances by Blexbolex (Trapèze Albin Michel Jeunesse)

Comics & Graphic Novels

The Hunting Accident by David L. Carlson and Landis Blair (First Second Books)

My Favorite Thing Is Monsters by Emil Ferris (Fantagraphics Books)

Whatsa Paintoonist? by Jerry Moriarty (Fantagraphics Books)

Architecture & Graphic Design

LOT-EK by Ada Tolla and Giuseppe Lignano with Thomas de Monchaux (The Monacelli Press)

Star Wars Super Graphic by Tim Leong (Chronicle Books)

The Sausage of the Future by Carolien Niebling (Lars Müller Publishers)

HONORABLE MENTIONS FOR 2017

Art & Photography

Andy Warhol. Seven Illustrated Books 1952–1959, edited by Reuel Golden and Benedikt Taschen (Taschen)

Endangered by Tim Flach (Abrams)

Fattobene by Anna Lagorio; photographs by Alex Carnevali (Corraini Edizioni)

Cookbooks

Modernist Bread: Volumes 1 – 6 by Nathan Myhrvold and Francisco J. Migoya (Cooking Lab)

Bread is Gold by Massimo Bottura and Friends (Phaidon)

Children's Picture Books

Nao e Nada Difícil by Madalena Matoso (Planeta Tangerina)

Magnificent Birds by Narisa Togo (Walker Studio)

Toi-Même by Marion Duval (Trapèze Albin Michel Jeunesse)

My First Book of Patterns by Bobby and June George; illustrated by Boyoun Kim (Phaidon)

Comics & Graphic Novels

The Tea Dragon Society by Katie O'Neill (Oni Press, Inc.)

Park Bench by Chabouté (Gallery 13)

The Interview by Manuele Fior (Fantagraphics Books)

Architecture & Graphic Design

Architecture Fin-de-Siècle by Keiichi Tahara (Taschen)

Despero Futurista by Fortunato Depero (Designers and Books)

5 Maisons by Dominique Ehrhard (Les Grandes Personnes)

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ABOUT NEW YORK RIGHTS FAIR

The New York Rights Fair, www.newyorkrightsfair.com, is produced by BolognaFiere S.p.A, the leading European exhibition organizer, *Publishers Weekly*, the international news platform of the book publishing industry, and Combined Book Exhibit, a publishing marketing and

promotion resource. It is the first trade and licensing show in the U.S. dedicated exclusively to the international rights, distribution and licensing of content, both adult and children's. The inaugural New York Rights Fair takes place May 30 – June 1, 2018, at the Metropolitan Pavilion in Manhattan. The fair offers a unique venue for U.S. publishers, agents and rights professionals across adult and children's markets to network with their global counterparts in the publishing capital of the world. The three-day fair also features educational programming, with 70 speakers across four tracks—"The Global Landscape," "Page to Screen," "The Pillars of Rights" and "TALKING PICTURES: The Visual Book Now"—covering rights sales negotiation and distribution of content across print, audio, TV, film and digital channels. #NYRF18

ABOUT PARSONS SCHOOL OF DESIGN

The New School's Parsons School of Design is one of the leading institutions for art and design education in the world. Based in New York but active around the world, the school offers undergraduate and graduate programs in the full spectrum of art and design disciplines, as well as online courses, degree and certificate programs. Critical thinking and collaboration are at the heart of a Parsons education. Parsons graduates are leaders in their respective fields, with a shared commitment to creatively and critically addressing the complexities of life in the 21st century.

ABOUT THE HAMELIN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Formed in Bologna in 1996, Hamelin, www.hamelin.net, is a cultural association which aims to promote culture and educational programming, working in particular with children and adolescents through literature, comics, illustration and cinema. Stories are at the center of all of Hamelin's work. They are considered instruments of survival, growth and discovery of the world. The association was born out of the conviction that reading is a fundamental act that brings young people to a better understanding of themselves and the world around them. Hamelin organizes reading courses and comics workshops for schools, conferences and professional development for teachers, librarians and parents, as well as art exhibitions and educational programming. Hamelin also curates the national literature project "Xanadu. Community of stubborn Readers" as well the journal "Hamelin. Stories Imagies Pedagogy" and the BilBOlbul International Festival of Comics.

TALKING PICTURES EVENTS ROUNDUP

TALKING PICTURES: The Visual Book Now **symposium**, to be held Tuesday, May 29, 2018, at Parsons School of Design, 66 Fifth Avenue at West 13th Street, New York, NY 10011, is free and open to the public. The agenda, more information and the pre-registration link to attend the symposium are available at: <https://www.newyorkrightsfair.com/program#talkingpictures>

TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books **panel discussion** will be held on Wednesday, May 30, 2018, 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. at the Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011.

TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books **reception** will be held at 5:15 p.m. following the panel discussion, on Level 4 of the Program Hall, Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011.

TALKING PICTURES: Selected Books top honorees and honorable mentions will be on **display** during New York Rights Fair during regular show hours, May 30 – June 1, 2018, at the Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011.

Hours and ticket information: www.newyorkrightsfair.com

For more information or for a high-res photo of the Talking Pictures Jurors at Work, contact:

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