

ESTONIA BRINGS STORIES TO LIFE IN BOLOGNA – SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR 2025 AND BEYOND

Estonia, the Guest of Honour at the 62nd Bologna Children's Book Fair (March 31 – April 3, 2025), presents an inspiring programme both at the fair and across Bologna. In collaboration with Hamelin and the festival *Boom! Crescere nei Libri*, Estonia brings its children's literature to life in the city of Bologna, offering unique experiences for children, book lovers, and industry professionals.

Highlights at the Fair:

- "Hello! Tere!" Exhibition Showcasing works by 40 Estonian illustrators. The exhibition's official opening is on March 31st at 5 pm, including a speech by the Estonian Minister of Culture Heidy Purga.
- **Estonian Stand** A vibrant showcase of Estonian children's literature, featuring award-winning authors and illustrators.
- **Author and Illustrator Events** Ten panel discussions on various intriguing topics, meetings with the authors, the Bologna BookPlus programme, and an illustrator masterclass.

Events in the City:

- "Cittadini Creativi" Exhibition (March 29 April 13, Palazzo d'Accursio) A playful showcase of Estonian illustrators and animators, including tours with curator Bianka Soe on March 30th and April 2nd at 3 pm.
- Workshops Interactive sessions at the "Cittadini Creativi" exhibition with Estonian illustrators Kertu Sillaste ("Bric-a-Brac") on March 30th at 1 pm and Kadri-Maria Külaots ("No Scissors Allowed!") on April 1st at 2 pm.
- School & Library Visits Authors such as Anti Saar, Tiiu Kitsik, Triinu Laan, and Marja-Liisa Plats talk about their books and share their stories with Bologna's young readers.
- **Estonian Animated Cinema** (April 6th, 4 pm, Cinema Modernissimo) Screening of *Captain Morten & the Spider Queen*, a stop-motion film produced by Estonia's renowned Nukufilm Studio. Organized by Schermi e Lavagne the educational department of the Cineteca di Bologna.

The Estonia – Guest of Honour programme at the Bologna Children's Book Fair is led by the <u>Estonian Children's</u> Literature Centre and the Estonian Publishers' Association, and is funded by the Estonian Ministry of Culture.

Join us in exploring Estonia's vibrant literary landscape! Full programme details can be found at estonia2025bologna.com.

Read more about the Estonia – Guest of Honour at Bologna 2025 programme at festival Boom! Crescere nei libri.

Press kit materials can be found here.

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