



In collaboration with



Casa Museo Boschi Di Stefano

Via Giorgio Jan 15, Milan

ALDA MERINI E ALBERTO CASIRAGHY Storia di un'amicizia

2 October – 2 November 2019
extended until 10 November

press release, 10.10.2019

The exhibition "ALDA MERINI E ALBERTO CASIRAGHY: Storia di un'amicizia", will be held on the first floor of **Casa Museo Boschi Di Stefano** from 2 October to 2 November 2019 as part of the celebrations to honour the Milanese poet ten years after her death on 1 November 2009. It is also part of a wider programme, "Decennale Alda Merini 2009-2019", promoted and coordinated by the Municipality of Milan|Culture, in collaboration with the Associazione Alda Merini.

The exhibition is promoted by the **Municipality of Milan Department of Culture** and **Casa Museo Boschi Di Stefano**, in collaboration with **Municipio 3**, the **Fondazione Boschi Di Stefano** and the **Elfo Puccini Theatre**, and can be visited thanks to the presence of volunteers from the **Touring Club Italiano**.

Conceived and curated by Andrea Tomasetig, the exhibition is dedicated to the **intense intellectual and human relationship between the poet Alda Merini and the typographer-poet-artist-publisher Alberto Casiraghy**, a friendship that led to the production of a remarkable 1,189 volumes, **over a hundred** of which are on display. The powerful testimony to the bond between the two artists lies in these slender books, each of which was published in only 15 to 33 precious copies. These were collected in the Pulcinoelefante catalogue, to which they both contributed, producing an average of more than one a week, with Merini writing aphorisms or short poems and Casiraghy printing and often creating a dedicated graphic work.

Between January 1992, the date of their first volume created together, and the death of Merini – whose fame has not diminished but rather continues to increase worldwide – an all-round friendship developed, worthy of recounting on the occasion of an anniversary that promises to be variously celebrated throughout Italy, particularly in Milan, her city.

The vast source material, examined for the first time in its entirety, has been selected and supplemented with **documents, photographs and memorabilia** made available by

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Casiraghy himself, in order to create an exhibition significant in size and intense in content. The exhibition comprises six sections: *Poems*, *Aphorisms*, *Alda and Alberto*, *The World of Alda*, *Artist Friends* and *Memorabilia*, which reveal the importance of the literary work Merini poured into the Pulcinoelefante editions, as well as that of the empathetic publisher who was not only able to understand her and offer her his support, but also to complement her words with his own highly creative graphic work and an editorial output unequalled in Italy's entire literary history.

This exhibition marks the return of the Pulcinoelefante editions to **Casa Museo Boschi Di Stefano**, presenting a new theme as they await their own eventual public location.

The entire archive includes over 10,000 volumes, representing the work of hundreds of authors and artists, published by the extraordinary 'book artist' Alberto Casiraghy, who is himself profoundly linked to the city of Milan, and at the same time to the rest of Italy that loves books, culture and typography.

Curated by Cristiana Vannini, the original layout in the rooms of the museum on the second floor sees the small volumes cramming the shelves in random order, bound together by a thin web of elastic threads, a sort of conceptual cage from which the strength of the poetic and artistic freedom of Alda and Alberto emerges.

Sincere thanks go to the Libreria Galleria Andrea Tomasetig and De Cecco.

Exhibition details

Title ALDA MERINI E ALBERTO CASIRAGHY. Storia di un'amicizia

Conceived and curated by Andrea Tomasetig

Venue Casa Museo Boschi Di Stefano, via Giorgio Jan 15, Milan

Dates 2 October - 2 November 2019 - **extended until 10 November**

Opening Hours Tuesday-Sunday 10 am -18 pm; Monday closed

Entrance free

Info to the public Ph. +39 02 88463736 - c.casaboschi@comune.milano.it

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