

PRESS RELEASE

The New Novel-Essay by Artist and Art Historian Ernesto Solari, Published by Colibri:

"Michelangelo's Victory, with Bartali, Coppi, Pantani and Artificial Intelligence"

The book presentation will take place on June 27 at 5:30 PM in Florence at the historic Dino Campana Hall in the Biblioteca delle Oblate, located at Via dell'Oriuolo 24, on the eve of the extraordinary start of the first stage of the Tour de France from Florence.

The book features protagonists such as Italian cycling legends Bartali, Coppi, and Pantani, to whom the 2024 Tour de France will dedicate the first three stages, starting from Italy.

Solari pairs these cyclists with their alter egos from art and history, such as Leonardo, Michelangelo, Hypatia, Vittoria Colonna, and others. The investigation and narrative, unfolding over 21 stages of a cycling tour, are rich with novelties and mysterious events surrounding an extraordinary and unprecedented real artwork. The search for its identity and authorship becomes a sort of contest between the two great Florentine Renaissance artists, Leonardo and Michelangelo (the Coppi and Bartali of cycling).

The book reveals how, through meticulous investigation, the characteristics of the face of Vittoria Colonna, whom Michelangelo described multiple times in his letters and madrigals, are identified in the artwork made of Carrara marble. The book aims to propose opening a debate among experts from various disciplines that the artwork invokes. During the presentation, the artwork will be shown for the first time ever through a projection of images highlighting all its incredible details, demonstrating the great skill, genius, and divinity of its author.

The structure of the book is based on the 21 stages of a tour, perfectly corresponding to the 21+1 letters of the Hebrew alphabet and the 21+1 values of the Jewish Kabbalah. Another inspirational motif was the existing rivalry between Leonardo and Michelangelo, akin to the rivalry in cycling between Bartali and Coppi, their alter egos.

Referring to the Kabbalistic structure, the book develops through the numerous dualities of life that can be resolved through the meaning of Aleph, the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet and the first Kabbalistic value, which represents the union of opposites. The primary dualities to be overcome include man-woman, life-death, beautiful-ugly, friend-enemy, spiritual and material love, joy-sorrow, freedom and constraint, natural and artificial intelligence, and war and peace.

The book, illustrated and published by Colibri, is available by emailing colibri2000@libero.it (price €22.00 with no shipping costs within Italy) or can be found in bookstores and online.

Info: www.museosolari.net (Cel: +393392984261) - www.colibriedizioni.it