

UMBERTO GIOVANNINI  
Born 1969, Morciano di Romagna, Italy  
Based in Italy and UK

#### CURRENT

Director of International Printmaking Centre  
Opificio della Rosa, Italy - [opificiodellarosa.org](http://opificiodellarosa.org)

President of Renate Herold Czaschka Foundation  
[fondazioneczaschka.org](http://fondazioneczaschka.org)

Associated Lecturer at Central Saint Martins  
University of the Arts London - [arts.ac.uk/csm](http://arts.ac.uk/csm)

Visiting Professor at Rome University of Fine Arts - [unirufa.it](http://unirufa.it)

Member of Associazione Incisori Contemporanei  
[incisoricontemporanei.it](http://incisoricontemporanei.it)

Member of VACA - [vaca.it](http://vaca.it)

#### EDUCATION

1992-1998. MA in D.A.M.S. (Arts, Music and Performance Disciplines),  
Art, Faculty of Humanities and Philosophy, University of Bologna.  
Thesis on woodcut disputed with top marks cum laude.

1988-1991. Albe Steiner, College, Ravenna,  
Course in Graphic Communication Design.

1983-1988. Liceo artistico Giovanni da Rimini,  
Art School, Rimini.

#### ESSENTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

Pietro Gaglianò, *Passaggi*,  
from the catalogue of the exhibition *LINA*, 2018.

Hayato Fujioka, *A Pilgrim Armed with Chisels and an iPhone*,  
from the catalogue of the exhibition *Passing Through London*, 2011.

Walter Pretolani, *Incantamenti*, exhibition catalogue,  
*Palagio de gl'incanti*, Bagnacavallo 2007.

Alberto Milano, *Tarocchi di Sigismondo*, exhibition catalogue,  
*Il mestiere dello xilografo*, Longiano 2007.

*U. Giovannini* in *Repertorio degli incisori italiani*  
vol. II-II-IV-V, Faenza, Edit, 1997-2008.

Remo Palmirani, *Umberto Giovannini, Ex Libris*,  
exhibition catalogue, *Museo dell'Ex Libris Mediterraneo*, Ortona CH, 2005.

Alberto Milano, *I Tarocchi di Sigismondo di Umberto Giovannini*,  
«Ex Libris», Milano, Ex Libris Museum, n° 28 (n° I nuova serie), marzo 2004, pp. 44-45.

Rose Sèlavy, *Vedere il mondo alla rovescia*,  
in Scacco Matto n°13 «La Voce», Rimini, 30 Marzo 2004.

Giancarlo Torre, *Umberto Giovannini, «the Romagna road» to the ex libris*,  
in *Contemporary International Ex-libris Artists*, Faro, Da Mota Miranda., vol. II, 2003, pp. 45-60.

*Umberto Giovannini* in *dizionario degli illustratori contemporanei vol. I*,  
Bronzolo, Centro di documentazione dell'illustrazione contemporanea, 2002, p. 171.

Rödel Klaus, *Umberto Giovannini, Italian woodcut artist*,  
in, «Nordisk Exlibris Tidsskrift», n°1/2002, Frederikshavn, Danimarca, 2002, pp. 72-73.

Giuseppe Mirabella, *La tavolozza colorata di Umberto Giovannini*  
in, «Ex Libris», Milano, A.I.E., anno 6 n° 3, settembre-dicembre 2000, pp. 56-60.

Jürgen Czaschka, *Wenn die Kuh den Schwanz aufstellt*,  
«Wiener Kunsthefte», n. 4/2000, Vienna, dicembre 2000, p. 4.

Gabriella Gentilini, *Umberto Giovannini*,  
in *Repertorio della Xilografia Italiana 1946-1999*, Firenze, Pietro Chegai Editore, 1999, p. 97.

Paola Pallottino, *Umberto Giovannini: l'uomo telematico ha un segno antico, xilografico*,  
«Telèma», n. 19, anno V, Roma, inverno 1999-2000, p. 72.

Remo Palmirani, *Grande vitalità dell'ex libris italiano contemporaneo*,  
in - *III Biennale di ex libris Italia-Turchia*, cat. mostra, Ortona, Menabò, 1996, pp. 11-12.

Paola Pallottino, *Gli dei benigni di Umberto Giovannini*,  
«Biblio», n. 1, anno 1, Verona, Mardersteig, maggio 1995, pp. 32-35.

VACA, *Il poema-nonsense 'Orione'*, «Ex Libris», Milano,  
A.I.E., n° 24, novembre 1994, p. 173.

## AWARDS

*PREMIO GUIDARELLO 2009*. For the co-curated exhibition 'L'Armonia delle Muse'.

*MARIONETTA D'ORO 2007*. International theatre prize.  
For the show *Pulcinella Baby* realised with Luca Ronga.

*EX LIBRIS ISTANBUL 2000*. Turkey, 2000.  
Winner of the second prize with the "Ex libris Istanbul 2000".

*THE BEST EX LIBRIS 1997-1998*, Italy 1999.  
First prize. International Biennial competition for bookplates  
hosted by the Italian Bookplate Association.

*PREMIO SOLINAS 1998*, for the co-script of the film *Bérbablù*

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

*UMBERTO GIOVANNINI. LINA*  
2018 - *LINA-CAPITOLO PRIMO*, Atelier, Roma, Italy

*UMBERTO GIOVANNINI. FISH-EYE*  
2014 - Resort Gallery, Margate, UK  
2014 - Ex Chiesa in Albis, Russi, Italy

*PASSING THROUGH LONDON 2011*

2011 - The Crypt, St. Brides Church, London, UK

2011 - Galleria Ostrakon, Milan, Italy

*UMBERTO GIOVANNINI. DAI TAROCCHI DI SIGISMONDO ALLE TAVOLE DEL SERRAGLIO GARZONIANO,*

2006 - Antico Chiostro di San Francesco, *Bagnacavallo, Italy*

*UMBERTO GIOVANNINI, EX LIBRIS*

2005 - Museo dell'Ex Libris mediterraneo, Ortona, Italy

*TAROCCHI DI SIGISMONDO*

2007 - Fondazione Tito Balestra, Longiano, Italy

2004 - Palazzo Gambalunga, Rimini, Italy

*UMBERTO GIOVANNINI, THE LAST WOODCUTS*

2001 - Kathrin Markel Fine Arts, Chelsea, New York, USA, December

*TEMPORAL SEQUENCE*

2000 - Danny Simmons' Corridor Gallery, New York, Usa

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

*IMPACT 10*

2018, CASYC, Santander, Spain

*III BIENNALE DEL DISEGNO RIMINI - OSPITI AL MUSEO*

2018, Museo della Città, Rimini, Italy

*II BIENNALE GIUSEPPE MAESTRI*

2018 - Ravenna, Italy

*ITALY - JAPAN CONTEMPORARY PRINT EXHIBITION*

2016 - Galerie Konoha, Tokyo, Japan

*II BIENNALE DEL DISEGNO RIMINI - PROFILI DEL MONDO*

2016, Museo della Città, Rimini, Italy

*SEGNI AGATHAE*

2016 - Le Ciminiere, Catania, Italy

*OSTRALE '015*

2015 - Dresda, Germany

*CIRCUMFERENCE AND RADIUS:  $C=2\pi R$ = ECONOMIES OF DISTANCE*

2017 - Taller de Gráfica de la Habana, Cuba

2015 - UTK, Knoxville, Usa

2015 - Wroclaw, Poland

*9 ITALIANOS*

2017 - Museo Victor Roverano, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2016 - Espacio Cero, Quilmes, Argentina

2015 - Complesso del Baraccano di Bologna, Italy

2015 - Villa Benzi Zecchini di Caerano di San Marco, Italy

*IMC TOKYO 2014*

2014 - 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan)

*HALF CUT*

2014 - Stour Space, London, UK

*I BIENNALE DEL DISEGNO - CANTIERE*

2014 - Museo della Città, Rimini, Italy

*UNA QUESTIONE DI CARATTERE*

2014 - Museo Civico della Stampa, Mondovì, Italy

*PUSH PRINT*

2013 - Resort Gallery, Margate, UK

*XILOGRAFIA*

2013 - Spazio Ventotto, Milano, Italy

*INCISORI ITALIANI CONTEMPORANEI*

2013 - Gradzka Galerija Uzice, Serbia

*BOCCACCIO INCISO*

2013 - Istituto italiano di cultura, Budapest, Hungary

2013 - Chostro di San Francesco, Pienza, Italy

2013 - Museo Civico, Montepulciano, Italy

2013 - Casa del Boccaccio, Certaldo, Italy

*EAST LONDON PRINTMAKER*

2013 - Ostrakon Gallery, Milan, Italy

*INFERNO PURGATORIO PARADISO*

2013 - Palazzo Garagnani, Bologna, Italy

*TERRA TREMUIT*

2013 - Museo della sanità, Bologna, Italy

*VIZI CAPITALI*

2013 - Museo casa Frabboni, Bologna, Italy

2012 - Galleria il Bisonte, Firenze, Italy

*I CENTO ANNI DELLA XILOGRAFIA ITALIANA*

2014 - Kunstmuseum, Bayreuth, Germany

2012 - Palazzina delle Art, La Spezia, Italy

2013 - Pinacoteca Servolini, Collesalveti, Italy

2012 - Oratorio de' Disciplinanti, Finale Ligure, Italy

*SCRITTURE D'ACQUA*

2012 - Museo della Rocca, Vignola, Italy

*DIARIO D'ARTISTA*

2011 - Spazio 28 Gallery, San Bernardino, Switzerland

2011 - Spazio 28 Gallery, Milan, Italy

*CARLO BO 1911 – 2011. GLI EX LIBRIS ILLUSTRANO E NARRANO*

2011 - Palazzo Petrangolini, Urbino, Italy

2011 - IULM, Milan, Italy

2011 - Sala Riccio, Sestri Levante, Italy

*IV INTERNATIONAL PRINTMAKING EXHIBITION*

2011 - Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, Turkey

*ELP ANNUAL EXHIBITION,*

2011 - Space Gallery, London, UK

*THE FISHWICK PAPERS*

2011 - Forman's Smokehouse Gallery, London, UK

*ELP BOX 2010*

2010 - 242 Gallery, London UK

*ELP IN SPACE*

2010 - Triangle Gallery, London, UK

*PAROLE E IMMAGINI PER RICORDARE ENNIO FLAIANO*

2010 - Museo dell'ex libris mediterraneo, Ortona, Italy

*LA COLPA, LA PENA, L'ESTASI IN DANTE*

2010 - Urban Center, Ravenna, Italy

2009 - Palazzo Sersanti, Imola, Italy

*LOOKING HIDALGO*

2008 - Art Gallery, Naantali, Finland

*BOOKS AND GRAPHICS*

2007 - The art shop gallery, Abergavenny, UK

MAJOR EXHIBITIONS CURATED

*WILLIAM DAVEY - NICK MORLEY - IGNACIA RUIZ*

*SIRENE LATIN LOVER & ALTRI MOSTRI MARINI*

Site-specific project commissioned by Comune di Riccione for the Biennale del Disegno di Rimini, curated by Umberto Giovannini - Opificio della Rosa

April-August 2018

*GIUSEPPE MAESTRI. RAVENNA SENZA TEMPO*

Manica Lunga della Biblioteca Classense, Ravenna (Italy),

October - January 2012.

*JÜRGEN CZASCHKA, BIFFANDO L'ASSOLUTO. I BULINI*

Museo delle Cappuccine, Bagnacavallo (Italy), December 2009 - February 2010.

Commissioned by: Gabinetto delle stampe di Bagnacavallo.

*ARMONIA DELLE MUSE*

Museo Marino Moretti, Cesenatico (Italy), Juny-November 2009,

he has curate the section: *LA BELLA SCUOLA*.

The exhibit won the prize "Premio Guidarello 2009".

*COLORI E ANIMA DI UNA TERRA. L'OPERA GRAFICA DEGLI IMOLESI*

*BUSCAROLI, DELLA VOLPE, TROMBETTI.*

Palazzo Sersanti, Imola (Italy), November 2007 - January 2008.

Commissioned by: Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Imola.

*GIANNETTO MALMERENDI. DALL'AVANGUARDIA ALLA VISIONE EPICA, LE XILOGRAFIE*

Palazzo Romagnoli, Cesena (Italy), December 2006 - January 2007.

Commissioned by: Fondazione Carisp Cesena.

*LA TRACCIA E L'IMMAGINE: UN PERCORSO NELLA GRAFICA EUROPEA*

*TRA OTTOCENTO E NOVECENTO.*

Palazzo dell'Arengo, Rimini (Italy), December 2006 - February 2007.

Commissioned by: CNA.

*COLORE E LIBERTA': LA BELLA STAGIONE DELLA XILOGRAFIA IN ROMAGNA*

Palazzo Romagnoli, Cesena (Italy), October-November 2005.

Commissioned by: Fondazione Carisp Cesena.

GINO BARBIERI. *SOGNI DI PACE, VENTI DI GUERRA, LE XILOGRAFIE*  
Palazzo Frescobaldi, Ferrara (Italy), June-August 2004 and Palazzo Romagnoli, Cesena (Italy),  
October-November 2004. October-November Comune di Ferrara e Fondazione Carisp Cesena.

#### SOME ISSUES FOR CATALOGUES AND BOOKS

Umberto Giovannini, 'Barbieri Banksy: iconografia militante',  
catalogue of the exhibition *Xilografia 1924-26: un'utopia grafica*, FAR, Rimini, 2017.

*Segno x segno*, catalogue of the exhibition,  
Palazzo della Cultura, Catania, Italy, 2016

Maria Pina Bentivenga, *L'opera Incisa*, catalogue of the exhibition,  
Rome (Italy), Stamperia del Tevere, 2013.

Wuon-Gean Ho, *Beyond the moon*, catalogue of the exhibition,  
Aberystwyth, Wales (UK), November 2012 - February 2013.

*La xilografia italiana, 1912-2912*, catalogue of the exhibition,  
Finale Ligure, Collesalveti, La Spezia (Italy) 2012-2013; Bayreuth (Germany) 2014.

*East London Printmakers*, catalogue of the exhibition,  
Ostrakon Gallery, Milan (Italy), November-December 2012.

Presentation, Stefano Dirani, *Francesco Nonni*, Faenza, Edit, 2009.

#### SELECTED ARTIST BOOKS

Umberto Giovannini, *LINA, Xiloreportage Roma-Catania, 2016-2018*,  
Morciano di Romagna, Opificio della Rosa, 2018. With 17 woodcuts. Edition 51 copies.

Bill Woodrow, *Lost*, 2016.

Sculpture concertina book with 56 colour woodcuts carved and printed  
by Umberto Giovannini and bound by Luigi Castiglioni.  
Paper size: 45 x 120 x 700 cm approx. Edition 8 copies.

Umberto Giovannini, *Ferrocarril 1. Xilo-reportage, Argentina, Dicembre 2013-Gennaio 2014*,  
Montefiore Conca, Opificio della Rosa, 2014. With 24 woodcuts. Edition 83 copies.

Anahita Rezvani-Rad – Umberto Giovannini, *Javani*,  
Montefiore Conca, Opificio della Rosa, 2014.  
With 28 colour woodcuts. Edition 25 copies.

Giuseppe Bellosi, *Requiem*,  
Montefiore Conca, Opificio della Rosa, 2013.  
Printed in letterpress with an experimental woodcut in 12 colours, 16x103 cm. Edition of 50.

Tomaso Garzoni, *Il Serraglio degli Stupori del mondo*,  
VACA, Russi, 2004. With 10 colour woodcuts. Edition of 21 copies.

Umberto Giovannini, *Tarocchi Di Sigismondo Ispirati Al Signore Dei Malatesta*,  
Milano, All'insegna del fiore, 2003. 40 pp. with text by Alberto Milano and Giovanni Rimondini.  
With 23 colour woodcuts. Edition of 99 copies.

Dino Campana, *La notte*, 2001.  
With 5 colour woodcuts. Edition of 15 copies.

Umberto Giovannini, *Sequenza temporale*, 1999.

Text by Walter Pretolani. With 6 colour woodcuts printed on XVII Century manuscript.  
Edition of 15 copies.

Umberto Giovannini, *Cena per sei*, 1996.

With 1 colour woodcuts. Edition of 40 copies.

Umberto Giovannini, *Orione, Poema nonsense*,  
Morciano di Romagna, VACA, 1994.

With 11 colour woodcuts. The texts are drawn up on 34 calligraphic plates reproduced in offset.  
Edition of 35 copies.

#### SOME ILLUSTRATED BOOKS

Emma Jane Kirby, *Optician of Lampedusa*, Penguin Book, 2016.

Victor Hugo, *The Wretched*, London, Penguin Book, 2013.

Victor Hugo, *Les Miserables*, London, Penguin Book, 2013.

Dante Alighieri, *Commedia*, Russi, Vaca, 2008.

Plutarco, *La curiosità*, Stampa Alternativa, Roma, 1997.

Bret Easton Ellis, *Dal vuoto assoluto*, Stampa Alternativa, Roma, 1996.

AA VV, *Dio c'è, giustizZia non c'è*, Stampa Alternativa, Roma, 1996.

Tripeleff, *Come mi hanno spennato l'uccello*, Stampa Alternativa, Roma, 1996.

Umberto Giovannini, *Menu Celeste*, Russi, VACA, 1995.

Tacito, *La Germania*, Stampa Alternativa, Roma, 1994.

Umberto Giovannini, *Morciano California*, Rimini, Banca Popolare Valconca, 1993.

#### SOME MAGAZINE ILLUSTRATIONS

"EX LIBRIS", n° 30, November 2004; n° 31, March 2005.

"UTZ", n° 5, October 2003; n° 7, May 2004; n° 9, May 2005.

"LINEA GRAFICA", n° 337, January 2002, n° 307, January 1997; n° 325, January 2000.

"CHARTA", n°50 January-February 2001.

"TELÈMA", n°19 Winter 1999-2000. 16 woodcuts for the entire issue; n°23 Winter 2000-2001.

"AVVENIRE", 24 September 1998.

"BIBLIO", n. 1, Year. 1, May 1995.

"VACA fujeton", March 1992; July 1993; September 1994.

#### SOME INSTALLATIONS AND THEATRICAL STAGING

##### *PALAGIO DE GL'INCANTI*

In 2007, he was commissioned an interactive installation for the Museum of Cappuccine in Bagnacavallo, based on the work by Tomaso Garzoni *Il Palagio de gl'incanti*.  
Music score with Vincenzo Vasi.

### LADY-M

Theatre piece with and by the Maria Costantini Vagamondi Company.  
Premiered in Santarcangelo, March 2003.  
Set designing, construction of "machinisms" and props.

### L'ECO DELLE MAREE

Sensory theatre, Company Teatro di Sensazioni, Faro di Rimini, 2005 and 2006.  
Construction of "machinisms" and props.  
Set designing together with Samantha Turci.

### R-ARE, ANIME MUTANTI IN ERRANTE ERRAR

Sensory theatre, Company Teatro di Sensazioni.  
Premiered at Sorrivoli Castle, February 2008.  
Construction of "machinisms" and props.  
Set designing together with Samantha Turci.

## COLLABORATION WITH THE GROUP VACA

VACA is a multidisciplinary project that gathers around the homonym cultural association VACA. Founded in 1990 (Umberto Giovannini was cofounder), it has since produced works in the fields of publishing, film, music, theatre, exhibitions and education.

Amongst the many collective productions, stand out:

the twenty-years work on the sixteenth century polygraph Tomaso Garzoni

over one hundred exhibitions related to graphics, illustration, photography

the management of a national museum, the MIL in Ferrara

the creation of a film trilogy on the Romagna of the Twentieth century

the international competition for handmade books *Libri mai mai visti*, from 1995 to 2015.

a series of events related to Romagna and its traditions.

From 1999 to 2016, VACA opened the *Fucina delle Arti*, its working and lab headquarters, in Ravenna.

## FILMS PRODUCED BY VACA

### BÉRBABLÙ

Feature Film - Fiction.

Directed by: Luisa Pretolani & Massimiliano Valli. 2001,

Produced by VACA & Pahn Productions.

Running time 110 minutes, black and white, 35 mm..

Premio Solinas 1998 for the script.

Festivals: 'Quintus Film Festival', Canada, 2004; 'Festival Cinema e Donne',

Florence 2004, 'Bellaria Film Festival', 2005; tour in Argentina, 2005;

'Festival of Bastia', Corsica, 2006; 'Annecy Cinéma', France, 2006.

### TIZCA. GLI UCCELLI DIPINTI DEL CAUCASO

Feature Film - Fiction.

Directed by: Luisa Pretolani & Massimiliano Valli. 2001,

Produced by VACA & Pahn Productions.

Running time 90 minutes, color, digital.

### TANABÈSS

Feature Film - Fiction.

Directed by: Luisa Pretolani & Massimiliano Valli. 1997,

Produced by Vaca & Pahn Productions. Running time 80 minutes, color, 35 mm.

Festivals: '27th Festival Internacional de Cinema da Figueira da Foz', Portugal, 1998;

'Visioni Italiane', Bologna, 1998; 'Romagna: memoria e nuovi interpreti', New York University, 1999;

'New York Independent Film Festival', 1999, 'Anthology Film Archives', New York, 1999,

'Festival delle Nazioni' di Città di Castello, 1999, 'Long Island International Film Festival', New York, 1999;

selected for 'Chicago Critics Award', 1999, 'Los Angeles Film Festival', 2000.



## TEACHING

2011 -, Associated Lecturer in Graphic and Communication Design,  
Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London.

2014 -, Visiting Professor at Rome University of Fine Arts

2004 - 2010, Visiting Professor, Printmaking Course, Rimini Academy of Fine Arts

1991-1997, Tutor of Illustration and Graphic Design at the Albe Steiner College in Ravenna.

He has held master courses on woodcut history and techniques like:

European Institute of Design in Turin, Italy

Museum of Illustration in Ferrara, Italy

Tito Balestra Foundation in Longiano, Italy

Minardi Arts and Crafts School in Faenza, Italy

Hello Print Studio, Margate, UK

East London Printmakers, London, UK

The art Academy, London, UK