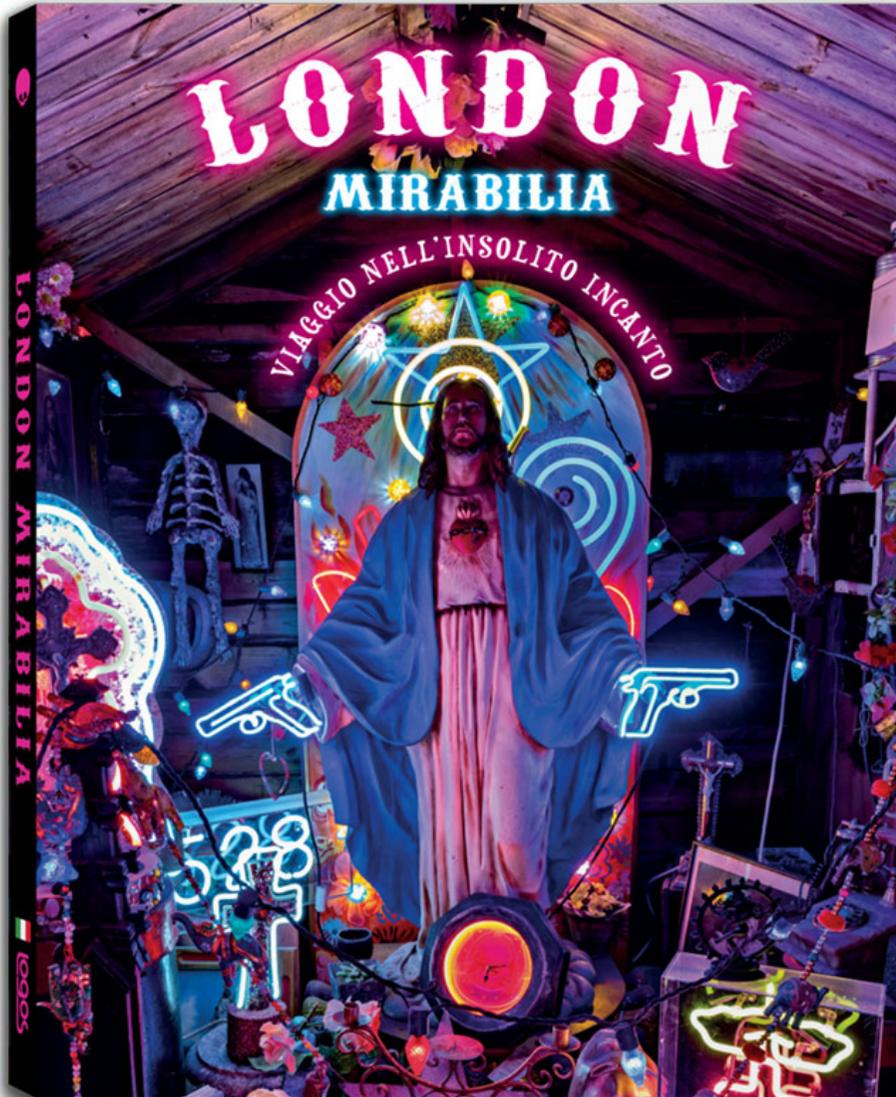


#logosedizioni



Logos

LONDON MIRABILIA. VIAGGIO NELL'INSOLITO INCANTO

Ivan Cenzi, Carlo Vannini

Softcover with flaps

2018

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LONDON MIRABILIA. VIAGGIO NELL'INSOLITO INCANTO

Discovering the most eccentric splendours of the City

We must not be deceived by the cliché of a perpetually gloomy sky, or by the threat of Victorian prudery, nor restrict ourselves to seeing the plain and classical architecture of London as an expression of Anglo-Saxon severity. Much more than other large cities, London is a boundless multitude living on contrasts.

It is only here – maybe as a reaction to the innate, restrained behaviour of Londoners – that the non-conformism of dandies, the incorrectness without taboos of British humour, Blake's ecstatic explosions and punk nihilism could bloom. It is only here that the most futuristic buildings shamelessly rise up alongside row houses or ancient churches. And it is only here that you can gaze at a sunset over a chaotic railway station, and feel you are "in paradise", as the Kinks sing in *Waterloo Sunset*, maybe the most beautiful song ever dedicated to the city.

LONDON MIRABILIA is an invitation to dive into the unexpected colours, the contradictions and the less known splendours of the city.

17 eccentric and refined locations await the reader who – accompanied by the texts of Ivan Cenzi, the explorer of the bizarre, and the evocative pictures by Carlo Vannini – is given the opportunity to visit the most hidden museums of London, admiring in turn the refinement of ancient historiated fans or the terrible grandeur of the war machines which conquered the sky and the sea.

We will sip the inevitable pint of *real ale* in a traditional London pub where the macabre remains of an extraordinary story are preserved; we will discover sumptuous houses decorated with arabesques hiding behind ordinary façades, and fluorescent collections of neon signs; we will wander among the gravestones swallowed by greenery through romantic English graveyards; we will walk through the door of fairy-tale interiors and of real modern wunderkammers.

LONDON MIRABILIA is the second issue of the #logosedizioni series of alternative guides to the best-known tourist destinations all over the world. Outlining an unusual path for each destination, these books lead us to discover amazing places which are generally little known or regarded as niche, with particular attention to the fascinating world of wunderkammers, of naturalia and mirabilia. The texts are by Ivan Cenzi and the pictures by Carlo Vannini.

Also available in [Italian](#)

The author and editor:

Ivan Cenzi is an explorer of the uncanny and collector of curiosities. Since 2009 he has been the editor of [#BizarroBazar](#), a blog that deals with anything weird, macabre and marvellous, which in a short time has become the Italian landmark for this kind of topics. Over the years [#BizarroBazar](#) has been dealing with wunderkammer, anthropology of death, museums and anatomical collections, history of the circus and travelling fairs, the early days of science, classical and modern art, alternative sexuality and in general anything at the outskirts of culture. He combines his work as a writer, editor and blogger with an intense work as a lecturer and collaborates with international museums and universities. From 2019, he is a lecturer for the master in Death Studies and for the degree course in Psychology of end-of-life relations at the University of Padua. He has contributed to various newspapers, written several foreword contributions for contemporary art publications and organized cultural events.

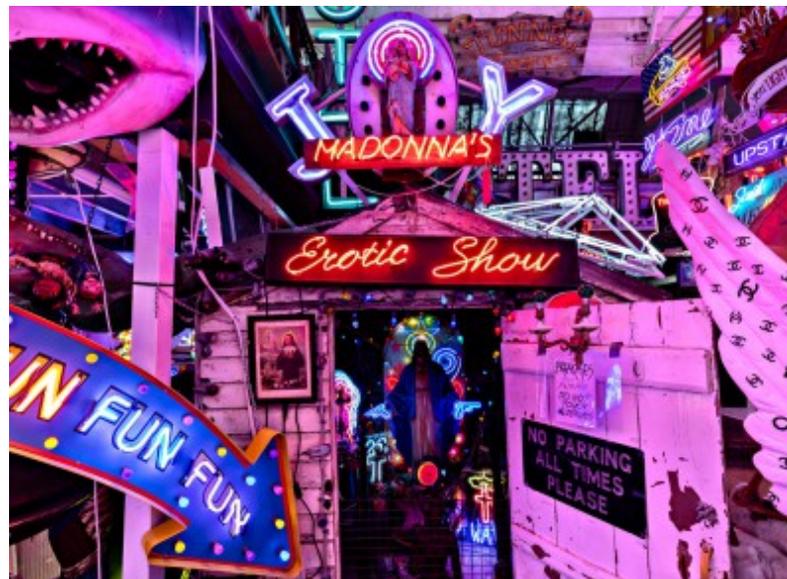
His books for #logosedizioni are: [La veglia eterna. Catacombe dei Cappuccini di Palermo](#), [De Profundis. Il cimitero delle Fontanelle di Napoli](#), [Mors Pretiosa. Ossari religiosi italiani, Sua maestà anatomica. Museo Morgagni di Padova, Il pietrificatore. La collezione anatomica Paolo Gorini, Paris Mirabilia](#) (also available in [english](#) and [french](#)), [London Mirabilia](#) (also available in [english](#)) and [Julia Pastrana](#) (also available in [english](#)).

The photographer:

Carlo Vannini is the photographer of all "cultural" objects: artworks, archaeological finds, restoration works, architectural structures, city views, but also ordinary handcrafted artefacts permeated by a strong historical feeling. He was born in Reggio Emilia in 1956, where his uncle, a painter, and his father, a decorator, made him familiar with artistic materials. After a short amateurish experience, Carlo developed a strong passion for the professional reproduction of artworks, which has been leading him through exciting adventures while documenting restoration works. He has gradually developed a mastery of photographic techniques such as ultraviolet, infrared, skimming light, transmitted light and mirrored light. Since 1983 he has been creating illustrations for catalogues and still-life advertising photographs and is acknowledged as one of the leading Italian fine art photographers.

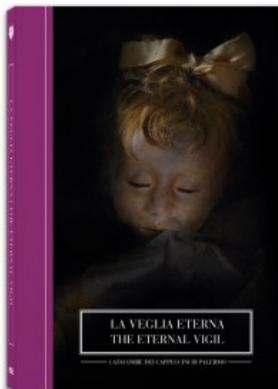
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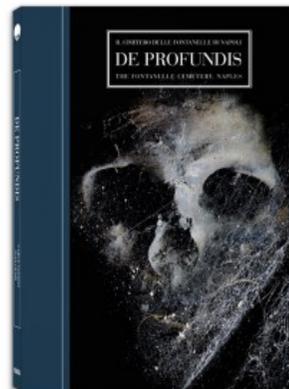
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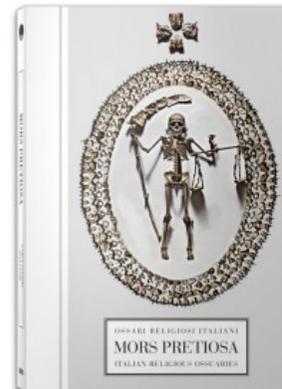
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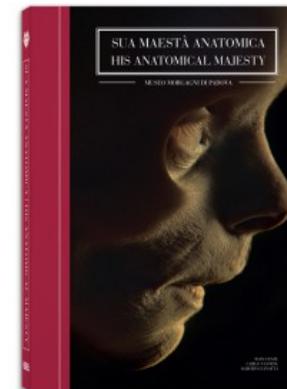
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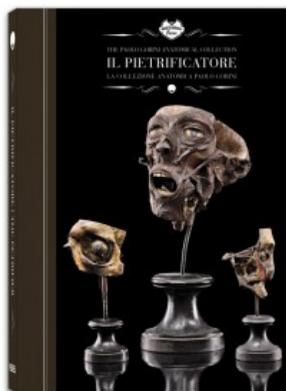
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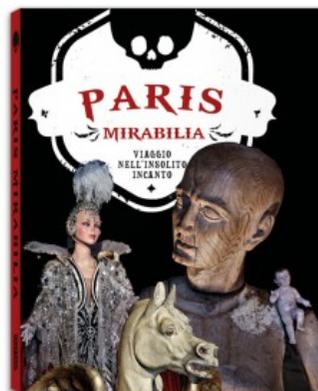
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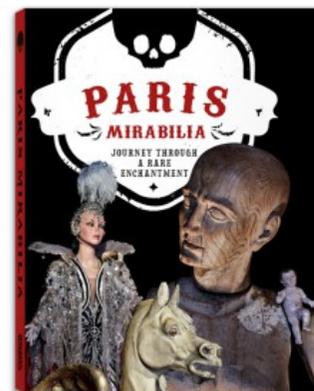
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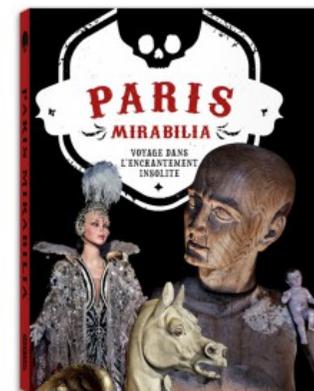
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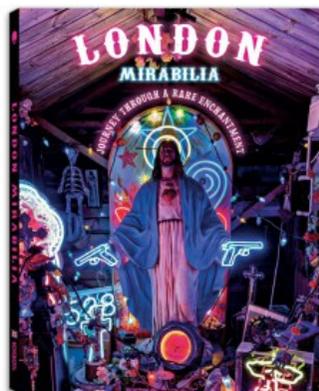
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