
Editorial

A new review but one that is a bit special, because of the objects that it deals with: movable and interactive books. These books have a long history, longer than you might imagine. So it is that the goal of this new publication, “**Journal of Interactive Books**” (JIB) is to enhance and extend the studies and research which vary greatly in their point of view and scientific approach. Their common subject is the cultural heritage that is the result of the historic, artistic, scientific, and didactic interest developed by these interactive books. However, special attention is also given to more recent and significant experiences in the world of multimedia and artists’ books. JIB is a journal that hopes to place itself along other important initiatives, exhibitions and publications, first of all the newsletter “Movable Stationery”, a quarterly publication of The Movable Book Society, started in 1993 by the praiseworthy initiative of Ann R. Montanaro: a publication aimed primarily at the world of bibliographic and art book collecting. Over its almost thirty-year history, it has attracted the attention and interest of researchers and scholars and has created an international network of institutions and individuals.

So the aim of this new review, “Journal of Interactive Books” is to be seen in this wider international context, but also as an attempt to distinguish itself in comparison with other initiatives in several ways. First, JIB is a scientific journal, but one that is not exclusively for the academic world. For this kind of bibliographic and editorial publication, what is fundamental is the contribution of knowledge that can be given by a wider community made up of collectors, book sellers, antique dealers, publishers, typographers as well as other experts. JIB is a scientific review whose goal is to increase and stimulate new research and explore new areas of study with an interdisciplinary approach, and in connection with other related areas of research such as, for example, the history of pre-cinema and playing cards, by means of surveys, classification, and description of collections and single objects, without forgetting the strategies used to conserve them and make them usable, also through the use of technological applications.

The second peculiarity of JIB is that it is an open-access and peer-reviewed journal published in digital format with a Creative Commons 2.0 license.

Thus, our “Journal of Interactive Books”, which is a product of the International Centre on Interactive Books, was created in the home of numerous initiatives of the Fondazione Tancredi di Barolo di Torino, where the Museo della Scuola e del Libro per l’Infanzia (MUSLI) is located and which holds the most important public collection of animated books in Italy. It is also where the *POP-APP International Conference on description, conservation, and use of movable books* (February 16-19, 2021) was held, the acts of which are published in this journal.

It is, finally, with these hopes, that we start our adventure and welcome everyone who would like be part of our little community.

Gianfranco Crupi
Pompeo Vagliani