
Nanni Balestrini

ILLUSTRATED VIOLENCE

Chronology

1953–1956

First poems published in Gillo Dorfles's *MAC Espace* magazine (compiled in 1988 in *Osservazioni sul volo degli uccelli*.)

1956

First issue of *Il Verri* magazine, directed by Luciano Anceschi, of which he is editor.

1957

The first poems of *Come si agisce* appear in issue 4 of *Il Verri* magazine.

1958–1959

Collaborates with Piero Manzoni and Enrico Baj in *Il Gesto* and *Azimuth* magazines.

1960

Works for a short period of time for the Bompiani publishing company and later for Edizioni del Verri.

1961

Il sasso appeso, poetry (Scheiwiller.)

I Novissimi. Poesie per gli anni '60, with Pagliarani, Sanguineti, Giuliani and Porta (Edizioni del Verri.)

Tape Mark I, poem made with an IBM computer (published in the *Almanacco Bompiani 1961*.)

Exhibits his *Cronogrammi* in the Ferro di Cavallo bookshop in Rome.

Begins working at the Feltrinelli publishing company.

1962

Un istante con figure, phonetic poem created at the RAI phonology laboratory in Milan.

Poesia virtuale, with Umberto Eco (in *Opera aperta*.)

Text for Giordano Bruno for *Novae de Infinito Laudes, cantata per soli, coro e orchestra*, by Hans Werner Henze.

Mutazioni, ballet, music by Vittorio Fellegara, directed by Achille Perilli (Teatro alla Scala, Milan.)

1963

Come si agisce, poetry 1955–1963 (Feltrinelli.)

Imitazione, theatrical performance (Sala Scarlatti, Palermo.)

“Contrapunto dialettico alla mente”, text for *A floresta è joven a cheja de vida*, by Luigi Nono.

Ferro di Cavallo Award for the most experimental book of the year.

Organises the first meeting of Gruppo 63, in Palermo.

Exhibits his work at Blu gallery in Milan and at Gruppo N in Padua.

1964

Gruppo 63, literary editing of the anthology (Feltrinelli.)

Sound poem for the Milan Triennale.

Second meeting of Gruppo 63, in Reggio Emilia.

Exhibits his work at Arco d'Alibert gallery in Rome.

Is placed in charge of the headquarters of the Feltrinelli publishing company in Rome, and of the *Materiali* collection.

1965

Altri procedimenti, poetry (Scheiwiller.)

Improvvisazione, theatrical performance (Teatro Parioli, Rome.)

Third meeting of Gruppo 63, in Palermo (“Il romanzo sperimentale”).

1966

Tristano, novel (Feltrinelli.)

Il romanzo sperimentale, literary editing (Feltrinelli.)

Invocazione, theatrical performance (Teatro alla Ringhiera, Rome.)

Fourth meeting of Gruppo 63, in La Spezia.

1967

Together with Achille Perilli, organises *Grammatica Non Stop Teatro*, a 12-hour happening at the Feltrinelli bookshop in Rome.

Gruppo 63 meeting with local writers in Barcelona.

Fifth and final meeting of Gruppo 63, in Fano.

First issue of *Quindici* magazine.

1968

Ma noi facciamone un'altra, poetry (Feltrinelli)
I muri della Sorbona exhibition at La Tartaruga gallery in Rome.

1969

Participates in the *Poesia concreta* exhibition at the Deutsche Bibliothek in Rome.
Quindici magazine stops being published.
Participates in the founding of Potere Operaio.
Publishes *Compagni* magazine.

1970

Atlante, text illustrated by Claudio Parmeggiani (Scheiwiller).
Creates the collection *Franchi narratori* for the Feltrinelli publishing company.

1971

Vogliamo tutto, novel (Feltrinelli).
L'opera di Pechino, editor alongside Letizia Paolozzi (Feltrinelli.).

1972

Composes *La piedra colectiva* (written in Spanish) together with Corrado Costa in Cadaqués, published by the Exit publishing company in 1978.
Prendiamoci tutto, lecture (Feltrinelli).
Translations of *Vogliamo tutto* and *Tristano* are published in Germany and France, respectively.
Exhibits his work at the X Rome Quadriennale.
Stops working for the Feltrinelli publishing company following the death of Giangiacomo Feltrinelli.

1973

Deposizione, radio drama written for the voice of Laura Betti (RAI).
Parma 1922, radio drama (RAI).
Translation of *Vogliamo tutto* is published in France.
Participates in the far-left political movement Autonomia Operaia.
Works as a film screenplay writer.

1974

Begins writing the Signorina Richmond series of poems.
Translation of *Vogliamo tutto* published in Argentina.
Screenplay for the film *Le 5 giornate di Milano* by Dario Argento.

1975

Ballate distese, four poems in the Signorina Richmond series (Geiger).
Creation of the Ar&a publishing platform in Milan.

1976

La violenza illustrata, novel (Einaudi).
Poesie pratiche, poetry, anthology 1954–1969 (Einaudi.).
Translation of *Trittico* by Claude Simon (Einaudi.).
The Signorina Richmond poems appear monthly in *Linus* magazine.

1977

Le ballate della signorina Richmond, poems illustrated by Gianfranco Baruchello (Coop. Scrittori.).

1978

Poesia ballerina, dance piece by Valeria Magli (Teatro Arsenale, Milan).
Translation of *Le ballate distese* is published in Germany.
Political repression against the far-left causes the closure of Ar&a.

1979

Milleuna, dance piece by Valeria Magli voiced by Demetrio Stratos (Teatro Out-off, Milan).
First issue of *Alfabeta* magazine.
Is accused on 7 April, along with several leaders of Autonomia Operaia, of conspiracy, involvement in an armed gang, and participation in 19 homicides, including the assassination of Aldo Moro.
Takes refuge in Paris to escape the arrest warrant.

1980

Blackout, poetry (Feltrinelli).
Indications du jeu, dance piece by Valeria Magli (Teatro di Porta Romana, Milan).
Works as consultant for Éditions Gallimard in Paris.

1981

Settles in Puyricard, Provence, where he creates Éditions Manicle.

1982

Exhibits his work at the Cynabre gallery in Marseille, where the first performance by the Quatuor Manicle group takes place in collaboration with Jill Bennett, Liliane Giraudon and Jean-Jacques Viton.

1983

Publishes the first issue of *Change International* magazine in Paris.
Exhibits his work at the Vent du Sud gallery in Aix-en-Provence, and at the Galleria di Porta Ticinese in Milan with Corrado Costa and Franco Beltrametti.

1984

Participates in the organisation of the Rencontres Internationales de Poésie Contemporaine in Cogolin, where the premiere of *Alba*, a performance by Quatuor Manicle, takes place.

Participates in the exhibition *Les immatériaux*, by J.F. Lyotard, at the Centre Pompidou, with an experiment in electronic writing.

Exhibits his work at the Galerie du Dessin in Paris.

Is acquitted in the 7 April trial and is allowed to return to Italy.

1985

Il Rencontres Internationales de Poésie Contemporaine in Cogolin, performance of *Il pubblico della poesia* with Valeria Magli.

Leaves Provence and settles in Paris.

Consultant for the Flammarion publishing company.

1986

Ipocalisse, poetry (Scheiwiller.)

Translates *Il Muro del Pacifico* by J.F. Lyotard (Multhipla).

Exhibits his work at the XI Rome Quadriennale and at the Lara Vinci gallery in Paris.

1987

Gli invisibili, novel (Bompiani.)

Il ritorno della signorina Richmond, poetry (Becco Giallo.)

Organises the Ça+Ça sound poetry festival at the Teatro dell'Arte in Milan.

1988

Osservazioni sul volo degli uccelli, first poems 1954–1956 (Scheiwiller.)

L'orda d'oro, with Primo Moroni, on the Italian revolutionary movements between 1960 and 1980 (Sugarco, new edition by Feltrinelli, 1998.)

Film adaptation of *Gli invisibili*, directed by Pasquale Squitieri, presented at the XLV Venice Film Festival.

Translations of *Gli invisibili* are published in Germany and Spain.

Directs the *Immaginari* collection for the Sugarco publishing company.

Visit to Berlin as a guest of the DAAD.

1989

L'editore, novel (Bompiani.)

Gli invisibili gets translated into English and is featured in a BBC documentary.

Organises the Voci nell'Acqua sound poetry festival

at the Clitunno fountains, within the programme of the Spoleto Music Festival.

Solo exhibition of *Plis* at the Berlin Literaturhaus.

1990

Participates in the exhibitions *Ubi Fluxus ibi motus* (Venice Biennale) and *Roma anni '60* (Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome).

1991

Translates *Sussulti* by Beckett (Sugarco).

Alles auf einmal anthology is published in Germany.

Translations of *L'editore* and *Vogliamo tutto* are published in Greece and Portugal, respectively.

Performances of *Les cent pas* and *Le poisson ardent* with music by Esther Roth at Milanopoesia.

Enveloppes e Warfax solo exhibition at Gallery in Milan.

Exhibits his work at the Night gallery in New York, the Krygier-Landau gallery in Los Angeles, the Milan Triennale, and *Scuola d'obbligo* in Pescara.

1992

Il pubblico del labirinto, poetry (Scheiwiller.)

Translation of *Altrove* by Ernst Jandl, staged by Anna Nogara in Rome.

Translations of *Gli invisibili* and *L'editore* are published in France and Germany, respectively.

Performances of *Le poisson ardent* and *Les cent pas*, with music by Esther Roth, at the Lucerne Festival.

Solo exhibitions at the Bianca Pilat gallery in Milan (*Bateaux*), the Donguy gallery in Paris, the Il Segno gallery in Rome, and the Experientia gallery in Teramo (*Fax Poem*.)

1993

Presentation at the Teatro Valli di Reggio Emilia and the Turin Book Fair of *Machina Poesia*, which produces electronic poems automatically.

Translation of *Blackout* is published in France.

Organises the 63/93 *Trent'anni di ricerca letteraria* meeting in Reggio Emilia and the 63/93 *Trent'anni di ricerca letteraria in Europa* international meeting in Prague.

Exhibits the verbal sculpture *La Torre di Icaro* at the XLIV Venice Biennale and participates in the *Poésure et Peintrie* exhibition at the Vieille Charité museum in Marseille.

Solo exhibitions at the Bonneterie gallery in Marseille and the Euforia Costante gallery in Milan.

1994

I furiosi, novel (Bompiani.)

Salomè, theatrical performance, directed by Franco.

Brambilla (Scuola d'Arte Drammatica di Milano and Teatro della Cavallerizza in Reggio Emilia.)

Les invisibles, ballet by Françoise Coupat (Maison de la Danse in Lyon.)

First *Ricercale - Laboratorio di Nuove Scritture* meeting in Reggio Emilia.

Participates in the exhibitions *L'Espace de l'écriture* at the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Paris and *Ecrits Matière d'Artistes* in Digne, and at the Placentia Arte gallery in Piacenza.

Solo exhibition at the Archivio Nuova Scrittura in Milan.

1995

Una mattina ci siam svegliati, novel (Baldini&Castoldi.)

Estremi rimedi, poetry (Manni)

Translation of *L'editore* is published in France, of *I furiosi* in Germany, and of *I novissimi* in the United States.

Presents the *Vox* installation in Montpellier.

Begins his collaboration with Franco-German television channel ARTE.

Batti il tuo tempo, documentary about rap group Assalti Frontali for RAI.

1996

Translation of *L'editore* is published in France.

Is named a Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters of the French Republic.

Organises the VeneziaPoesia festival.

Participates in the Festival des Écritures de Caen, where he composes the visual opera *Voyage dans la vingt-cinquième heure*.

Exhibits his work at *stART* (Spoleto), *Chimériques Polymères* (Musée d'Art Moderne in Nice), and the San Pantalon gallery in Venice.

1997

First issue of *La Bestia* magazine.

Organises VeneziaPoesia II: Festival della Parola.

Becomes poetry coordinator for the UNESCO International Institute for Opera and Poetry.

Begins his collaboration with cultural channel RaiSat.

1998

Tristano, theatrical performance, directed by Franco Brambilla (Teatro della Cavallerizza in Reggio Emilia.)

SS9 Ulisse on the road, travelling show by bus on the Via Aemilia, directed by Franco Brambilla.

Participates in the organisation of both the Festival Internazionale del Rap in Verona and the Roma-Poesia festival in Rome.

Documentary about Casanova for ARTE and RAI.

1999

La grande rivolta, single volume edition of *Vogliamo tutto*, *Gli invisibili* and *L'editore* (Bompiani.)

Le avventure complete della signorina Richmond, which includes *Le ballate della signorina Richmond*, *La signorina Richmond se ne va* (unpublished), *Il ritorno della Signorina Richmond*, and *Il pubblico del labirinto* (Testo&Immagine.)

Founds Raisat Zoom, a cultural web site.

Director of *Apocalisse* at the Roma-Poesia festival.

2000

Writer for the *L'ombelico del mondo* television programme about poetry on RAI.

Participates in the Voix de la Méditerranée poetry festival in Lodève (France.)

First performances of the *Elettra a Roma* poetry opera in L'Aquila, Milan and Tokyo.

2001

Re-edition of *La violenza illustrata* followed by *Blackout* (Derive Approdi.)

Elettra, poetry opera (Luca Sossella.)

Promotes the Festival di Poesia Italiana in Tokyo and the Premio di Poesia Antonio Delfini in Modena.

Ritorno all'amore exhibition at l'Edicola Notte (Rome), Le Tribù dell'Arte (Rome) and MiArt 2001 (Milan.)

2002

Gruppo 63. L'antologia, with Alfredo Giuliani (Testo & Immagine.)

Paesaggi verbali solo exhibition at the Mazzoli gallery in Modena.

Parma 1922, una resistenza antifascista (Derive Approdi.)

2003

Tutto in una volta, 50 poesie per 50 anni (Edizioni del Leone.)

Sfinimondo, poetry (Edizioni Bibliopolis.)

Performances of *Elettra* at the Certosa di Padula, at the Castel S. Elmo in Naples, and at the RomaPoesia festival and the Parole Migranti festival in Bolzano.

Stage design for the 16th edition of the Time in Jazz festival in Berchidda, where he participates in the exhibition *A...parole*.

Creates *Zoooom - libri e visioni in rete* online magazine in collaboration with Maria Teresa Carbone.

2004

Sandokan, storia di camorra, novel (Einaudi.)

Performance based on *Sandokan* at the Auditorium

in Rome with Peppe Servillo and Fausto Mesolella (member of Avion Travel) within the programme of the RomaPoesia festival.

Millepiani, a literature and culture programme, begins on satellite television channel Cult.

Colonne verbali solo exhibition at the MACRO (Museo d'Arte Contemporanea di Roma.)

Mon coeur mis à cru e altre opere su carta solo exhibition at the Pinacoteca Comunale in Macerata.

Sfinimondo solo exhibition at the Fondazione Morra in Naples.

Geiger, i maestri della poesia visuale collective exhibition at the Hermete gallery (Turin), *Attraversare Genova, Anni '60 e '70* at the Villa Croce Museum (Genoa), *Il non gruppo Testi-immagine a Roma negli anni Sessanta* at the Biblioteca Angelica (Rome) and the Miralli gallery (Viterbo.)

2005

Translations of *Elettra* and *Gli invisibili* are published in France and Greece, respectively.

Italia politica solo exhibition at the VM21 gallery in Rome.

Arianna, poetry opera (excerpts), music by Luigi Cinque, at the Vigna San Martino of the Fondazione Morra (Naples).

2006

Con gli occhi del linguaggio, visual work 1961–2006.

Translations of *Vogliamo tutto* and *Sandokan* are published in Spain and Germany, respectively.

Performance of *Elettra* at the Machine Theatre in Berlin.

Solo exhibitions *Con gli occhi del linguaggio* at the Fondazione Mudima in Milan and at the Mascherino gallery in Rome, and *MOT* at the Splitter Art gallery in Vienna.

Obelisco Incipit for the Biblioteca Comunale de Vignola and *Allucco* bas-relief for Lala station of the Naples metro.

Group exhibitions *Pagine d'artista*, Spazio Anfossi (Milan); *La creazione della realtà*, Artandgallery (Milan); *Italy Made Art:Now*, Museum of Contemporary Art (Shanghai); *Viva*, Centro Pecci (Prato); *Dadada*, Castello Visconteo (Pavia); *Festivaletteratura di Mantova*; *Cantieri d'arte*, Lignarius (Rome).

2008

Sconnessoni (poetry.)

2009

Lo sventramento della storia (poetry.)

2010

Qualcosapertutti. Collage degli anni '60.

2011

Liberamilano (novel.)

2012

Girano voci. Tre storie (novel.)

2013

Carbonia. Eravamo tutti comunisti (novel)
Tristanoil.

2015

Contromano (poetry.)
Poesie complete. Volume primo (1954-1969.)

2017

Poesie complete. Volume II (1972-1989.)

2018

Poesie complete. Volume III (1990-1917.)

2019

La nuova violenza illustrata (novel.)
Nanni Balestrini dies in Rome.