

FONDAZIONE GIANFRANCO FEDRIGONI Istituto Europeo di Storia della Carta e delle Scienze Cartarie

PRESS RELEASE

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BIENNIAL NATIONAL PRIZE PROMOTED BY THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF PAPER AND PAPER SCIENCES

The Fondazione Gianfranco Fedrigoni, European Institute for the History of Paper and Paper Sciences, publicly announced the Biennial National Prize to be given to the Author of a Masters Degree unpublished thesis that is relevant to topics associated with papermaking including one or more of the following specific themes: paper, paper mills, fabrication and production of paper, its uses, commerce of paper, entrepreneurial, jobs, cultural heritage, archiving, paper archaeology, art of watermarks, connected to the history of paper in science and technology, to the history of the paper industry, the history of economics, the history of typography, the history of

print, bibliology, museology, historiography of paper. The competition is open to all graduates in Italy that graduated from the 1st January 2010 to 31st December 2011. The winner will be awarded a monetary prize of €5.000,00 (five thousand euro). Applications by eligible candidates should be complete and sent to Fondazione Gianfranco Fedrigoni, viale Pietro Miliani 31/33, 60044 Fabriano (AN) and must be received no later than 31st July, 2012 (for further information please visit the website www.fondazionefedrigoni.it). The examining Commission, comprising highly praised historians and didactical professors will evaluate the qualitative level of the applications and reaching a unanimous decision will proclaim the worthy winner of the prize. The Commission also has the right if in its unanimous judgement finds no worthy winner of the prize to withhold from assigning the prize. The Competition Manifest has been forwarded to all the main Universities, Libraries, Archives, Paper Museums, Italian employment offices, in the aim to reach as many





young graduates in their environment paving the way to new horizons in the field of papermaking and new proposals in the historical-technical-economical field.

The Fondazione Gianfranco Fedrigoni, a unique European Institute of its kind in Italy, was founded just over a year ago on the 8th March, 2011 at Fabriano a city in the Marche, the centuries old traditional papermaking birthplace. The Foundation set up its offices in the Historical Archive at the Cartiere Miliani Fabriano, which has been the property of Fedrigoni S.p.A. of Verona since 2002. The Foundation created by will of the Fedrigoni founder its President Alessandro Fedrigoni, who dedicated the Foundation to one of the most tenacious and qualified contemporary businessmen in the Italian paper industry field: his father Gianfranco. Under the name of Fondazione Gianfranco Fedrigoni, two very different historical realities bound by the same culture – paper – have merged: the paper mills of Fabriano, heir to a centuries-old tradition which dates back to the second half of the XIII century, and the Cartiere Fedrigoni, born in 1717 thanks to Giuseppe Fedrigoni who founded the Cartiere di San Colombano in Trambileno (Rovereto).

The Foundation 'Fondazione Gianfranco Fedrigoni' logo takes the graphical style of its initials "FGF" from the 13th century watermarks founded by the ancient Fabriano paper mills and the 'dove' is the graphic symbol of the ancient Cartiere Fedrigoni (Cartiere di San Colombano [Saint Colombano paper mills] in Trambileno – Rovereto).

The Foundation received a mandate by Fedrigoni S.p.A. to evaluate and safeguard all the cultural heritage relating to historical and archaeological materials kept within the Historical Archive at the Cartiere Miliani Fabriano. The collated materials which together form a vast library with volumes on paper history, paper sciences and techniques also general knowledge, are a testimony of the cultural and industrial heritage of Fabriano papermaking. This lesser known patrimony is well preserved within the five halls on the ground floor of the ancient Cartiere Miliani Fabriano – Fedrigoni S.p.A. This material constitutes l'Archivio d'Impresa (Archive Enterprise), declared of noteworthy historical interest on 20th July 1964 rule of D.P.R. 1409 of 30.09.1963, with the following motivation:

"it concerns the Archive Cartiera Miliani and its documents which date back to its founding by Pietro Miliani in the second half of the XVIII century. These documents give insight into technical and economic activities, serial problems relating to the workers employed in that period, relationships with representatives of the world of letters, arts and politics, and into important international commercial ties then existing".

Part of the documents, watermarks and archaeological objects of the industrial paper manufacturers, are deposited on a gratuitous loan contract in the Paper and Watermark Paper Museums of Fabriano (Ancona) and of Pioraco (Macerata).

The Fondazione Gianfranco Fedrigoni was created for the purpose of acquainting people with paper manufacturing, studies on the history of paper, on the papermaking sciences, on the history of typographical art



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and book printing, and on watermark paper and industrial archaeology.

The Foundation has all the instruments to attain the set objectives (thanks also to an international Scientific Committee comprising illustrious professors, scholars and researchers in the field of papermaking), but also through incentives and rewards it wants to attract those young and curious that are willing and committed to add new impulse to the study of this ancient and still essential instrument of communication: paper.

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