

P Odifreddi Il Matematico Impertinente

E' stata mia intenzione spiegare in queste pagine come i modelli culturali che regolano la civiltà occidentale ed il sistema economico dominante ormai a livello globale sono il risultato di un processo basato su una filosofia ed una religione false e fuorvianti: il neo platonismo ed il cristianesimo.

Henri Poincaré was one of the greatest mathematicians of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. He revolutionized the field of topology, which studies properties of geometric configurations that are unchanged by stretching or twisting. The Poincaré conjecture lies at the heart of modern geometry and topology, and even pertains to the possible shape of the universe. The conjecture states that there is only one shape possible for a finite universe in which every loop can be contracted to a single point. Poincaré's conjecture is one of the seven "millennium problems" that bring a one-million-dollar award for a solution. Grigory Perelman, a Russian mathematician, has offered a proof that is likely to win the Fields Medal, the mathematical equivalent of a Nobel prize, in August 2006. He also will almost certainly share a Clay Institute millennium award. In telling the vibrant story of The Poincaré Conjecture, Donal O'Shea makes accessible to general readers for the first time the meaning of the conjecture, and brings alive the field of mathematics and the achievements of generations of mathematicians whose work have led to Perelman's proof of this famous conjecture.

Maria Montessori fue una mujer extraordinaria, capaz de despertar el entusiasmo más acalorado y las críticas más hostiles. Incluso hoy, su pensamiento y sus descubrimientos provocan reacciones encontradas. A partir de una exhaustiva investigación en Italia y en el extranjero y apoyándose en documentos originales y privados de Maria Montessori y su familia, así como en conversaciones con quienes la conocieron íntimamente, Grazia Honegger Fresco examina los hitos de su vida: sus años de formación, que culminó convirtiéndose en una de las primeras doctoras de Italia; la triste experiencia de la maternidad oculta; las luchas feministas, que le inspiraron una nueva sensibilidad respecto a la justicia social; la dedicación a los niños y niñas con menos recursos, y su revolucionaria idea pedagógica, basada en la promoción de las habilidades y la libertad desde la niñez hasta la adolescencia.

This book discusses globalization and its impact on human health. The population of the world grew from 1 billion in 1800 to 7 billion in 2012, and over the past 50 years the mean temperature has risen faster than ever before. Both factors continue to rise, as well as health inequalities. Our environment is changing rapidly, with tremendous consequences for our health. These changes produce complex and constantly varying interactions between the biosphere, economy, climate and human health, forcing us to approach future global health trends from a new perspective. Preventive actions to improve health, especially in low-income countries, are essential if our future is going to be a sustainable one. After a period of undeniable improvement in the health of the world's population, this improvement is likely to slow down and we will experience— at least locally – crises of the same magnitude as have been observed in financial markets since 2009. There is instability in health systems, which will worsen if preventive and buffering mechanisms do not take on a central role. We cannot exclude the possibility that the allied forces of poverty, social inequalities, climate change, industrial food and lack of governance will lead to a deterioration in the health of large sectors of the population. In low-income countries, while many of the traditional causes of death (infectious diseases) are still highly prevalent, other threats typical of affluent societies (obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases) are increasing. Africa is not only affected by malaria, TB and HIV, but also by skyrocketing rates of cancer. The book argues that the current situation requires effective and coordinated multinational interventions guided by the principle of health as a common good. An entirely competition-driven economy cannot – by its very nature – address global challenges that require full international cooperation. A communal global

leadership is called for. Paolo Vineis is Chair of Environmental Epidemiology at Imperial College. His current research activities focus on examining biomarkers of disease risk as well as studying the effects of climate change on non-communicable diseases. "From morality to molecules, environment to equity, climate change to cancer, and politics to pathology, this is a wonderful tour of global health – consistently presented in a clear, readable format. Really, an important contribution." Professor Sir Michael Marmot Director, Institute of Health Equity University College London Author of "The Health Gap" "This book is a salutary and soundly argued reminder that the 'common good' is not simply what remains after individuals and groups have appropriated the majority of societal resources: it is in fact the foundation on which any society rests and without which it collapses." Rodolfo Saracci, International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon, France

Una fiducia cieca nel potere della tecnica. Il canto del cigno di un Occidente che non sa più riconoscersi. Dopo aver interrogato l'anima dell'Occidente disvelando la radice nichilistica del nostro vivere nell'Identità della follia, prima parte delle Lezioni tenute all'Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia nell'anno accademico 2000-2001, Emanuele Severino riflette nel suo nuovo libro sul senso del destino, sull'eterno apparire dell'esser sé dell'essente, mostrando l'evoluzione dell'Occidente come il risultato del processo del divenir altro. Un meccanismo profondamente interiorizzato, che ha spinto la civiltà postindustriale a vedere nelle conquiste della tecnica il solo vero motore della propria esistenza. Ma quale rischio comporta questo credo assoluto? Qual è la posta in gioco in questo azzardo? Pagina dopo pagina, l'autore ci conduce nel labirinto dell'identità e dell'apparire, che vede il suo centro nel rapporto con la "follia", la persuasione che qualcosa sia altro da sé, isolato da sé. Per scoprire infine che la negazione del destino può manifestarsi solo se appare la sua originaria negazione, cioè l'orizzonte degli orizzonti che è il destino della verità.

The author gives his contribution to the solution of important problems related to the setting of an organization theory of complex systems and shows the applications resulting from it in important fields of knowledge, such as biological, the psychological and sociological. He shows how traditional concepts of science are upset. In particular, certain results of Clausius in thermodynamics and of Boltzmann in statistical physics, the formulation of the problem of the order formation in isolated systems, the theory of the galaxies formation, certain aspects of the theory of evolution, the organization of the immune system, then important aspects of psychic and social systems.

The courses given at the 1st C.I.M.E. Summer School of 1988 dealt with the main areas on the borderline between applied logic and theoretical computer science. These courses are recorded here in five expository papers: S. Homer: The Isomorphism Conjecture and its Generalization.- A. Nerode: Some Lectures on Intuitionistic Logic.- R.A. Platek: Making Computers Safe for the World. An Introduction to Proofs of Programs. Part I. - G.E. Sacks: Prolog Programming.- A. Scedrov: A Guide to Polymorphic Types.

Esistono molti sistemi complessi attorno a noi. Una galassia è un sistema complesso. Anche un tornado è complesso. Ma i sistemi complessi più interessanti sono quelli adattativi. Si tratta di sistemi in grado di acquisire e utilizzare a loro vantaggio i flussi di informazioni da cui sono costantemente investiti. Ne isolano le regolarità per costruire modelli di comportamento utili in seno al loro ambiente. Sono sistemi complessi adattativi gli organismi biologici, i cervelli e le reti neurali artificiali. Lo sono anche i formicai, gli alveari, i termitai, le organizzazioni e le società umane, i mercati finanziari. Quest'opera si occupa

della complessità da cui traggono origine la vita e l'intelligenza; senza trascurare i tentativi dell'uomo di imitare o simulare artificialmente comportamenti intelligenti. L'Intelligenza Artificiale ha dato e sta dando importanti contributi al progresso scientifico, tecnologico ed economico. L'autore sottolinea sia i pregi di questa disciplina sia i suoi limiti nel tentativo di costruire una mente senza corpo. Corpo, ambiente ed evoluzione sono infatti elementi essenziali per l'intelligenza naturale.

Der Atheismus erlebte in den letzten Jahren eine Renaissance. Durch verschiedene Publikationen wurde der Atheismus in der Öffentlichkeit und in den Wissenschaften wieder zum Thema. Religiöser Glaube sei mit einem wissenschaftlichen Weltbild nicht vereinbar, so viele Atheisten. Diese Bewegung fasst man unter dem Namen „Neuer Atheismus“ zusammen. Aber ist tatsächlich etwas neu am „neuen Atheismus“? Gibt es in den modernen Naturwissenschaften noch einen Platz für Gott? Können Argumente der neuen Atheisten überzeugend zeigen, dass es unvernünftig und unwissenschaftlich ist, an die Existenz eines Gottes zu glauben? Dies sind nur einige Beispielfragen, die die Autoren dieses Bandes versuchen werden zu beantworten. Die Autoren kommen aus unterschiedlichsten Disziplinen: Aus der Physik, der Biologie, der Mathematik, der Philosophie und der Theologie.

Il matematico impertinentell matematico impenitenteThe Mathematical CenturyThe 30 Greatest Problems of the Last 100 YearsPrinceton University Press

An exploration of current theories in quantum mechanics considers the feasibility of teleportation, sharing Einstein's entanglement studies, the discoveries from new experiments, and the implications of entanglement capabilities. Reprint.

Eine gesellschafts- und kirchenbezogene Theologie ist ohne Religionskritik nicht möglich. Dieser Band thematisiert die Ansätze theologischer Religionskritik bis zur Gegenwart. Wie verhält sie sich beispielsweise zur Kirchen-, Ideologie-, Sexismus- oder Gewaltkritik? Dabei zeigt sich, dass gerade in einer ernsthaften Selbstkritik ein Potential zur Begegnung mit anderen Disziplinen liegt. Mit Beiträgen von Margit Ernst-Habib, Alexandra Grund, Martin Hailer, Jens Heckmann, Marco Hofheinz, Hans P. Lichtenberger, Raphaela Meyer zu Hörste-Bührer, Georg Plasger, Wolfgang Schoberth, Michael Weinrich, Ralf K. Wüstenberg und Matthias Zeindler.

The aim of the book is to encourage an in-depth discussion of problems of fundamental importance that are common to the two cultures, but that are traditionally seen from different perspectives. The forum will bring together scientists, philosophers, humanists, musicians with the aim of fostering comprehension of problems that have traditionally troubled humankind, and establish more fertile grounds for the communication between the two cultures. The themes of the contributions are the followings: the concept of time, infinity, the concept and meaning of nothingness, numbers, intelligence and the human mind, basic mechanisms in the production of thought and of artistic creation, the relationship between artistic and scientific creativity.

Il libro espone alcuni risultati importanti nell'ambito della organizzazione dei sistemi complessi. Le applicazioni che cominciano a delinearasi nei campi piA' diversi, biologia, psicologia,

sociologia, ecc. sono straordinarie. E' una lettura affascinante che non puo essere ignorata da chi e un cultore di qusti problemi, ma anche chi e solo un uomo di cultura, pur saltando alcuni capitoli troppo specialistici, trovera modo di ampliare la sua visione del mondo.

The first English translation of Novalis's unfinished notes for a universal science, *Das Allgemeine Brouillon*.

1988 marked the first centenary of Recursion Theory, since Dedekind's 1888 paper on the nature of number. Now available in paperback, this book is both a comprehensive reference for the subject and a textbook starting from first principles. Among the subjects covered are: various equivalent approaches to effective computability and their relations with computers and programming languages; a discussion of Church's thesis; a modern solution to Post's problem; global properties of Turing degrees; and a complete algebraic characterization of many-one degrees. Included are a number of applications to logic (in particular Gödel's theorems) and to computer science, for which Recursion Theory provides the theoretical foundation.

English Summary: It is well known that the commedia dell'arte troupes of the 16th and 17th centuries improvised their stage performances. Nevertheless, a special form of text serving to plan the individual shows did emerge from the productions of this first modern professional theatre. The present volume contains one of the oldest collections of such handwritten texts, the so-called *Scenari piu scelti d'istrioni*, now being published for the first time in their entirety. The manuscript, preserved in the Corsini Library in Rome, is unique in that each of its one hundred scenarios is illustrated by a watercolor drawing. All of the drawings also appear here for the first time, reproduced in colour. Each scenario is introduced by a commentary on the narrative themes and the theatre-historical background. Among other things, intertextual references to classical and modern comedy, to novels and fairy tales, and to other literary genres are discussed. With this carefully edited Italian text, crucial material is finally being made available to international researchers, while the translation of the scenarios offers German-speaking readers their first direct glimpse into the world of the commedia all'improvviso. The introduction casts light on the development of the scenarios in terms of theatre history, also examining the contrast between an improvised play and written text. The publication is supplemented by explanatory notes on the illustrations and the language of the scenarios, as well as an Italian glossary. German Description: Die Commedia dell'arte-Truppen des 16. und 17. Jahrhunderts haben ihre Theateraufführungen bekanntlich improvisiert. Nichtsdestotrotz ist aus der Praxis dieses ersten modernen Berufstheaters eine besondere Textsorte hervorgegangen, die der Planung des improvisierten Spiels diene. Mit den sogenannten *Scenari piu scelti d'istrioni* wird hiermit eine der ältesten Sammlungen handschriftlicher Spieltexte erstmals vollständig publiziert. Einhundert Szenarien enthält der in der Romer Sammlung Corsiniana aufbewahrte Kodex, dessen Einzigartigkeit in der Illustration durch einhundert kolorierte Federzeichnungen liegt, die ebenfalls erstmals vollständig in Farbe abgebildet sind. Kommentare erläutern motiv- und theatergeschichtliche Besonderheiten einzelner Szenarien und zeigen intertextuelle Bezüge zur antiken und modernen Komödie auf, aber auch zu Novellen und Märchen sowie zu anderen literarischen Genres. Der sorgfältig edierte italienische Text macht der internationalen Forschung endlich ein zentrales Korpus zugänglich. Durch die Übersetzung der Szenarien wird einem deutschsprachigen Lesepublikum erstmals ein so direkter Einblick die Welt der Commedia all'improvviso ermöglicht. Die Einleitung skizziert das theaterhistorische Umfeld der Entstehung dieser besonderen Textsorte, womit auch das Spannungsfeld von Spiel und Text zur Diskussion steht. Kommentare zu den Illustrationen und zur Sprache der Szenarien sowie ein italienisches Glossar ergänzen die Publikatio

The Star and the Whole: Gian-Carlo Rota on Mathematics and Phenomenology, authored by Fabrizio Palombi, is the first book to study Rota's philosophical reflection. Rota (1932–1999) was a leading figure in contemporary mathematics and an outstanding philosopher, inspired by

phenomenology, who made fundamental contributions to combinatorial analysis, and trained several generations of mathematicians in his long career at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The first chapter of the book reconstructs Rota's cultural biography and examines his philosophical style, his criticisms of analytical philosophy, and his reflection on Heidegger's thought. The second chapter presents a general picture of Rota's re-elaboration of phenomenology examined in the light of the Husserlian notion of *Fundierung*. This chapter also illustrates how the star-shape becomes a powerful instrument for understanding the properties of Husserl's mereology and the critique of objectivism. The third chapter is a theoretical reflection on the nature of mathematical entities, and the fourth examines the complex relation of mathematical research with technological applicability and scientific progress. The foreword of the text is written by Robert Sokolowski.

From a bestselling Italian author comes a sharply observed new mystery set in the seedy underworld of 1970s Milan Giorgio Faletti's first thriller, *I Kill*, took Europe by storm, selling over five million copies. The *Corriere della Sera*, Italy's leading newspaper, crowned him "the greatest Italian writer." In 2010, with the explosive publication of *A Pimp's Notes*, Faletti won international celebrity as a writer of world-class, tightly wound, psychologically nuanced thrillers. It's 1978. Italy has just been shocked by the kidnapping of the politician Aldo Moro by the left-leaning terrorist group the Red Brigades. In Milan, the upper class continues to amuse itself in luxury restaurants, underground clubs, and cabarets. This is Bravo's milieu. Enigmatic and cynical, Bravo makes his living catering to the tastes, fantasies, and fetishes of the wealthy and depraved. When the mysterious Carla enters his life, what begins as a clandestine romance quickly becomes a nightmare that will transform Bravo into a man wanted by the police, by organized crime, and even by the Red Brigades. As the web around him tightens, Bravo will be forced to confront the violence of the times in which he lives as well as his own connections to the political and criminal networks that control contemporary Italy.

This multifaceted collection of essays, reminiscences, and professional papers combine to create an exceptional tribute to the unusual, enigmatic, and ultimately fascinating personality of Georg Kreisel. An eminently influential logician and mathematical philosopher, Kreisel is revealed as much more in this entertaining juxtaposition of viewpoints from famous contributors like Verena Huber-Dyson, Sol Feferman, and Francis Crick. Mathematics fans and armchair philosophers will delight in this look at Kreisel as he conveys his unique personal and intellectual influence.

"Istanbul, Istanbul turns on the tension between the confines of a prison cell and the vastness of the imagination; between the vulnerable borders of the body and the unassailable depths of the mind. This is a harrowing, riveting novel, as unforgettable as it is inescapable." —Dale Peck, author of *Visions and Revisions*
"A wrenching love poem to Istanbul told between torture sessions by four prisoners in their cell beneath the city. An ode to pain in which Dostoevsky meets *The Decameron*." —John Ralston Saul, author of *On Equilibrium*; former

president, PEN International “Istanbul is a city of a million cells, and every cell is an Istanbul unto itself.” Below the ancient streets of Istanbul, four prisoners—Demirtay the student, the doctor, Kamo the barber, and Uncle Küheylan—sit, awaiting their turn at the hands of their wardens. When they are not subject to unimaginable violence, the condemned tell one another stories about the city, shaded with love and humor, to pass the time. Quiet laughter is the prisoners’ balm, delivered through parables and riddles. Gradually, the underground narrative turns into a narrative of the above-ground. Initially centered around people, the book comes to focus on the city itself. And we discover there is as much suffering and hope in the Istanbul above ground as there is in the cells underground. Despite its apparently bleak setting, this novel—translated into seventeen languages—is about creation, compassion, and the ultimate triumph of the imagination.

L'idea per questo volume celebrativo nasce durante numerose discussioni tra i curatori. Il risultato è una raccolta di scritti di oltre 50 autori di fama internazionale, e lo scopo è quello di celebrare il 70° compleanno di dario Antiseri. Gli antichi romani chiamavano questo tipo di pubblicazione "Liber Amicorum", un libro di amici: infatti tutti i contributi sono scritti da suoi amici e colleghi e spaziano dalla filosofia della scienza all'economia, alla sociologia, alla politica e alla storia.

Piergiorgio Odifreddi has done a superb job, telling the story of twentieth-century mathematics in one short and readable volume.

Siamo sicuri che Homo sia sapiens? Siamo sicuri che le religioni abbiano un'utilità per l'umanità? Per rispondere a queste due domande l'Autore ha dovuto dedicare tredici anni di ricerca serrata attraverso la lettura di circa cinquecento libri di varie discipline. L'antropologia, la paleontologia, l'etnologia, la biologia evolutiva, la microbiologia, la genetica e tante altre discipline relative all'evoluzionismo gli hanno dato le risposte che cercava. In questa ricerca storico-antropologica l'Autore apre nuovi scenari sulla natura dell'uomo e sulle origini della religione, scenari che evidenziano le catastrofi causate dall'uomo e che ci fanno presagire un futuro incerto per la specie Homo.

Relationships fall apart, marriages fail, couples break up – it happens to us all. Time corrodes passion and the routines of daily life kill the excitement that surrounds the emotion of the first encounter. The difficulty of uniting sexual pleasure with love, which Freud considered to be the most common neurosis in any love life, has become emblematic of a truth that seems undeniable: desire is destined to die if its object is not constantly renewed, if we do not change partner, if it is closed for too long in the restrictive chamber of the same bond. And yet what happens to these bonds when one of the two partners betrays the other, when the promise fails, when there is another emotional experience cloaked in secrecy and deceit? What happens if the traitor then begs forgiveness? Are they asking to be loved again and, having declared that it is not like it used to be, now want everything to go back to how it was? Should we make fun of lovers in their attempts to make love last? Or should we try to face up to the experience of betrayal, with the offence caused by the person we love most? Should

we not perhaps attempt to praise forgiveness in love?

To save the world and our future, Sigma Force must embark on a dangerous odyssey into an ancient past whose horrors are all too present in this page-turning thriller from #1 New York Times bestselling author James Rollins that combines cutting-edge science, historical mystery, mythology, and pulse-pounding action. For eons, the city of Troy—whose legendary fall was detailed in Homer's Iliad—was believed to be myth, until archaeologists in the nineteenth century uncovered its ancient walls buried beneath the sands. If Troy was real, how much of Homer's twin tales of gods and monsters, curses and miracles—The Iliad and The Odyssey—could also be true and awaiting discovery? In the frozen tundra of Greenland, a group of modern-day researchers stumble on a shocking find: a medieval ship buried a half-mile below the ice. The ship's hold contains a collection of even older artifacts—tools of war—dating back to the Bronze Age. Inside the captain's cabin is a magnificent treasure that is as priceless as it is miraculous: a clockwork gold map imbedded with an intricate silver astrolabe. The mechanism was crafted by a group of Muslim inventors—the Ban? M?s? brothers—considered by many to be the Da Vincis of the Arab world—brilliant scientists who inspired Leonardo's own work. Once activated, the moving map traces the path of Odysseus's famous ship as it sailed away from Troy. But the route detours as the map opens to reveal a fiery river leading to a hidden realm underneath the Mediterranean Sea. It is the subterranean world of Tartarus, the Greek name for Hell. In mythology, Tartarus was where the wicked were punished and the monstrous Titans of old, imprisoned. When word of Tartarus spreads—and of the cache of miraculous weapons said to be hidden there—tensions explode in this volatile region where Turks battle Kurds, terrorists wage war, and civilians suffer untold horrors. The phantasmagoric horrors found in Homer's tales are all too real—and could be unleashed upon the world. Whoever possesses them can use their awesome power to control the future of humanity. Now, Sigma Force must go where humans fear to tread. To prevent a tyrant from igniting a global war, they must cross the very gates of Hell.

The political history of the twentieth century can be viewed as the history of democracy's struggle against its external enemies: fascism and communism. This struggle ended with the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet regime. Some people think that democracy now faces new enemies: Islamic fundamentalism, religious extremism and international terrorism and that this is the struggle that will define our times. Todorov disagrees: the biggest threat to democracy today is democracy itself. Its enemies are within: what the ancient Greeks called 'hubris'. Todorov argues that certain democratic values have been distorted and pushed to an extreme that serves the interests of dominant states and powerful individuals. In the name of 'democracy' and 'human rights', the United States and some European countries have embarked on a crusade to enlighten some foreign populations through the use of force. Yet this mission to 'help' others has led to Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo, to large-scale destruction and loss of life and to a moral crisis of growing proportions. The defence of freedom, if unlimited, can lead to the tyranny of individuals. Drawing on recent history as well as his own experience of growing up in a totalitarian regime, Todorov returns to examples borrowed from the Western canon: from a dispute between Augustine and Pelagius to the fierce debates among Enlightenment thinkers to explore the origin of these perversions of democracy. He argues compellingly that the

real democratic ideal is to be found in the delicate, ever-changing balance between competing principles, popular sovereignty, freedom and progress. When one of these elements breaks free and turns into an over-riding principle, it becomes dangerous: populism, ultra-liberalism and messianism, the inner enemies of democracy.

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