

THE CARAVAN OF TAROTS

TAROTS: HISTORY • ART • MAGIC

The exhibition *The Caravan of Tarots (Tarots: History • Art • Magic)* is edited by the Cultural Association “Le Tarot” that has edited some of the most important international exhibitions about the symbolic universe of tarots. The exhibition has the patronage of the Ministry for the Cultural and Environmental Heritage.

This exhibition, not has been projected to let people know the history of tarots through a presentation of numerous card decks, but has also been conceived introducing their production in the amplest context of religious, philosophical, anthropological and artistic history of the various centuries in which they are born and developed first in Europe and then in the whole world.

For this reason, the exhibition has been divided in the followings sections:

1. **The Celestial Harmony**, in which is explained the meaning of the birth of these cards as a game tied up to the art of the Memory connected to the diffusion of the concept of the Christian Mystical Staircase.
2. **The Allegories of Tarots**, in which the figures represented in the 22 Triumphs (term with which these cards were first defined) are analyzed by the symbolic and allegorical point of view.
3. **The Divine Hermes**, in which the figures of tarots are a little modified after the diffusion of the new platonian thought, a philosophical current that permeated the artistic and cultural world of the Renaissance.
4. **The Game of Tarots**, of which there is an accurate investigation through the centuries, from the late Middle Ages to the XX century.
5. **The Book of Thot**, the origin of the so-called Esoteric Tarot, phenomenon born in the illuminist France of the XVIII century.
6. **Tarots and Cartomancy**, in which are analyzed the eighteenth-century birth of the Tarot as tool of divination.
7. **Tarots of Contemporary Artists**, with the presentation of works by Italian artists from the Fifties of the XX century to nowadays.

For a complete understanding of the contents of the various sections and the exposing materials, please read the whole project (pdf).

Original works from XV to XX century exclusively compose the exposing material. It deals with ancient illuminated tarots, other tarot cards (hand painted, mask or printed in the various techniques used in the XIX and XX centuries). Moreover, it deals with incisions by famous authors such as Dürer, Goltzius, Picard, Mitelli, Doré. Important illustrated iconological essays of Renaissance and Baroque eras, XVIth century books; XVIIth and XVIIIth centuries books with large illustrated pages, manuscripts and ivories, ceramics and tapestries, ancient game lacquer boxes, also compose it, to end with the original works by famous contemporary Italian artists as Franco Gentilini and Renato Guttuso.

The number of the works, divided in matters:

Prints	190
Books	135
Manuscripts	7
Tarots packs	95*
Game boxes	10
Cameral posters	11
Tapestries	1
Ivories	9
Ceramics	1
Other objects	4

*Our Association is able to expose a more consistent number of tarots packs respect to those listed in the project. The conclusive choice of the number of the packs to expose will depend on the individual requests of the buyers.

Concerning the Contemporary Artists can be introduced up to 22 works for every artist indicated in the project, for a total of 440 works. Since the number is high, usually we introduce some works.

Every section and all the exposed works are described with an explanatory apparatus in the language of the Costumer. The exposure has got as well set designs of symbolic nature.

The book *Tarots: History • Art • Magic* in Italian and English, can serve as an essay - catalogue of the exposition. In the eventuality, after the buyer's request, it is possible to create a new work.

Technical requests

In consideration of the great number of the exposed works, a choice of the material can be effected strictly in relationship with the available exposition space. It will also depend by size and structure of the expositive cases.

If it could be impossible to find expositive display windows on the place to present the works to expose, we could give our 50 showcases with the following characteristics: wood structures of blue colour, plain of support in red velvet, protective closing in glass. Measures of the expositive plain: m. 1 Xs 60. Height: m. 1.

The ancient prints, that are already framed, will have to be hanged on mural chains or panels. The expositive space must possess essential safety characteristics for this kind of exposure.

On the occasion of the exposure our Association can give to the Buyer in account sale some merchandising composed by, besides the catalogue, by other books about tarots, reproduced tarots cards decks and other.