

History podcaster Marco Cappelli retraces the story of Veneto's printing tradition

GRAFICA VENETA TURNS FORTY: CELEBRATING PUBLISHING SUCCESS AND INNOVATION THE COMPANY'S HISTORY BECOMES A BOOK AND A PODCAST, FROM ITS ROOTS TO A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Fabio Franceschi, President of Grafica Veneta: «These forty years are the result of a shared journey with publishers and collaborators who believed in us when we were a small local business, and continue to do so today as a leading international book printer».

Padua, December 2nd, 2025 – Grafica Veneta is celebrating its **40th anniversary** by turning its own history into a new starting point, told in the medium it knows best: books.

Highlighting this milestone is an editorial project curated by **Marco Cappelli**, historical podcaster and author of **Storie d'Italia**. Titled “**Deep Roots are not reached by the frost: the story of the Venetian printing press**” the project includes a book and a podcast tracing the evolution of the region's typographical heritage and its role in book culture. Since its founding in **1985**, Grafica Veneta has been an integral part of this journey, contributing to the industry's growth and establishing itself as a global benchmark in book printing.

«We are celebrating forty years of history, hard work, and shared success. A milestone like this can't be reached alone, but alongside publishers and collaborators who believed in Grafica Veneta when it was a small local reality, and continue to do so today as we stand as an international book printing operator», commented **Fabio Franceschi**, President of Grafica Veneta. «For us, a book is never just an industrial product: it is culture, emotion, and freedom of thought. That is why we look to the coming years with the same curiosity we had at the beginning, ready to keep growing and marveling alongside publishers and readers, because every printed page is, once again, a new shared beginning».

The Roots of Printing and the Story of Grafica Veneta

The journey of printing in the Veneto region, from its artisanal origins to the major challenges of the modern era, is chronicled in the podcast and book “**Deep Roots are not reached by the frost: the story of the Venetian printing press**” written by **Marco Cappelli**. The author retraces the history of the printing industry in the Veneto region: from its origins with the first publisher-printer Aldo Manuzio in 16th-century Venice, to the European success of the Remondini family in 18th-century Bassano del Grappa, up to the industry's current global impact.

From a tiny linotype shop in Trebaseleghe, near Padua, Grafica Veneta has grown into one of the sector's most important players through a story of courage, passion, and vision. In 2002, following the passing of its founders, the company was fully acquired by **Fabio Franceschi**. From a small artisan business specializing in public-sector printing, he transformed the company into a dynamic and innovative force in the

publishing world. The first volume printed at a symbolic price, **Mary Crow-Dog's Lakota Woman**, marked the beginning of explosive growth, driven by constant investments in technology and people.

Within ten years, Grafica Veneta became Italy's largest book printer, rolling out millions of copies of **international bestsellers** from its presses. The company consolidated its expansion in the United States by acquiring two historic American printing houses: **Lake Book Manufacturing** (2021) and **P.A. Hutchison Company** (2024), both renowned companies with long-standing traditions in the US publishing market. Today, with an annual production exceeding **250 million copies**, Grafica Veneta stands as a prime example of how tradition and innovation can coexist and fuel one another - a forward-looking company that safeguards a typographical legacy rooted in Italian master printers like **Aldo Manuzio** and **Giovanni Antonio Remondini**. The podcast is available on Grafica Veneta's website in both Italian and English.

Publishing Successes and the Future

The company's path to success is also traced by its record-breaking print runs, a testament to its production capacity and the trust it has earned in the publishing world. Among its most successful titles are volumes from **J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series**, with **6 million copies** printed since 2014; the Italian publishing **phenomenon *Io uccido*** by **Giorgio Faletti**, with **1.5 million copies** and a production flow that peaked at 60,000 copies per week; and more recent hits like the ***A Court of Thorns and Roses*** series, which has approached **4 million copies** since 2024.

Alongside massive print runs, the ability to work in "real-time" further sets Grafica Veneta apart. Thanks to its 24/7 division, the company has produced iconic instant books: a volume dedicated to **Barack Obama** for The New York Times on the eve of his first presidential campaign; **Nelson Mandela's** final testament, printed and delivered in just a few hours following his passing; and **Michael Jackson's** biography, produced in record time immediately after his funeral.

Innovation is deeply embedded in the Group's journey. Investments in new production lines, quality control, and renewable energy have transformed the historic Trebaseleghe site into a highly eco-efficient hub, featuring over **100,000 square meters** of solar panels and a certified Carbon Neutral production process. This push toward solar power and digital transformation, including AI-driven projects, supports a long-term industrial strategy. Today, the **US market**, accounting for **67%** of the Group's revenue, serves as the primary testing ground, working in synergy with its presence in Italy and Europe. Making all this possible is a community of over **700 people** across Italy and the United States: the true engine of the company, enabling Grafica Veneta to look to the future by combining manufacturing excellence, sustainability, and technological innovation.

ABOUT GRAFICA VENETA

Founded in 1985, Grafica Veneta is one of Europe's leading operators in book printing. The company produces books for both the trade and educational sectors, and it collaborates steadily with major Italian, US, and French publishers, offering an integrated service defined by high technological and qualitative standards.

Blum. Business as a medium:

Valeria Costa | valeria.costa@blum.vision - 347 5755352

Alberto Lolliri | alberto.lolliri@blum.vision - 340 4992197