

A LIBRO APERTO

22-23-24 September 2021

Milano, Castello Sforzesco – Università Cattolica

“A libro aperto” is a deliberately innovative initiative for two reasons. It is innovative in method: an exhibition-workshop is held alongside an international conference to illustrate and document the theme of exhibitions of manuscripts, ancient and precious books and graphic material. It is also innovative in terms of content: for the first time, the concept of the book exhibition is explicitly focused on, investigating its characteristics, history and purpose.

This is the result of a successful synergy between one of Italy's most important historical libraries and a university research centre specialising in the sector; a synergy that has led to the development of a truly unique event that aims to become a point of reference on this matter. This is a highly topical issue, both because of the significant capacity to make the cultural heritage interact with the digital resources required to enhance it and make it more easily accessible, and because it fully focuses on what can be defined as the third mission of the library. In addition to “preserving” and “making available” the material, there is also the need to “show” it: the cultural heritage leaves the shelves to become visible, comprehensible, admirable for the public! This is the only way to rebuild those virtuous circuits of cultural communication and intelligent dissemination that bind libraries to today's society.

The event “A libro aperto” is jointly promoted by Archivio Storico Civico and Biblioteca Trivulziana of Milan and the European Centre of Research Book Publishing and Library (CRELEB) of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, with the partnership of the Department of Medieval, Humanistic and Renaissance Studies of Università Cattolica, Ente per il diritto allo studio universitario (EduCatt) also of Università Cattolica and Studio P. Crisostomi Beni Culturali of Rome.