

VareseNews

A book that talks about Varese Paper

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The book by **Carla Tocchetti**, *La Carta di Varese. Fascino e splendore* (Varese Paper. The charm and splendour), is published by **Macchione**.

For the first time in Italy, the volume, which contains 144 pages of history, documents and a rich iconography, takes stock of the real Varese Paper.

Four ladies, members of one of the wealthiest families in Lombardy, the **Pontis**, restarted the xylographic production of some ancient wooden prints initially recovered for the purpose of collecting.

A love of tradition and the fine arts, preserving the evidence of a fine Italian craft, and also a new appreciation of the artistic and historical heritage and its circulation internationally are the most significant elements that characterised the **production of Varese paper, for a very short period of time, from 1902 to 1939**.

This story never ceases to charm and to amaze; taking inspiration from an exhibition conceived and organised by the author at the **Baptistry in Velate**, entitled “**Varese 1902. Storie di donne, storie di doni**” (Stories of women, stories of gifts; December 2019), the volume also contains findings that are valuable from a collecting point of view.

Translated by Sara Francesca and Micol Viviani

Reviewed by Prof. Rolf Cook