AUTHOR PRESS KIT

Roberto Salimbeni

Novelist



«25 — La grande Meridiana di Cassini»

Debut novel — Montedit, 2014

I Gialli al Ragù®

Historical mysteries set in Bologna

BOLOGNA · ITALY — SEVEN NOVELS · 2014–2026

THE AUTHOR

An engineer by profession, a novelist by vocation



Roberto Salimbeni
Bologna, 1949 · lives in Sassuolo (Italy)

"History, too, is full of black holes: it is precisely those gaps I set out to explore, letting imagination hold it all together with a certain logic."

Roberto Salimbeni was born in Bologna in 1949. For over forty years he worked as an engineer and entrepreneur in energy and building efficiency: he founded engineering firms and technology start-ups, co-holds an international energy-saving patent and has been recognised for innovation.

In 2014 he gave shape to his second calling and published his first novel, "25 — La grande Meridiana di Cassini". He has not stopped since: seven novels in which a scientist's rigour meets a storyteller's flair.

Mathematical puzzles, archaeological finds, ciphers and ancient documents drive meticulously researched historical mysteries, where History — with its gaps and secrets — is woven into the life of Bologna. He lives in the hills near Modena, in Sassuolo.

AT A GLANCE

Born in	Bologna, 1949	Lives in	Sassuolo (Italy)
Debut	2014	Works	7 novels
Series	I Gialli al Ragù®	Languages	IT · FR · EN

THE SERIES

I Gialli al Ragù®

A series of historical mysteries set in Bologna — Italy's city of learning, food and red roofs. One thread runs through them all: an ancient enigma — an inscription, a cipher, a relic — that, once decoded, opens onto a present-day crime and a centuries-old secret. Documentary rigour and the pace of a thriller meet in a recognisable, serial formula.

THE RECURRING CAST

Prof. Roberto Goldoni

A philologist at the University of Ferrara: the mind who decodes.

Don Alberto

Priest of Santa Caterina: sacred-history learning and intuition.

The Via Santa Caterina gang

The youngsters led by "il Gatto": eyes, hands and daring.

Serena Goldoni

The Professor's daughter, between Bologna and the United States.

Bologna, the true protagonist

Its towers, underground canals and monuments are not a backdrop but the beating heart of the investigations.

San Petronio · Le Due Torri · La Certosa · Santa Maria della Vita · i canali sotterranei · il Pavaglione

THE NOVELS · 2014–2026

- 2014 25 — La grande Meridiana di Cassini
- 2016 De Spira Mirabilis — L'Occhio di Dio
- 2017 L'Enigma del Libro Freddo
- 2021 La Spada Misteriosa
- 2022 I 7 Delitti del Pavaglione
- 2025 Baby Blue '67
- 2026 La Tredicesima Fatica di Ercole

01

2014 · MONTEDIT
Historical mystery



The Templar cross

25 — La grande Meridiana di Cassini

Bologna, 1966. An ancient Latin document, hidden in a 17th-century book at the Civic Museum, falls into the hands of "il Gatto" and his gang. The red Templar cross that marks it draws Professor Goldoni and the boys into a mystery far bigger than they are: the church beneath San Petronio, Cassini's meridian — the longest in the world — and a contested Templar treasure. The debut novel of the series.

02

2016 · SEQUEL
Historical mystery



The golden spiral

De Spira Mirabilis — L'Occhio di Dio

The sequel to the debut. With the Templar treasure given up for lost, a cablegram signed "the Sect of Assassins" rekindles the hunt: two halves of a secret to reunite. Against the backdrop of Italy's 1968 — student revolts, upheaval, a changing nation — the kidnapping of Serena Goldoni drives the gang into an affair where Fibonacci's golden spiral becomes the key to everything.

03

2017
Mystery

L'Enigma del Libro Freddo

It all begins with a confession to Don Alberto. A murder among Bologna's high bourgeoisie — the Brizzi family — proves to be a game of chess in which every character is a piece on the board. Amid lawyers, journalists and family secrets, Professor Goldoni and Don Alberto must read the moves before the final checkmate.



Rocchetta Mattei

04

2021
Historical mystery

La Spada Misteriosa

Inspired by a true event: a medieval sword recovered from the river Witham, England, bears a blade inscription no one has ever decoded — and the British Library appeals to the world. When the director of the British Museum is found murdered, run through by that very sword, Professor Goldoni follows the riddle back to Richard the Lionheart and the legend of Excalibur.



The Franks Casket

05

2022
Mystery

I 7 Delitti del Pavaglione

Bologna, late August, a hellish heat. Seven murders shake the city, beneath the porticoes of the Pavaglione and in the shadow of the Sanctuary of Santa Maria della Vita. While police and carabinieri grope in the dark, Professor Goldoni and Don Alberto search for the thread that binds the victims — and the design of a mind that kills to a pattern.



The porticoes of Bologna

06

2025
Coming-of-age

Baby Blue '67

A departure in the author's work. Summer 1967, the Romagna coast: a shy boy from Bologna, the Via Santa Caterina gang and “the other half of the sky”. Among first crushes, sea and carefree days, a nostalgic, wry portrait of a sentimental education — “everything you ever wanted to know about women and no one ever explained”.



The gang, 1967

07

2026 · LATEST
Historical mystery



Etruscan Hercules (Certosa)

La Tredicesima Fatica di Ercole

The latest novel. From Bologna's Certosa emerge three Etruscan artefacts, among them the Melenzani bowl, engraved with the longest Etruscan inscription in northern Etruria, laid out in a spiral. Charged with translating it, Professor Goldoni — with il Gatto and Don Alberto — discovers it is no mere text but an oracle: a 2,600-year-old prophecy of the fate of ancient Felsina.

HIGHLIGHTS

A series, not a title

Seven novels, a recurring cast and a registered trademark: a ready-to-grow world.

Local and international

Rooted in Bologna, European in reach: London, the Templars, Excalibur, the Etruscans.

Researched plots

An engineer's rigour: puzzles, history and science carefully checked.

Rights available

Seeking a publisher for the *Gialli al Ragù®* series, in Italy and abroad. Publication rights (Italian and translation) and full manuscripts available on request.

CONTACT

Roberto Salimbeni

Novelist

BASED IN

Sassuolo (Modena) · Italy

PHONE

+39 348 170 7060

EMAIL

salimbeni.roberto9@gmail.com

WEB

www.salimbeniroberto.it



I Gialli al Ragù®

Thank you for your attention.