

GIACOMO SCOTTI

WARS, MEN AND DOGS

Giacomo Scotti is a writer of the Italian minority in Istria and Rijeka. He has become, since he is not, a native writer, like Nelida Milani or Laura Marchig, just to mention the names of two authors published by our publishing house. In Italy he is particularly known for his history books, some debated, others illuminating an otherwise unknown reality. Scotti has introduced Italians the hell that is GoliOtok, the island of the Kvarner transformed by Tito into a concentration camp for opponents thought to be linked, or simply suspected of being linked, to Moscow after the expulsion in 1948 of Yugoslavia from the Cominform.

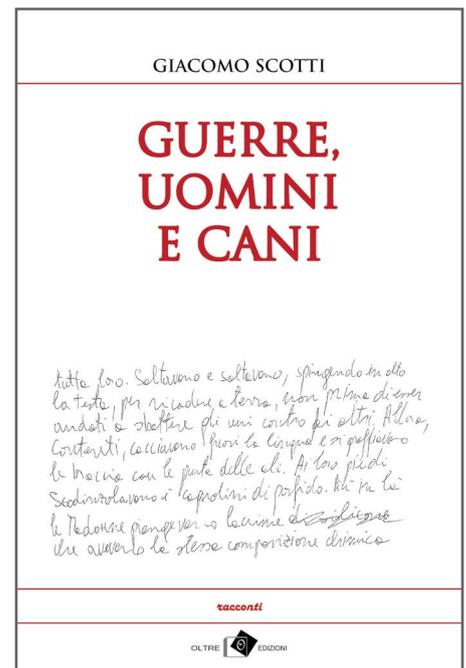
And it is also Scotti who has made known to us otherwise hidden pages or burked by the nationalistic rhetoric of the latest ethnic war that has made Yugoslavia a former state.

In this storybook we get to know another Scotti; more intimate, more tied to the memories of his personal and family life, ranging from his hometown Saviano, near Naples, to Rijeka and Istria, seen through nostalgic eyes for a time in the postwar which has made this writer a privileged witness for his professional career, always held in the name of information.

The Author

Poet, novelist, writer, fabulist, publicist, literary critic, translator from Slavic languages and journalist, **Giacomo Scotti** was born in 1928 in Saviano (Naples), which has recently been the focus of a conference organized by the University "L'Orientale" of Naples for two anniversaries: his 85th birth-

day and his 65 years of literary activity condensed into about 170 works, including many published in Trieste (the city where he moved to as a boy), to reach in 1947 the former Yugoslavia, living in Istria and Rijeka until 1982. That year he re-established his residence in Italy, first in his hometown and then in Trieste where commuted between Italy and Croatia, weaving intense cultural relations. Among his works, in addition to great poems and essays, we have to mention "Racconti di una vita" published in 2001 for LINT, Trieste, and the latest volume "Racconti fra due mondi" edited by Edit, Rijeka, in 2013 picking the best of Scotti's fiction of the last fifty years. Emerging among the several volumes of stories for the young are "Favole e leggende dell'Istria", "Favole e leggende del mar adriatico" (Santi Quaranta, Treviso) "La grotta del vento" (Erri De Luca's preface) published in Naples, and "Dalla terra al Cielo" edited by Asterios, Trieste in 2006. Among the most recent and popular works of Scotti is the autobiographical novel "Per caso e per passione" deserves to be mentioned, edited in 2012 by Lint, the same publishing house of Scotti's famous Scotti volumes: "GoliOtok", "ritorno all'Isola Calva" (expanded into four editions) and "Lager in mezzo al mare" which have revealed one of the lesser-known tragedies of the war: the one that, along with the tens of thousands of Yugoslav anti-Stalinist communist, involved several hundreds of Italians in Istria, Kvarner, in Friuli and Trieste between 1948 and 1956. Thanks to his literary production, to



the credits obtained for divulging the Italian literature in the former Yugoslavia and in other cultural fields, Scotti has been given several awards in Italy and abroad. The most recent ones include the international awards "Scritture di frontiera Umberto Saba" (Trieste, 2004), the "Calabria" in 2005 and 2013 and the "Fulvio Tomizza" of Lyon Club Trieste- Europein 2006. Scotti has received the honorary citizenship of the Comune di Monfalcone (Sigillod'oro, 2005) and the decoration "Commendatore dell'Ordine della Stella della Solidarietà della Repubblica Italiana" (2006).