

Milan, 19 May 2025

Dear Eric,

On the occasion of Open House, I had the privilege of visiting your publishing house yesterday morning and getting to know your publications. I have been wandering among books for decades now and I didn't think there was any part of me that could still be amazed by such a high standard of workmanship, an attention to detail taken to such extremes as to seem "natural", with perfectly judged illustrations and fonts and layout that take the breath away. And of course, with content intriguing enough to bring a zombie to life.

Please know that in my own small way and for as long as I can, I will be a loyal standard bearer for 5 Continents: as fanatical and biased as any newcomer. And thank you too for your "tale" of art and life, told with such grace, enthusiasm and awareness that if I had closed my eyes I would not have been able to distinguish whether the speaker was a rhapsode newly returned from distant wanderings or a shrewd frequenter of the Library of Babel: it was a tale told by an enchanter.

You must be proud of what you have achieved. You have fought the good fight and kept the faith: in passion, which is the only thing that "saves". I wish you a very long run: it is "life's athletes" like yourself who restore the zest to even the most listless soul.

Gian Luca Baio