



FACT SHEET

Depero Futurista—Depero the Futurist “The Bolted Book” A New Facsimile

WHAT A new limited-edition facsimile of Fortunato Depero's ground-breaking *Depero Futurista*—also known as *The Bolted Book*. This is the first exact copy since the book's original publication 90 years ago.

OVERVIEW In 1927, Italian Futurist artist and designer Fortunato Depero (1892–1960) created monograph of his work unlike anything that had been seen before. Called *Depero Futurista*, or “Depero the Futurist,” it is also known as *The Bolted Book*, because it is famously bound together by two large industrial aluminum bolts. Depero designed *The Bolted Book* as a kind of portable museum or calling card, a portfolio of his career to date—including paintings, sculptures, textile and architectural designs, theater and advertising work, wordplays, manifestoes, and reviews he received in many different languages. Filled with bold typographic experimentation and daring layouts, it is universally recognized as a tour de force of avant-garde book-making and acknowledged as the first modern-day artist's book.

The 248-page *Bolted Book* of 1927 was originally planned as a limited edition of 1,000 copies, though the actual total number printed is uncertain. The originals are now extremely rare and almost all are currently in institutional collections.

The 2017 facsimile has been printed in Italy, in an edition of 2,500. Two previous facsimile editions (1979 and 1987), which included some content not in the original, are now out of print.

To create a true facsimile, as faithful to the original as possible, the new one has a cover printed on a solid-core blue board with custom-separated artwork silkscreen-printed in metallic silver and flat black ink. It is bound with 16mm-shaft aluminum bolts, fastened with aluminum nuts and cotter pins fabricated to precise specifications in Italy. The book's pages are printed on five different Italian paper stocks corresponding to the pages of the 1927 book. Each of the five stocks was selected to precisely match the finish, tactile texture, and weight of the five different papers of the original edition. The 2017 edition's pages are printed on both front and back sides to reproduce the color and

visual texture of the original papers, image show-through, occasional ink offsetting, strike-through, and sporadic remnants of metal and wood letterpress-printing seen in the 1927 pages. Pages in the original that employed a particularly vibrant red ink in the artwork are reproduced in the new facsimile using a custom-formula ink was specially mixed to accurately replicate the vibrancy of the original ink—which is still bright as ever ninety years later.

The original three-panel gatefold has been reproduced at precisely the same size, and two very colorful plates reproducing paintings by Depero have been reproduced with the utmost accuracy. As in the original, they are tipped into the binding and protected with a tissue-paper page overlay. Each of the book's many photographic images was scanned in Italy to ensure clarity and total absence of moiré in the facsimile.

READER'S GUIDE The facsimile Bolted Book is accompanied by an invaluable, fully illustrated 48-page reader's guide that includes a foreword by writer and critic Steven Heller, scholarly essays, previously unpublished documents and images from the Fortunato Depero archives—some published for the first time—and an annotated guide with commentary and complete translations of selected pages.

PROJECT PARTNERS Center for Italian Modern Art (CIMA), New York; Museo di arte moderna e contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto (Mart), Italy; Designers & Books, New York

The new facsimile of The Bolted Book is the result of a collaboration between [CIMA](#), [Designers & Books](#), and the [Mart Museum of modern and contemporary art of Trento and Rovereto](#), which houses the Depero archive. The publication was made possible through a successful \$250,000 Kickstarter campaign that was launched in late 2016.

ABOUT DEPERO Italian Futurist Fortunato Depero (1892-1960) created daring typography, painting, sculpture, advertising, furnishing and clothing designs, exhibition pavilions, and sets for theater and dance, in addition to manifestos on creativity. He is perhaps best known for his innovative graphic design and his embrace of advertising as fine art. His diverse portfolio ranged from covers for publications such as Vogue, Vanity Fair, and The New Yorker, to an Erlenmeyer flask-shaped Campari Soda bottle, created in 1932.

ABOUT CIMA Founded in 2013, the public non-profit CIMA is dedicated to presenting modern and contemporary Italian art to international audiences. Through critically acclaimed exhibitions—many of them bringing work to U.S. audiences for the first time—along with a wide variety of public programs and substantial support for new scholarship awarded through its international fellowship program, CIMA situates Italian modern art in an

expansive historic and cultural context, illuminating its continuing relevance to contemporary culture and serving as an incubator of curatorial ideas for larger cultural institutions.

CIMA provides a distinctive new model for the display and viewing of art, one that brings together and serves both the public and scholars. A visit begins with a complimentary espresso, followed by an informal exhibition tour with one of the resident fellows. Visitors are welcome to linger for additional looking and conversation.

CIMA is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays for visits at set hours. Admission is \$10 (free for CIMA members and for students with valid ID). Group tours can be arranged by appointment on other days. For more information and to book a visit, the public can visit to www.italianmodernart.org.

SOCIAL
MEDIA

Facebook: [CIMANYC](https://www.facebook.com/CIMANYC)

Instagram: [@italianmodernart](https://www.instagram.com/italianmodernart)

Twitter: [@ItalianModArt](https://twitter.com/ItalianModArt)



Press Contacts: Ennis | O'Brien

Betsy Ennis: betsy@ennisobrien.com

Lucy O'Brien: lucy@ennisobrien.com