TRIESTE, CITY OF SWIFTS

Franco Sacchetti

"What is the most suitable size, if not the european and international one, for a bird that can have breakfast in Trieste, lunch in Vienna and dinner in Berlin? Swifts are the great celestial Interrail that connects our cities and makes us wake up every morning in a new country." With these words "Dove i rondoni vanno a dormire" (Where swifts go to sleep) by Italian comics artist Franco Sacchetti - the first graphic novel dedicated to swifts- comes to an end.

Trieste is a border city, a port, a crossroads of peoples and cultures, which overlooks the world from Italy. The ideal city to represent the sense of breadth that the flight of a swift communicates to us and an ideal venue for an International Swift Conference, also to seal the commitment of "Liberi di Volare" association for the protection of biodiversity.

Both the city of Trieste and the mission of "Liberi di Volare" association were among the main inspirations for the creation of "Dove i rondoni vanno a dormire". So, after a tour of over 50 presentations of the book, the Franco-Swiss publication, on the occasion of the International Swift Conference which takes place in Trieste, and coincides with the release of the second Italian edition in a new typographical guise, it is particularly full of sense to report this adventure - both imaginary and real - to its starting point; to draw a balance of a narration that over the years has expanded with all the experiences and places visited during the presentation journey, through the embrace of the swift community.

"Dove i rondoni vanno a dormire" was an attempt to tell the story of the discovery of a city starting from the interest in swifts, an attempt to make people understand how important it is to be able to link the imagination of a city and a place to its biodiversity; for the possibility of generating a greater sense of identification, attracting new tourist routes, or simply rediscovering your city from a completely different point of view.