

IMPERFECTLY BEAUTIFUL

Dad wants to replace the chair. It is a very old chair, with one leg slightly shorter than the others, and to sit up straight you have to keep both feet firmly on the floor.

"I know what every one of you looks like from behind: who sits on their knees, who keeps one foot raised, who never stops fidgeting. I even know your little farts! You will never fall when you sit on me!" shouts the chair.

Perhaps this is exactly where beauty begins: with a crooked, worn-out, slightly funny chair that holds so many other qualities within it, such as memory, affection and trust.

Beauty can be a trap if we convince ourselves that there is only one kind. One shape, one colour, one right way to be in the world. A smooth, tidy, symmetrical beauty, without cracks or surprises.

And yet, truly wonderful things are often crooked, broken, funny, strange and different from what we expected.

A drawing that goes outside the lines can contain an entire universe. A monster can be incredibly sweet. A blot can open the door to a story. A scar can hold an adventure.

For its 2026 edition, Festival dei Piccoli chooses to see beauty not as an ideal to be achieved, but as a landscape to be explored. We want to celebrate the many forms beauty can take: fragile, rebellious, asymmetrical and unfinished; forms that do not ask permission to exist; forms that teach us to welcome what is different, crooked and unexpected.

Educating children about beauty does not mean telling them what is beautiful. It means learning to recognise it.

Even in the cracks. Especially in the cracks.

ROUND TABLE

TEACHERS TAKE THE FLOOR

7th Round Table on Storytelling for Children

28 November 2026, 9:00 am–6:00 pm, Urban Center, Rovereto

The 7th edition of the Round Table is aimed at nursery and primary school teachers, lower secondary school teachers, headteachers, educators, coordinators and learning-support teachers.

A full day of professional development for the people who play a key role in bringing culture to children. Together with experts in the field, we will listen to and explore needs, requests and ideas in order to improve the cultural and educational projects offered in our city.

Booking is required and places are limited: scuolateatro@elementareteatro.com

Full programme available online

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Tickets can be purchased online at www.elementareteatro.it

The box office at the venue will open one hour before each performance at Sala Filarmonica or Teatro Zandonai, as indicated in the programme.

ELEMENTARE THEATRE SCHOOL

Take a look at this year's programme of classes on our website!

Choose from the Mini Bandus course for children aged 16–24 months and 24–36 months

Bandus course for children aged 4–6 and 7–12

L'Atleta del Cuore course for adults

Corpo Docente course for teachers

No excuses this year! scuolateatro@elementareteatro.com

FESTIVAL DEI PICCOLI 2026

4 October 2026, Sala Filarmonica

Treasure Island by Ditta Gioco Fiaba, ages 4+

11 October 2026, Sala Filarmonica

Hansel and Gretel by Teatro dell'Argine, ages 4+

25 October 2026, Sala Filarmonica

The King, All Alone by TeatroE, ages 4+

1 November 2026, Sala Filarmonica

The Bremen Town Musicians by Gli Alconi, ages 3+

8 November 2026, Sala Filarmonica

ABCD'Emotions by Dispari Teatro, ages 3+

15 November 2026, Sala Filarmonica, at 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm – two performances!

The Witch in the Woods by Elementare Teatro, ages 4+

22 November 2026, Sala Filarmonica

Lies Wanted by Armathan Teatro, ages 4+

28 November 2026, Round Table, Urban Center, 8:30 am–6:00 pm

29 November 2026, Teatro Zandonai

The Emperatouse's New Clothes by Accademia Perduta, ages 3+

6 December 2026, Sala Filarmonica

UnFairy Tale by Onda Larsen, ages 4+

13 December 2026, Teatro Zandonai

Pinocchio Illustrated by Teatro della Tosse, ages 3+

20 December 2026, Sala Filarmonica, at 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm – two performances!

The Nutcracker by Ditta Gioco Fiaba, ages 3+