

During an inventory of the extremely precious Lancisiana library of the Hospital of Santo Spirito in Saxia, Dr. Marco Fiorilla, librarian and keeper of the works of the Library, came upon an interesting manuscript: it was an original copy of the *De curtorum chirurgia per insitionem*, work of the master Gaspare Tagliacozzi, published in Venice in 1597. He mentioned it to me, and I have to admit I was startled. It was such an emotional moment that day, almost 6 years ago, that I still remember it. I had only heard about it. Fernando Ortiz Monasterio, Mexican plastic surgeon, one of the fathers of modern craniofacial surgery, had read it as a subject of his studies in his sabbatical year, which he spent partly in Bologna. My enthusiasm was contagious and Dr. Fiorilla thought how this work could be rediscovered. We tried to interest banking institutions, to find the money somewhere, we brainstormed for a few years, without reaching a solution. Every time I passed by Bologna, the conversation always fell on that topic. Then, one day, a



fortunate meeting with Editalia and the possibility of linking the project to the Operation Smile Foundation opened a path. Editalia, Publishing Society of the Gruppo Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato, soon became interested in the project and work. The idea that this operation could also support the activities of the Operation Smile Foundation added interest. The anastatic copies will be sold and part of the profits will be donated by Editalia to be used to support humanitarian activities of Operation Smile. The project, the story about the book and the work itself will be presented at the opening ceremony of the Congress of SILPS 2011 on September 23.

Domenico Scopelliti

G. TAGLIACOZZI,
De Courtorum Chirurgia per Insitionem,
Venezia 1597.
Anastatic copy, 304 pp., 14 woodlock prints,
Editalia 2011. € 120,00

To buy the book please contact:



EDITALIA
GRUPPO
ISTITUTO
POLIGRAFICO
E ZECCA
DELLO STATO

Sabrina Giacoppo
Tel +39 0685085149
s.giacoppo@editalia.it
www.editalia.it