



MASSIMO ALBERINI COLLECTION

Massimo Alberini was an accountant and his future seemed already planned. However, it all changed when he was offered a job as public relations director at Pastificio Agnesi. He then founded the first Italian Cineclub, of which he curated programs and film reviews, and which was deeply appreciated by the newspaper *Corriere della Sera*. This became the beginning of his career in the world of journalism, with him writing for *Lettura* and *Omnibus*. Later in that years, he moved to Oneglia, near Grock's home, thus being the origin of his love for circuses and his great friendship with the Swiss clown. After taking part in the war – he served in Crete and was then hostage of the Germans- he met a man who would have left a deep mark in his life: Orio Vergani, who invited him in 1953 to found *Accademia della Cucina Italiana* (Italian Cuisine Academy), of which he will be vice-president.

The world of circuses and the world of coking continued to cross their paths in his life, making him get in touch with people with whom he had great affinities. Among those, we mark Alessandro Cervellati, Enrico Bassano and Giuseppe Rivarola, who will become, together with Alberini, some of the most relevant figures in the circus society, intensely involved in the promotion, criticism and support of all the circus arts.

1950 is the year of the beginning of the collaboration with the newspaper *Corriere della Sera*, which lasted 50 years. His articles reflect his greatest passions: collecting, culinary arts (he published 356 books about cooking in his entire life) and circuses.

He was founder, together with Tristan Rémy, of “*Union des Historiens du Cirque*”, and a sublime critic of circus shows, always being a delegate of honour at Montecarlo Circus until 1997. Furthermore, he promoted the creation of various awards, from the one in honour of Grock, to the juggling one in honour of Enrico Rastrelli.

One of the most honest, cultured and wise writers of the circus world, which he was able to render incredibly accurately on the paper.

Nowadays, it is said that when people read his articles, they were reading the history of circus itself. He was definitely an elegant, and his writing was too, and passionate member of the world of travelling shows.

Massimo Alberini's Collection is made up of about 400 monographs from Italy and from abroad, programs, posters, photographs, edicts, fliers, paintings, newspaper articles, postcards (both promotional and commemorative, many of them signed),

graphics (manly from the nineteenth century) such as portraits, drawings, stamps, engravings and so on, ex-libris and various objects related to the circus.

