

## EBRAHIM NABAVI, REZA ABEDINI

IRAN. Gnômes and Giants  
Paradoxes and Misunderstanding

IRAN. Gnomi e giganti  
Paradossi e malintesi

(2009), PAGES 387

Between tradition and modern identity:  
a fascinating view on Middle-Eastern culture  
and on the Iranian question

An original and refined visual work, a lucid civil satire in which word, image and writing combine to produce a unique volume, with a great impact on international public opinion. Two distinguished voices of Iranian critical conscience, Nabavi and Abedini are the authors of works that have unveiled the contradictions, impostures and abuses of the current regime.

“– If you [Nabavi] could speak to all the Iranians, what would you say to them?  
– Put aside the pride of a past that doesn’t exist anymore, don’t cherish the dream of oil,  
put religion back in its proper place

*il Giornale*

“Iranians who rebel in the squares, Iranians who rebel through art. In the last decades,  
the Persians have tried out numerous ways of making a voice of dissent be heard  
and Ebrahim Nabavi, journalist and writer, chose satire

*Left*

“Often combining Farsi with English or French, [Abedini’s] posters radiate a graceful elegance ”

Philip B. Meggs



Ebrahim Nabavi is a well-known Iranian journalist and satirical writer who has endured prison, censorship and exile.



Reza Abedini is a ground-breaking Professor of Graphic Design and Visual Culture at the University of Tehran.

## Enemies

### First enemy

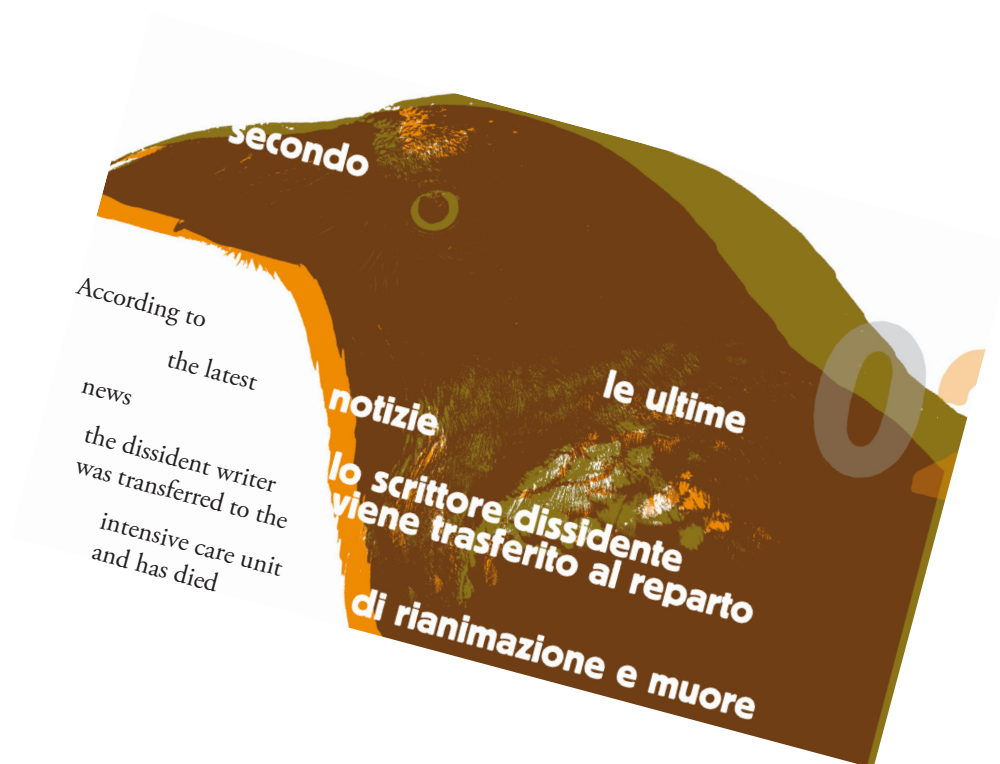
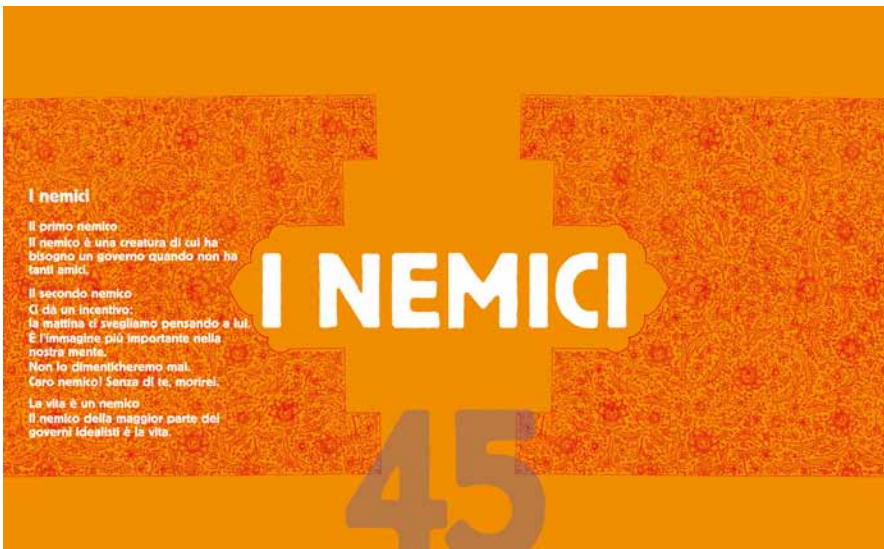
The enemy is a creature  
a government needs when it hasn't  
many friends.

### Second enemy

He gives us an incentive:  
in the morning we wake up thinking of him.  
He is the most important image  
in our mind.  
We will never forget him.  
Dear enemy! Without you, I would die.

### Life is an enemy

The enemy of most  
idealist governments is life.



## Weapons Which Are Right

### The weapon and the right

You are right: you have a weapon and I  
accept that you are right.

### A decisive conversation

His deviant opinions  
made me really angry.  
I summoned up all my  
convictions and, putting my finger on the trigger  
of my gun, I made him realize  
he was wrong. In his foul  
life he had been a real pighead;  
but I'm glad that  
in his last moments he realized  
I was right.

