

News from

Red Hen Press

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Books & Rough Business

MEMOIR BY

Tullio Pironti

Tullio Pironti was raised in central Naples, in a family of booksellers. Surviving the Allied bombing of World War II, in his teens he became a city middleweight champion, and twice competed as a finalist for the Italian national team. After quitting the ring, he began to publish privately out of a small shop, achieving international success in the early 1980s with Giuseppe Marrazzo's *Camorrista*, an investigation into Neapolitan organized crime, later made into a renowned movie starring Ben Gazzara. His press was the first Italian house to publish Raymond Carver, Don DeLillo, and Naguib Mahfuz, among others. His memoir *Books & Rough Business* received over a hundred notices across Italy, and there are plans for a film adaptation.

Books & Rough Business

Memoir by Tullio Pironti

ISBN: 978-1-59709-129-9

Binding: Tradepaper

Size: 5.5 x 8.5; Pages: 232

Price US \$20.95

Praise for *Books & Rough Business*:

Every book should be a hard uppercut. A blow struck with the intention of awakening and bringing the reader face to face with the world in all its blinding brightness and illuminating details. Tullio Pironti's autobiography *Books & Rough Business* is a reminder of what it means to be an active and uncomfortable presence in the world, what it is to be an intellectual. Pironti's is a view on Italian and international culture from the narrow streets of the belly of Naples, and his life is that of his city and his times. The street-smart kid become publisher recalls a life spent in the apparently contradictory realms of the boxing ring and the cultural salon. The names associated with Pironti and his publishing house (Fernanda Pivano, Nagib Mahfuz, Don De Lillo, Raymond Carver, and Raffaele Cutolo, to mention a few) go to show that culture is nothing if not accompanied by sweat and good footwork.

—Prof. Pasquale Verdicchio, University of California San Diego