

TAROCCHI RICERCA

Original Italian edition of non-divinatory and performative deck conceived
by Cynthia Montier from the *Research Tarot* (2019–2025).

The *Research Tarot* is an editorial, somatic & performative device
consisting of a non-divinatory tarot.

It is constituted of an evolving number of cards.

The tarot is composed of both the major and minor arcana,
which are archetypes (blades) inspired by classical divinatory tarot cards
structure (Rider Waite, Lenormand, Marseille),
embodying the symbolic power attributed to each card.

In contrast to the traditional divination cartomancy,
the *Research Tarot* draws on a genealogy of intentional
modes of expression, gestures
and socially-engaged postures that predate it.
Each figure is associated with an unfinished corpus of documents.

In the manner of a repertory, it gathers references
of documented and commented gestures, of concrete actions,
of situations derived from the public space,
or taken from a documentary or bibliographical field.

The gestures gathered relate to ritual, performance
and militantism, manifesting from the point of bodies.

Each reading engages a conversation in the perspective
of an intervention; a research, an interview,
or a performative gesture.

The cards are meant to be used as a tool
for somatic and collective ways.

The cards draw from reality, which are tested
and replaced as situations arise, in perpetual renewal.

Rather than predicting, the research tarot uses fortune-telling
as a support for intuitive, collective reading and experimentation.
It is thought of both as an object of mediation and transmission,
as a communication system allowing to act on the material world.

Italian edition
32 cards

Printed in Rome in April 2025

One of the methods of drawing and reading the tarot
is known as the cross spread.

Each drawing of the tarot is motivated by an intention
that precedes it.

The cross spread thus offers a possible reading of it.

The cards are read from left to right, top to bottom,
passing through the centre, which is the last card read.

The first card drawn is the one lying on the left [**I**],
representing resources in relation to the intention
which starts the reading:
strengths, advantages and recourses.

The second card drawn is the one lying on the right [**II**],
representing resistances in relation to the intention:
pitfalls, blockages, or defences.

The third card is at the top of the spread [**III**], and represents the
charge of potential with regards to the intention:
reserves, chances and performances.

The fourth card is situated at the bottom of the spread [**IV**].
It represents the particular commitment regarding the intention:
vectors, paths, or influences.

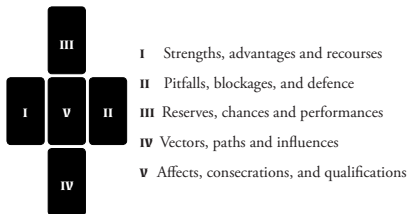
The fifth card is in the centre [**V**], at the base of the spread.
It shows affects in relation to intention:
consecrations, devotion, or qualifications.

The first two cards drawn at the end of the spread act
in a position of duality. If the forces of the mobilised arcana
are equivalent, the intention can be negotiated or constrained.

The third card at the top operates in magnetism
with the first and the second,
which allows for a more straightforward reading.

The third card leads to the fourth to specify the axis
of the committed intention.

The fifth card, known as the base, opens with a proposal.
From the global draw, the proposal should be narrated
and activated in the public space.



MONUMENTUM



An 'invasate' straddling the altar leans in to kiss the relic of San Paolo
Capella di San Paolo, Galatina (IT), 1955



TAROCCHI
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VEIL



Women textile workers weaving fabrics for their rights
Rome (IT), 26.05.1978



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RITUALIS



*The group Artemide Donne Lesbiche in rivolta unfurls their banner in procession
Rome (IT), 08.03.1979*



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M O M E N T U M



Le sciopero delle tabacchine: picket of the women in struggle
Rome (IT), 1970



TAROCCHI
RICERCA

CARMEN



*Funeral procession of women in struggle marching for Giordana Masi
Rome (IT), 17.05.1977*



TAROCCHI
RICERCA

VOTO



*Women conjuring against the amendment that overturns the law on sexual violences
Rome (IT), 05.01.1983*



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RICERCA

MONUMENTUM



*Women of the UDI (Unione Donne Italiane)
laying flowers for the victims of Via Fani
Rome (IT), 16.9.1979*



TAROCCHI
RICERCA

CARMEN



*Anna Freddi with dolls around her neck after the CISA clinic raid
and the arrest of 40 women for abortion
Rome (IT), 18.01.1975*



TAROCCHI
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PARABOLA



"Tremble, tremble, we have always existed"

*Women under a "Vivere lesbica" banner demonstrating against religious oppression
Rome (IT), 08.03.1986*



TAROCCHI
RICERCA

FATUM



*Torch-lit procession against violences on women
by the collective Riprendiamoci la notte
Rome (IT), 27.09.1976*



TAROCCHI
RICERCA

RITUALIS



*The Holy Vagina in 'processione' for the Trans Resurrection
during Trans Visibility Day
Rome (IT), 20.04.2024*



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