THE ONE YACHT & DESIGN

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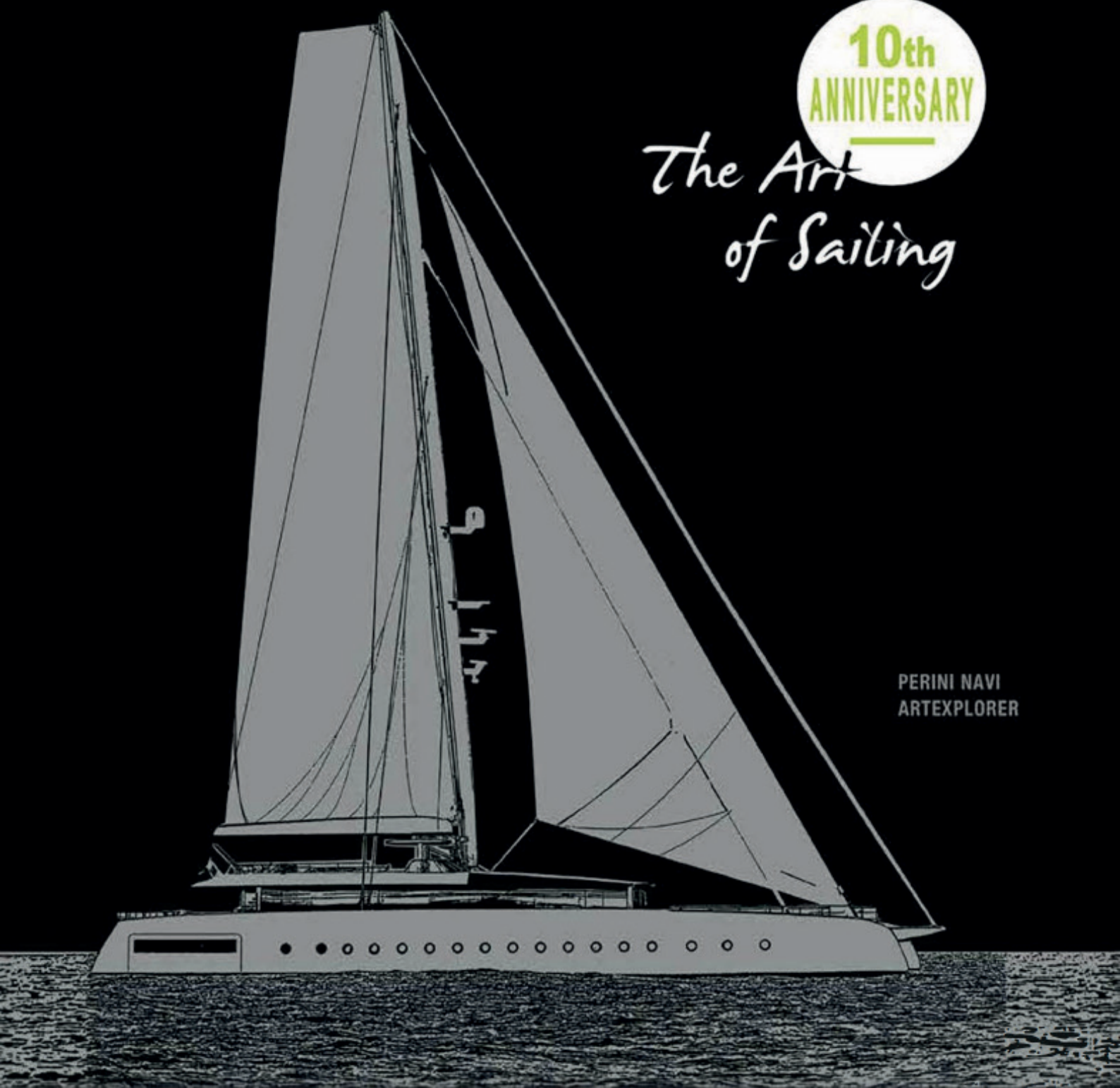
10th ANNIVERSARY

The Art of Sailing



PERINI NAVI
ARTEXPLORER

INTRODUCING THE ZERO-IMPACT OPTIMIST

The start-up Nox Oceani Innovability was founded alongside the association with the objective of not only mass-producing an eco-friendly Optimist but also exploring eco-sustainable solutions across the nautical sector. To side, Nox Oceani President Francesca de Natale Sifola Galiani (right) and Vice-President Rebecca Vespa Berglund

The beginner's boat par excellence, countless champions and sailing enthusiasts alike have experienced the Optimist, albeit in passing. Now, Nox Oceani has created an eco-sustainable version of the same ubiquitous design. "With this boat," explains Francesca de Natale, president of Nox Oceani, "we want to accustom the next generation to the concept of eco-sustainability and the importance of protecting the world we live in, and also demonstrate that it is possible to build the same boats with different materials."

Nox Oceani is an amateur sports association based in Sardinia that trains young sailors, with the aim of bringing together a passion of sailing, social commitment and respect for the environment.

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The boat itself is made of basalt fibre, a high-performance material with excellent mechanical and physical properties that is also recyclable, combined with organic resins; this cuts the use of fibreglass and the complexities of its disposal.

The boat is also lined with cork while a bio-foam, a material similar to polystyrene but without an environmental impact, is used to give the hull its structure. Even the ropes, supplied by Armare, are made using recyclable materials.

"Our Optimist," points out Francesca de Natale, "once it reaches its maximum use and has succeeded in entertaining young sailors, can be recycled and transformed into various new objects. The challenge now is for this boat to be "accepted" by the International Optimist Dinghy Association (the current class regulations of which do not allow for hulls made with these materials) and allowed to race alongside other Optimists. And, who knows, in time even replace them.