



Angelo Gilardino

Born at Vercelli, Italy, in 1941, he studied in the music schools of his native town (guitar, cello and composition). His concert career, running from 1958 to 1981, has strongly marked the evolution of the guitar as a leading instrument of the 20th century music: new compositions dedicated to him by authors from all the world, and premiered by him, number in hundreds. Since 1967, Edizioni Musicali Bèrben entrusted him with the leadership of the 20th century guitar music series which became the most important in the world, bearing Gilardino's name.

From 1981, he gave up with his concert career in order to concentrate on his work as a composer: teacher and musicologist. Since then, he composed and published the collection of sixty *Studi di virtuosità e di trascendenza*, acknowledged by John W. Duarte as "milestones of the new guitar repertory", two Sonatas, two sets of Variations (*Variazioni sulla Follia*, *Variazioni sulla Fortuna*), a Suite (*Musica per l'angelo della Melancholia*), other pieces such as *Colloquio con Andrés Segovia*, *Sonatine des fleurs et des oiseaux*, *Tríptico de las visiones*, *Catskill Pond*, *La casa del Faro*, etc.; four multi-guitaristic Concertos (*Concerto d'estate*, *Concierto de Córdoba*, premiered at Córdoba Festival in 1994, *Poema d'inverno*, *Concerto d'autunno*), and six Concertos with chamber orchestra: Concerto for guitar (*Leçons de Ténèbres*, 1996), Concerto for mandolin and guitar (*Fiori di novembre*, 1997), *Concerto Italiano* for four guitars (1998), Concerto for flute and guitar (*La casa delle ombre*, 1999), *Liederkonzert* for two guitars (2000), Concerto for Guitar and Accordion (*En las tierras altas*), plus chamber music with guitar, including two *Sonatina-Lied* respectively for bassoon and guitar and violin and guitar. His works are regularly performed in concert, recorded and featured as test pieces in competitions.

As a teacher, he was appointed from 1965 to 1981 at the Liceo Musicale "G.B. Viotti" at Vercelli and, from 1982, he is a professor at the State Conservatory "Antonio Vivaldi" at Alessandria. From 1984, he has been called to lead the post-graduate courses at the Accademia Superiore Internazionale "Lorenzo Perosi" at Biella. He has given about 200 courses, seminars and masterclasses in various European

countries, invited by universities, academies, conservatories and festivals. In 1989, the town of Lagonero has awarded him with honorary citizenship as an acknowledgement of his teaching activity for the International Guitar Festival. In 1993, the University of Granada, Spain, invited him to give a course for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Andrés Segovia's birth. In 1998, he was awarded the Marengo Prize by the Conservatory of Alessandria.

As a musicologist, he has given a powerful contribution to the guitar repertoire of the first half of the 20th century with his discoveries and publications of important works which were either unknown or considered as lost, such as the *Sonata para guitarra* by Antonio José, the *Variazioni* by Ottorino Respighi and a large corpus of guitar works written for Andrés Segovia by Spanish, French and British composers during the Twenties and the Thirties. Since 2002, he has been the general editor of *The Andrés Segovia Archive*, the series published by Edizioni Musicali Bèrben and devoted to those works. He has also reconstructed the Concerto for guitar and Orchestra of the Russian composer Boris Asafiev, published by Editions Orphee. As a consequence of these rescues of his, a new powerful addition has been gifted to the historical repertoire of the guitar in the 20th century.

In 1997, he was appointed as the artistic director of the "Andrés Segovia" Foundation of Linares, Spain, the Segovia Museum.

The Italian Guitar Congress has awarded him the prize "Golden Guitar" three times (1997, 1998, 2000), respectively for his compositions, teaching and for his musical search.

He has written two books dealing with the principles of guitar technique. He has published a handbook devoted to those composers who aim to write for guitar, but who do not play this instrument. He has also published a handbook of guitar history and a relevant number of essays and articles.

The prizes received by his pupils in the international competitions, as well as his memberships in the juries, are countless.



Pablo Neruda



Manual María Ponce



João Guimarães Rosa

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ANGELO GILARDINO (b. 1941)

SANTE TURSI, *Guitar*

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STUDIO No 40

Omaggio a João Guimarães Rosa

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