

GIORGIO BARBERI SQUAROTTI

THE LAST HEART OF NOVECENTO

LANDSCAPES FOR POETRY

This volume originates from the bottomless reservoir of research and reflection established through his work, critical to a conscious knowledge of our literary twentieth century. It contains three essays on Campana (The d'Annunzio of Campana; the Genoa of Campana; Campana: the matron and maid) and four on Saba (the selfish girl and the "old"; The woman as "animal"; Giovannino and Bertolucci; Pascoli and Saba; Ulysses and Entello: Saba). After reading it, the reader achieves a deepened understanding of the main topics and discovers the thrill of being in the middle of a complex, articulate and seductive literary landscape which is filled with references, cross references, and correspondence. Perhaps this is precisely the main reason of the validity, modernity and pleasantness of Giorgio Barberi Squarotti's literary essays: their ability to draw a large map where different points which maybe apparently distant, are in fact more or less thin, in touch with one other. This allows for the construction of an absorbing storyline (not at all marked by academic omniscience) that realizes how much the art and, therefore also the literature, is a continuous give and take of readings, metabolized models, personal facts and also, why not, of

students who surpass their teachers as well as of teachers who remain unreachable. And in this challenging path, marked almost every step by the pleasure of discovery, Giorgio Barberi Squarotti leads the reader with a safe and prudent hand.

After reading the six essays the reader, in addition to achieving an in-depth analysis of the authors, has the perception of being in the middle of a complex, articulate and attractive literary landscape full of appeals and dialogue

THE AUTHOR

Giorgio Barberi Squarotti was born in Turin in 1929. A student of Giovanni Getto, in 1952 he graduated with a thesis on the literary work of Giordano Bruno. From 1967 to 2003 he taught Italian literature at the University of Turin. He has published a number of works concerning figures and times of Italian literature: from Dante to Marino, from Petrarca to Ariosto, from Boccaccio to D'Annunzio, from Tasso to Sbarbaro, and also Montale, Pavese and other contemporaries. Alongside his works of critique which place him among the greatest of our time, he also provides excellent works

as a poet. He is scientific director of the Great Dictionary of the Italian Language UTET.

Among his many works we mention: *Invito alla lettura di Gabriele D'Annunzio*, Mursia, 1990; *La simbologia di Giovanni Pascoli*, Mucchi, 1990; *Parodia e pensiero: Giordano Bruno*, Greco e Greco, 1997; *I miti e il sacro. Poesia del Novecento*, Pellegrini, 2003; *La teoria e le interpretazioni*, Guida, 2005; *Poesia e ideologia borghese*, Liguori, 1976.

