

MICHELANGELO COCURULLO

THE BAMBOO CURTAIN

A significant review of reports from China by some of the greatest and most influential Italian intellectuals: Carlo Cassola, Franco Fortini, Alberto Arbasino, Luigi Malerba, Goffredo Parise, Vittorio Sereni, Mario Luzi, M.A Macciocchi, Giorgio Manganelli, Curzio Malaparte, Alberto Moravia, Carlo Bernari, Tiziano Terzani and many others, that provide us with an image of this great Asian country filtered through their differing sensibilities, but united through the common love of knowledge, facing the challenge which is, often, declared won by reason.

The text cannot, nor does it try to, present itself as a complete review of the travel impressions of all the Italians that have travelled to the People's Republic of China in recent times, rather it is inevitably limited to the most significant and influential speakers of the Maoist (1949-1976) and primo-reformist (1976-1989) periods. It constitutes instead a comparative discussion on the idea that the Occident had about China before the current neo-capitalist phase which began powerfully in the 90s. Alongside the similarities of views, the differences will be emphasised, or rather the dif-

fering perspectives of interpretation that can be drawn back to the particular cultural and political conceptions of each author, but also to the divergent developments in history, politics, society and economics of their countries of origin and of destination.

Historic essay on China in the Italian reportages in the second half of the 20th century. An indispensable work to know and understand China and its kaleidoscopic universe.

THE AUTHOR

Michelangelo Cocurullo was born in Sant'Agello (Naples) in 1973. As a graduate in Humanities at the University of Genoa, he collaborates with some publishing houses and training institutes. This is his first book.

