



Petrobelli, Pierluigi

(b Padua, 18 Oct 1932; d Venice, 1 March 2012).

Italian musicologist. He studied composition with Pedrollo at the Liceo Musicale of Padua and took an arts degree (1957) at the University of Rome, having completed a dissertation on Tartini under Luigi Ronga. After teaching liberal arts subjects in secondary schools for two years, he continued his music studies at Princeton University under Lockwood, Mendel and Strunk with the aid of a Fulbright Grant (MFA 1961). He also spent some time at Harvard University and the University of California, Berkeley, where in 1963 he collaborated on a thematic catalogue of the university library holdings of 18th-century instrumental music. On his return to Italy he resumed secondary school teaching (1963–4) and was appointed librarian-archivist at the Istituto Nazionale di Studi Verdiani, Parma (1964–9), becoming director in 1980. From 1968 to 1972 he was lecturer and later reader in music history at the University of Parma; in 1970 he also assumed direction of the library of the Pesaro Conservatory. He took the *libera docenza* in 1972 and was appointed lecturer in music at King's College, London (1973–6), and reader in musicology there (1977–80). He was professor of music history at the universities of Perugia (1981–3) and Rome 'La Sapienza' (1983), and Visiting Professor of Italian culture and civilization at the universities of California, Berkeley (1988) and Harvard (1996). He was on the editorial board of *Rivista Italiana di Musicologia* (1968–72), and has been a member of the Advisory Board (1973–90) and the Commission Mixte (from 1990) of the Répertoire International des Sources Musicales (RISM). He was the editor of *Studi verdiani*, which he founded in 1982, and he was a member of the Accademia Filarmonica Romana from 1994 until his death.

Petrobelli was one of the best trained of the postwar generation of Italian musicologists, and played an active part in international musicological circles (he was a member of the Programme Committee of the 1972 IMS conference in Copenhagen). One of his main interests was the life and works of Tartini: his earliest research, in his university dissertation *Contributi alla conoscenza della personalità e dell'opera di Giuseppe Tartini* (1957), was followed by a book and several articles. Other interests included Verdi (particularly his

creative processes), Venetian opera of the early 17th century, the Italian Ars Nova and 20th-century music, particularly Dallapiccola.

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