

Reminding Giuseppe (Pino) Marchesini

I met Pino rather late, about the early nineties of last century, when I was fifty and Pino two years younger. The reason we met so late lies in my being a rough theoretician, very ignorant about Strong Interactions in particle physics, in which Pino was a world expert.

As a matter of fact I became interested in Relativistic Quantum Field Theory at thirty, when I focused my studies on the hard formal aspects of Renormalization. This subject is not central to Strong Interaction Physics.

However in the late eighties Pino, who, together in particular with Marisa Bonini, was studying the construction of a non-perturbative approach to renormalization based on Wilson's Renormalization Group, pushed me for extending my formal method to Wilson's scheme.

Since Pino was organizing in Parma, together with Enrico Onofri, a National Seminar for Graduated Students, which is still active, he asked me for a short course on my results. The proceedings of my course were published, but I am still at work upon a final version.

After few years I was elected as chairman of the INFN Theory Committee in which Pino was an important member. The more urgent purpose of the Committee was the choice of a new, more rigorous, method for assigning grants. His help in this difficult choice has been essential.

However Pino had much more advanced and ambitious ideas than mine about the role of the Theory Committee. In particular he was convinced that a consistent part of the budget should have been used to finance a permanent International Center for Advanced Studies in Theoretical Physics. This shows a wide view of the panorama of our field, a view that I was missing because my activity had been mainly devoted to details, while Pino's was much more complete.

The important point is that when in 2003 Pino succeeded me as chairman of INFN Theory Committee he was entirely successful in stating an agreement between INFN and the University of Florence, which is still valid, and is centered on the foundation, in 2005, of the Galileo Galilei Institute, established in a building of the University of Florence at Arcetri. A Launching Committee chaired by Gabriele Veneziano and including among its members Pino, Giorgio Parisi and David Gross was appointed to advice about the general scientific policy. The Institute, which now has become the National Center for Advanced Studies, is highly active under the reference of the INFN Theory Committee.

Unfortunately Pino passed away three years ago, it has been an irretrievable loss, not only of a very dear Friend, but also of a Big Person.

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