



**Antonio Tabucchi**  
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# **Antonio Tabucchi**

## **A Collection of Essays**

edited by

Bruno Ferraro  
Nicole Prunster

**SPUNTI E RICERCHE**

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## Foreword

This volume provides a critical approach to Antonio Tabucchi's works by offering essays by fifteen scholars. Although no specific topic or work by Tabucchi was assigned to any of the contributors, their articles cover quite admirably the main areas of interest in Tabucchi's fiction. At the same time they provide the critical tools for an in-depth analysis of specific aspects of Tabucchi's vast literary production. The essays have been grouped into five parts in an attempt at providing an organic presentation of the themes while respecting the chronological order of the individual works discussed in each part.

Since many of Tabucchi's works are known to English readers in translation, the essays in this volume are all presented in English in response to the growing need for critical studies in this language. If, at the same time, this volume brings Tabucchi's works to the attention of readers as yet unfamiliar with them, it will have served an even more important function.

The editors extend their sincere thanks to the translators who gave their time and expertise in preparing the English version of some of the articles: Mirna Cicioni, John Gatt-Rutter, Isabel Moutinho, Walter Musolino, Antonio Pagliaro and Gerardo Papalia (all from the Division of Italian Studies, La Trobe University, Melbourne); David Fairservice (Department of Italian, Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne); Felix Siddell (Department of French and Italian, University of Melbourne).

Last – and most importantly – the editors are grateful to Antonio Tabucchi for his continuous support and collaboration and to *Spunti e Ricerche* for having welcomed this project. A warm expression of gratitude is also extended to Davide Benati who authorised the reproduction of one of his paintings for the cover.

*Bruno Ferraro and Nicole Prunster*

## Abbreviations of Titles

Italian title (with abbreviation)		English title (with abbreviation)	
<i>Donna di Porto Pim</i>	DPP	<i>The Woman of Porto Pim</i>	WPP
<i>Gli ultimi tre giorni</i> <i>di Fernando Pessoa</i>	UGFP	<i>Fernando Pessoa's Last</i> <i>Three Days</i>	
<i>I dialoghi mancati</i>	DM	<i>Missed Occasions</i>	
<i>I volatili del Beato</i> <i>Angelico</i>	VBA	<i>The Flying Creatures of</i> <i>Fra Angelico</i>	FCFA
<i>Il filo dell'orizzonte</i>	FO	<i>Vanishing Point</i>	VP
<i>Il gioco del rovescio</i>	GR	<i>Letter from Casablanca</i>	LC
<i>Il piccolo naviglio</i>	PN	<i>Little Canal</i>	
<i>L'angelo nero</i>	AN	<i>The Black Angel</i>	
<i>Notturmo indiano</i>	NI	<i>Indian Nocturne</i>	IN
<i>Piazza d'Italia</i>	PI	<i>Piazza d'Italia</i>	
<i>Piccoli equivoci</i> <i>senza importanza</i>	PESI	<i>Little Misunderstandings</i> <i>of No Importance</i>	LMNI
<i>Requiem</i>	R	<i>Requiem</i>	R
<i>Sogni di sogni</i>	Ss	<i>Dreams about Dreams</i>	
<i>Sostiene Pereira</i>	SP	<i>Pereira Declares</i>	PD
<i>Un baule pieno di gente</i>	BPG	<i>A Trunk Full of People</i>	

Note: Where no translation exists for a particular work, the Italian title has been translated for the benefit of English readers; no abbreviation is given, however, as any quotations from these works have been carried out by the editors or by the translators of the articles in which they occur.

## Notes on Contributors

**Tiziana Arvigo** is Lecturer in Italian at the University of Genoa where she graduated with a thesis on the works of Tabucchi. Besides Tabucchi, her research interests include Dante and Carlo Dossi.

**Giorgio Bertone** is Professor of Italian Philology at the University of Genoa. He has published extensively on metrics, the modern novel and, recently, a book on Italo Calvino, *Il castello della scrittura* (1994). Professor Bertone is also the author of novels, contributes regularly to a number of Italian newspapers and specialised journals, and directs the review *Indizi*; he is also the author of "Paesaggio e letteratura" in *Storia d'Italia. La Liguria* (1994).

**Manuela Bertone** is Professor of Italian at the University of Savoy (Chambéry, France); she has researched widely on twentieth-century literature and has published articles on the works of Tabucchi. She is the author of *Il romanzo come sistema. Molteplicità e differenza in C.E. Gadda* (1993) and of a book on Tomasi di Lampedusa (1995).

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**Anna Botta** is Assistant Professor of Italian at Smith College (Massachusetts); she has published articles on I. Calvino, G. Verga and E. Zolla. She has recently completed a book on I. Calvino, G. Perec and the "OULIPO".

**Flavia Brizio-Skov** is Associate Professor of Italian at the University of Tennessee (Knoxville); she has researched and published on a number of contemporary writers (Rosetta Loy, Lalla Romano, Antonio Tabucchi) and is the author of *La scrittura e la memoria: Lalla Romano* (1993).

**Remo Ceserani** is Head of the new Department of Comparative Literature at the University of Bologna. Some of his most representative publications include: *Il romanzo sui pattini* (1990); *Raccontare la letteratura* (1990); *I treni di carta* (1993). With Lidia De Federicis he was responsible for the very successful manual for the study of Italian literature, *Il materiale e l'immaginario* (1979–1995). He co-directs the journal *L'asino d'oro*.



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**Giovanni Palmieri** has specialised in history of language, philology and theory of literature at the University of Pavia. Besides numerous articles on various Italian authors, he has recently published: *Schmitz, Svevo, Zeno* (1994), an annotated edition of *La coscienza di Zeno* (1994) and *Italo Svevo. Faccio meglio di restare nell'ombra* (1995); he is also the author of *Passato e presente negli ex voto lombardi* (1995).

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**Luigi Surdich** is Professor of Italian at the University of Genoa. Besides his publication on Boccaccio, *La cornice d'amore* (1987) and his commentary on the *Filostrato* (1990), he has published extensively on the nineteenth- and twentieth-century authors De Amicis, Faldella, Gozzano, Calvino and Caproni.

**Nives Trentini** is Lecturer in Italian at the University of Vitoria (Gasteiz, Spain); she graduated from the University of Trent and is now completing at the Sorbonne (Paris V111) a doctoral thesis on the oneiric in the works of Tabucchi.

## Editors

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