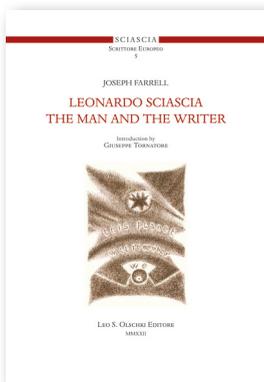


JOSEPH FARRELL

LEONARDO SCIASCIA  
THE MAN AND THE WRITER

INTRODUCTION BY GIUSEPPE TORNATORE

Restlessness of imagination and intellect in a writer can damage his standing with critics, but Sciascia's insatiable curiosity, keen intellect, detestation of injustice wherever perpetrated have made him a writer who could not be restricted to any one genre. His reputation has been enhanced by his versatility, guaranteeing his place among the great writers of the twentieth century. His focal point was his native Sicily, but his work is the product of a refined, critical spirit which is both Sicilian and cosmopolitan, which is at home in different cultures



and which acknowledges its debt to such varied authors as Pirandello, Stendhal, Kafka and Borges. His tenacious campaigning for truth and justice gives him renewed importance in an age of relativist scepticism. This new volume attempts to give due attention to the totality of his rich and varied output, to evaluate his achievement in the context of own time and also to assess his enduring legacy. It is hoped that it will extend the appeal of this important author to an English-speaking audience.

*La sua insaziabile curiosità, la tenace lotta per la verità e la giustizia e la sua versatilità garantiscono a Sciascia ha un posto tra i grandi scrittori del XX secolo. Uno spirito critico e raffinato, siciliano e cosmopolita al tempo stesso, la cui opera assume una rinnovata importanza in un'epoca di scetticismo relativista. Questo volume tenta di dare la giusta attenzione alla totalità della sua ricca e variegata produzione e di valutarne i risultati nel suo tempo nonché la duratura eredità, per estendere il fascino di questo importante autore a un pubblico di lingua inglese.*

JOSEPH FARRELL is Emeritus Professor of Italian at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. In 2005, he was given the title Cavaliere della Repubblica Italiana for his work in promoting Italian culture abroad. In his intense activity as a critic and translator, he has tackled texts by Pirandello, Sciascia, Goldoni, De Filippo, Dario Fo and others.

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