

## **Ippolito Pizzetti (1926-2007)**

He was born in Milan but lived in Rome since early childhood. He obtained a degree in Italian Literature with Natalino Sapegno, and nurtured a great passion for theatre, music, literature, cinema. Nonetheless his main interest soon focused on the world of gardens and landscape design, topics that he delved into throughout his life. He took on teaching as well as a number of professional commitments, such as designing a number of private gardens and collaborating in projects and national and international contests with some of the most renowned Italian architects of the twentieth century, including Costantino Dardi, Ludovico Quaroni, Gino Valle, Aldo Aymonino, Vittorio Gregotti, Luigi Snozzi. He also took part in countless seminars, conventions, workshops.

His viewpoints and his battle of ideas for landscape and gardens are also conveyed in his extensive journalistic activity: starting from the seventies he wrote newspaper columns and published articles and essays in various national newspapers and periodicals. His works include *The book of flowers* (1968), *Robinson in the city. Private life of a mad gardener* (1998), the *Encyclopaedia of Flowers and Gardens* (1998) and *Natural inclination. Coherent ramblings of a wayward landscape designer* (2006, new edition 2011). He was also an influential translator and curator.

In 1989 he began his collaboration with Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche, as a member of the Jury for the International Carlo Scarpa Garden Prize and, in general, closely following all landscape activities, to his final days. In 1992 he donated approximately 4,000 publications to the Foundation, including books and magazines on landscape and gardens, the environment, botanics, ethology, which now comprise the Ippolito Pizzetti Collection, available for on-site consultation at the library, in a designated room.