

-----TRIBUTE-----

CinquantEnNico

by Nicola Schittone



I am a medical specialist in dermatology (surgical and oncology), working at the Giovanni Paolo II hospital of Sciacca, a spa town in Sicily, where I live with my family: my wife and my four children. I met Ennio Morricone in the fall of 1979, during a phone interview that I did on behalf of a local radio station, for which I was leading a program dedicated to film scores. I found, to my great surprise, his phone number in the phone book of Rome!

From there on, and also because of the Sicilian origins of Maria, Morricone's wife, was born a nice and frequent correspondence on paper, then by telephone, and then later personal, which, in the course of thirty years, has cemented this sincere and affectionate friendship between our respective families.

Today I'm really happy of the esteem and affection that Ennio and Maria show me, which I reciprocate with similar feelings and endless admiration.

A few months ago, this friendship inspired the Maestro for the most beautiful gift I have received in my life, *CinquantEnNico*. It is a composition, for solo flute, dedicated to my 50th birthday. "CinquantEnNico" is a contraction of "cinquantennio" (50 years), "Ennio" and "Nico(la)".

I have already listened to the piece, performed (still imperfectly) by my niece, who is a flute player and who is continuing to study it in order to improve the interpretation. Even Ennio will try to have it performed by one of his flute players (Paolo Zampini or Monica Berni) and expects to be able to record it.



Nicola's Photo Album



