

The Committee of the **Tullio Levi-Civita Prize** unanimously decided this year to assigne it to the Professor **Giancarlo Benettin**.

It is a my great pleasure to draw the scientific path of my Collegue and friend, almost a brother, Giancarlo Benettin.

By beginning, he was graduated, in the first of seventy of the past century, in Physics at the University of Padova, under the supervision of Giovanni Jona-Lasinio, with a thesis on Statistical Physics. Those first papers, as recently Giovanni Gallavotti pointed out, are a sort of precious “must see” papers.

But the very change of life for him has been the encounter with Luigi Galgani and Antonio Giorgilli, in Milano. This triad of scientists improved radically the recent –in those years– new theory of perturbations of the hamiltonian systems, a theory which arose by Kolmogorov, Arnol’d and Moser, and then by Nekhoroshev. More, in 1980 that team, with Jean-Marie Strelcyn, realized a very revolution on the way to calculate the Lyapunov Exponents: Giancarlo B., I think, is universally known in the world precisely (initially) for these two famous paper on “Meccanica”.

In my opinion, the top of his research has been the definitive study of the Rigid Body, radically changing what up that time people did mean for “gyroscopic effect”. Pupils were arising in that matter: Francesco Fassò and Massimiliano Guzzo. Together them he gave a decisive improvement, in Celestial Mechanics, to the stability behaviour of the Lagrangian points L_4 and L_5 .

I nicely remember Arnol’d in Pisa in 1987: he told to Giancarlo that he was, nowadays, the best expert in KAM and Nekhoroshev theory.

The actual important research involves the Fermi-Pasta-Ulam problem, and also here, together with other pupils, like Antonio Ponno, he is giving very important, deep, results.

Maybe, I am forgetting many other important things around him, but surely I have to recall that he has been, for many years, a great Director of the Galileian School of Advanced Studies in Padova.

Arpino, 3 July 2019.

Franco Cardin