

Foreward

On June 14-18, 2003 about 70 high energy physicists from 20 countries met in the ancient town of Conversano, near Bari, Italy, for the second edition of QCD@Work, International Workshop on Quantum Chromodynamics. The first edition was held in Martina Franca, near Bari, in 2001.

In the Proceedings of the first edition we listed the topics of the Martina Franca Workshop, which we feel can be used to characterize the motivations of the Conversano edition as well: Low energy Physics and non perturbative QCD; Deep inelastic scattering with polarized and unpolarized beams; Jet Physics and perturbative QCD; Heavy quark and heavy hadron Physics; Quark-hadron duality; Quark gluon plasma and the Physics of relativistic heavy ion accelerators; QCD phase diagram at finite temperature and density. This list suggests the aims of QCD@Work 2003; the results of the fruitful discussions are reported in this proceeding volume.

As organizers of the event, we wish to thank the Institutions and individuals who contributed to its realization. First, MIUR, the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (under the project *Theory and Phenomenology of Elementary Particles*), and the Italian Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare. We acknowledge financial support from the Administrative Council and the Physics Department of the University of Bari. We thank the Municipality of Conversano, in particular the Major Francesco Iudice and Drs. Antonella Bellomo and Vitantonio Renna, for having allowed us to organize the sessions in the artistic environment of Castello Aragonese. One of the Paolo Finoglio's paintings collected there, illustrating the poem "La Gerusalemme Liberata" by Torquato Tasso, was chosen as the logo of the Workshop. We are grateful to Dr. Malinda Sassu for her enthusiastic support in the organization; to Dr. Anna Coats for her kind collaboration; to Dr. Carlo Mansueto and the people of Cooperativa Armida-Conversano for their valuable help. We acknowledge QuaM - Computers di Francesco del Vecchio & C for having sponsored the meeting. Finally, we warmly thank Maestro Michele Lomuto (trombone) together with Nicola Cufaro Petroni (violino) for the concert in the San Giuseppe Church.

Pietro Colangelo, Fulvia De Fazio, Rosa Anna Fini,
Eugenio Nappi, Giuseppe Nardulli