

**Andrea Vitali** (Bellano, 1956), a practicing physician, wrote his first short novel, *// procuratore*, in 1990; it earned him the Montblanc Prize for best first novel. In 1996 he won another literary prize, the Piero Chiara, for his *L'ombra di Marinetti*. But it was his 2003 novel *Una finestra vista lago*, winner of the Grinzane Cavour and Bruno Gioffrè awards in 2004, that really established Vitali as a writer. And the prizes poured in: the same year, the Dessì Prize for narrative, for *La signorina Tecla Manzi*; in 2006, the Bancarella Prize for *La figlia del Podestà*, shortlisted for the Strega as well; in 2008, the Boccaccio Prize for his entire literary output, and particularly for *La modista*, which also won the Hemingway Prize. His novel *Almeno il cappello* won the La Tore Isola d'Elba Prize and was shortlisted for both the 2009 Strega and the Campiello awards. Two years later, Vitali's *Olive comprese* won the Alda Merini International Literature Award. In 2015 he co-wrote *La ruga del cretino* with Massimo Picozzi. His novels have been translated in numerous countries.