Domenico Bartolucci (1917-) is one of the greatest polyphonists of the 20th century. His great skill in the choral language and his knowledge of Renaissance polyphony is recognized in many parts of the world. As a conductor, he has been directing one of the most famous (and probably the oldest) choir in the world – the Pope’s Sistine Chapel choir – for more than 40 years. He is indeed a son of the Roman tradition of Catholic liturgical music, a tradition that sprang from Gregorian chant and reached its climax in the works of Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina. In this talk the author will offer some parameters for the understanding of this composer. He will focus on some aspects of Bartolucci’s choral music, the origin of his musical language and his contribution to the rediscovery of modality.