

PREFACE

Vittorio Carassiti has made many important contributions to inorganic chemistry and photochemistry. He is (together with Arthur W. Adamson on the other side of the Atlantic) one of the "fathers" of Inorganic Photochemistry. He pioneered the field in the late fifties, and then actively participated to the rapid development of this discipline. His classic book *Inorganic Photochemistry* (written together with V. Balzani in 1970) represents a permanent landmark in the field. In more recent times, his research activity has been directed towards a variety of interesting applications of photochemical sciences, such as atmospheric photochemistry, bioinorganic photochemistry, photocatalysis, and polymer photochemistry.

On the occasion of Professor Carassiti's 70th birthday, an international symposium on "Perspectives in Photochemistry" was held in Ferrara, Italy (October 11-14, 1992). This symposium was a good opportunity to discuss some of the important current trends in pure and applied photochemistry and, at the same time, a chance for colleagues from various countries to show their appreciation to Vittorio Carassiti for his contributions to the field. The lectures given at the symposium are collected, in the form of articles, in this issue of *Coordination Chemistry Reviews*. The subjects of the articles are predominantly, but not only, inorganic. The broad spectrum of topics reflects the multi-disciplinary nature of photochemistry, as well as the breadth of Carassiti's scientific interests.

It has been a pleasure for us to act as guest editors of this special issue. We thank the Editor of the Journal, A. B. P. Lever, for his help and all the authors for their contribution. We have had the privilege to work with Professor Carassiti for many years, knowing him as a gentleman, a colleague, and a friend. To Vittorio, we wish many more years of productive scientific activity.

Franco Scandola
Orazio Traverso