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Preface

The 2018 edition of **QCD@Work - International Workshop on Quantum Chromodynamics - Theory and Experiment** was held in Matera, Italy, from 25 to 28 June 2018. The series started in 2001 in Martina Franca, and continued in 2003 and 2005 in Conversano, 2007 and 2010 in Martina Franca, 2012 in Lecce, 2014 in Giovinazzo, and 2016 again in Martina Franca, Italy. The aim of all the nine meetings was to bring together senior and young researchers, theorists and experimentalists, putting QCD to work in different frameworks, for a common discussion.

The topics debated during the workshop have been:

- Low energy physics and nonperturbative QCD
- Advances in perturbative QCD
- Heavy quarks
- QCD in extreme conditions of temperature and density
- Holographic methods for strong interactions.

About 80 researchers (with a large component of young scientists) lively participated in the workshop, that comprised oral and poster contributions. This volume registers the outcome of the meeting.

As organizers of the event, we wish to thank the institutions and individuals who have contributed to its realization. We acknowledge the financial support of Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN), Mathematics and Physics Department "Ennio De Giorgi" of Salento University in Lecce, Politecnico di Bari, Commissioni Scientifiche Nazionali INFN III and IV, Theory group of INFN-Sezione di Bari. We are grateful to Mariarosa Buonfiglio, INFN Sezione di Bari, and Loredana Napolitano, Physics Department "Michelangelo Merlin" of Bari University and Polytechnic, for advice in the administrative management, and to Fabio Colamaria, Floriana Giannuzzi, Francesco Loparco and Stefano Nicotri for support in the scientific organization.

We are grateful to Soprintendenza Archeologia, Belle Arti e Paesaggio della Basilicata, in particular to Architetto Biagio Lafratta, for the availability, as prestigious conference venue, of Chiesa del Cristo Flagellato in the ancient Ospedale di San Rocco in Matera, town belonging to the Unesco World Heritage and elected as 2019 European Capital of Culture. We also thank Donato Loparco and LAB43 - Officina delle idee, for the on site technological organization.

Finally, we are grateful to maestro Michele Volpicella, Bari, for having allowed the use of one of his paintings as logo of QCD@Work 2018.

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