

## **The Certosa di Pavia (Pavia Charterhouse)**

### **DIRECTION**

Carlo Ludovico Ragghianti

### **TEXT**

Carlo Ludovico Ragghianti

### **MUSIC**

Daniele Paris

### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Carlo Ventimiglia

### **YEAR**

1961

### **PRODUCTION**

Romor Film, Milano (for Direzione Pubblicità e Stampa Olivetti).

### **FORMAT**

35 mm, 16 mm

### **LANGUAGE**

Italian, English

### **DURATION**

16'30''

### **FILM**

Colour

### **SERIES**

seleARTE Cinematografica, Critofilm 14

### **DESCRIPTION**

Gian Galeazzo Visconti commissioned the Certosa di Pavia in 1396 as a family mausoleum. The construction of the building lasted for over a century and half, thus following the evolution of the Lombard artistic taste, from the transition from the late Gothic to the architectural innovations of the Renaissance. This was precisely the aspect that Ragghianti wanted to highlight in this critofilm. The Certosa is filmed at the beginning through wide external overviews to point out its location in the surrounding countryside, and then the various buildings of the complex are framed following the chronological order of construction: the monastery, the cloisters and the church with its rich facade. Ragghianti focuses on some architectural elements of particular importance: the portal by Mantegazza, the Grand Cloister, the terracotta decorations of the arcades, the late Gothic capitals, the lantern of the cloister, the portal sculpted by Giovanni Antonio Amadeo, the fifteenth century choir, the frescoes by Bergognone. Inside the charterhouse, Ragghianti changes his observation point, highlighting from above the similarity of the portal with the Milan cathedral, from below the vertical thrust of the lines. Externally, with shots from above, Ragghianti shows the geometries of the roofs, of the spires, of the external stairs, of the arcades. He finally illustrates the Renaissance facade as a whole and in details with vertical camera movements and back towards the opening image of the sky over the Certosa.

