He was born in Milan on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1921, he attended Milan Academy of Music, where he

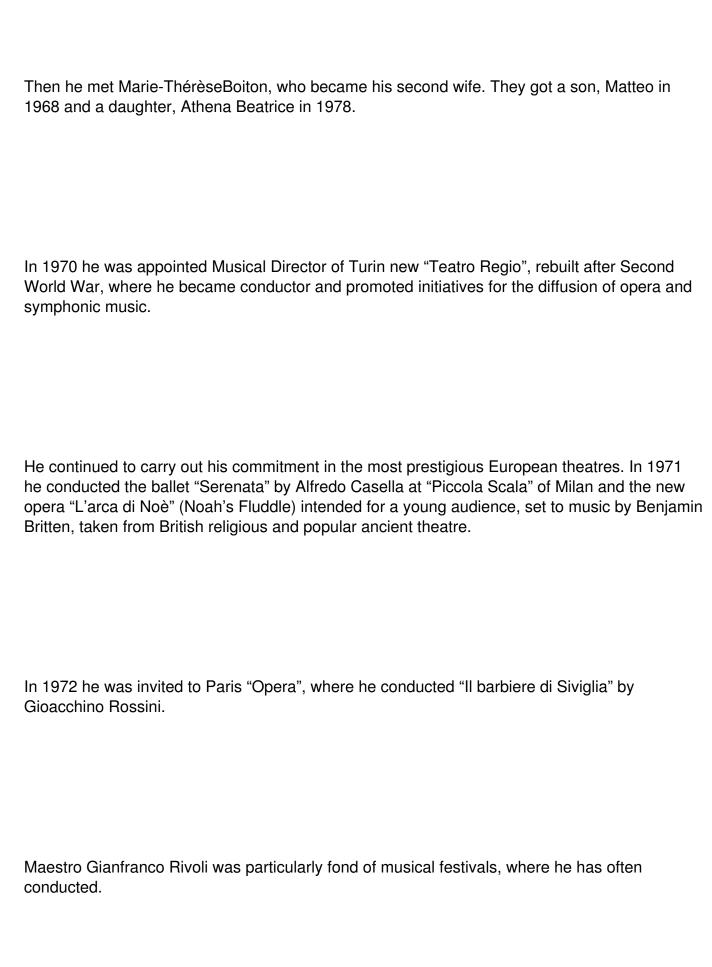
and appreciating music in an immediate and definite way.

graduated as a composer, and orchestra and choral singing conductor. He achieved his professional preparation completing piano and organ studies and acquiring the art of reading

biography
He drew his inspiration from the most prestigious conductors of the XX century, like:
- Antonino Votto, Arturo Toscanini's right-hand man;
- Ernst Ansermet, founder and conductor of Suisse Romande Orchestra from 1918 to 1967.
In 1937 Gianfranco Rivoli won Bologna National Competition for piano composition and in 1940 just before Italy went to Second World War, he became conductor of Milan University Orchestra.
In 1943 he interrupted his musical career to join up the Italian Army, where he served until 8 <sup>th</sup> S eptember 1945.
To remind this period, he composed the music for the war film "I Trecento della Settima", that was adapted in 1943 by Mario Corsi, Alessandro De Stefani, Cesare Vico Ludovici and Mario Baffico, who was also the film director.

After the end of war, he went back to Italy, where he met Raffaella Cortellini. They got married and had two sons: Gianluca in 1946 and Gianmarco in 1948.
From 1946 on, he collaborated with "Teatro alla Scala" of Milan, where he was orchestra conductor for Ballets for some seasons until 1953.
From 1951 on, he became opera and symphony concert conductor in the most prestigious theatres of the world.
From 1957 to 1981 he conducted and recorded many musical pieces with Geneva Suisse Romande Orchestra as well as Lausanne Orchestra and Zurich Beromuenster Radio. These performances are still conserved and available in the Archives.
In 1964 he started a very important cultural activity, being appointed Artistic Permanent Director of Lisbon Gulbenkian Foundation Chamber Orchestra and its Festival. He invited the best young instrumentalists from all Europe to this orchestra and formed them. He performed many pieces with them, which are conserved in the Foundation archives.

biography			



In 1964 he directed "L'incoronazione di Poppea" by Claudio Monteverdi at Aix-en Provence prestigious Festival, he took part in for nine seasons.
At Carnegie Hall Festival he conducted "Il Pirata" by Vincenzo Bellini, at Bilbao Festival in 1977 "Andrea Chenier" by Umberto Giordano and at Bordeaux Festival "Il Turco in Italia" by Gioacchino Rossini.
Great interpreters like Placido Domingo, Pietro Cappuccilli and Alfredo Kraus worked with him.
In 1981 he directed "live" "I Pescatori di perle" by Georges Bizet with Alfredo Kraus in the main role.
Until 1987 he conducted and recorded many performances at Radio and Television in various European countries.
As well as classical performances from Italian, French and German repertoires, he conducted many first nights of operas and symphonic pieces by great contemporary composers and produced a considerable appreciated discography.

Among the most famous contemporary composers, he directed operas by Alan Berg, Benjamin Britten, Riccardo Malipiero, Giulio Viozzi, Luigi Dallapiccola, Bruno Bettinelli and Luciano Chailly, he was bound to by a deep friendship.

Gianfranco Rivoli was in his profession, the typical Italian clever, passionate conductor. His intuitive mind and impetuous temperament expressed themselves both in operas and in symphonic music.

He died on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2005 at Città di Castello, in his beloved Umbria, where he had spent the last period of his life.