

## **Eugene Dominick Genovese**

### **Doctor of Letters**

Scholars agree that Eugene Genovese is on everyone's short list of the greatest living American historians. In a series of brilliant books and essays, he has not only set the research agenda in the fields of Southern history, slavery studies, and African-American history, but has also challenged American scholars with theoretical perspectives that have greatly enlivened those fields. His first book, *The Political Economy of Slavery: Studies in the Economy and Society of the Slave South* (1965), brought a sophisticated Marxian perspective to bear on the antebellum South's society and economy and influenced a generation of historical writing. In *Roll, Jordan, Roll: The World the Slaves Made* (1974), he gave us what remains the best reading of the life and culture of enslaved African-Americans. His forthcoming book, *The Mind of the Master Class*, co-authored with Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, his wife and an eminent historian in her own right, will provide the most perceptive interpretation of the world view of the South's white, Protestant, slave-holding class.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Professor Genovese earned his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1959. He was for many years a distinguished member of the faculty of the University of Rochester, and until his recent retirement was Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence at the University Center in Georgia. His honors include the Ingersoll Foundation's Richard M. Weaver Award for Contributions to American Letters (1993); the Award for Literary Achievement from the American Academy of the Arts (1976); for *Roll, Jordan, Roll*, which was selected by the *New York Times* as one of the 10 best books of 1974, the Bancroft Prize; the Frederick G. Meltzer Award; and the Ainsley Wolfe Award. He has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Society of American Historians, the American Antiquarian Society, and the St. George Tucker Society.