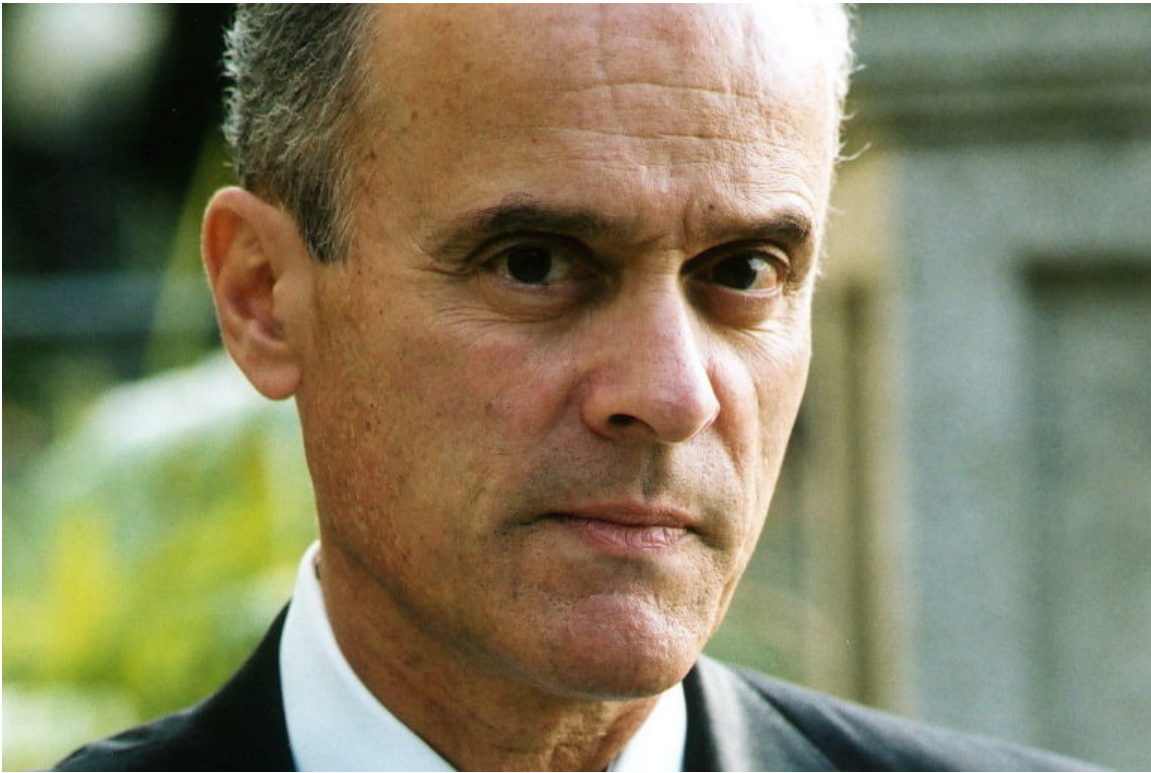


W. S. Di Piero



W. S. Di Piero was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and received his bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's College and his master's degree from San Francisco State College. He has also had a long teaching career at such universities as Louisiana State University, Northwestern University, and Stanford University, where he still teaches. Di Piero was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2001. He often writes about growing up in his neighborhood of South Philadelphia, and the Italian-American working class families who largely populated the area.