



Animals, gardens, landscapes

International Landscape Study Days fourteenth seminar

Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche, Treviso
Thursday-Friday 15th-16th February 2018

Press Release 18th January 2018

This year, the International Landscape Study Days, organized by Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche on 15 and 16 February 2018, promote a **reflection on the relationship between animals and landscape**, specifically on the role animals have always played in designing and caring for landscape and on their significance, either seen as allies or enemies.

There will be opportunities to reflect on how to steer – perhaps with a less anthropocentric attitude than man has so far shown – our thinking and our actions towards a greater understanding of the forms of interaction between man and animals in the construction of the places where we live.

From the presence of fauna in the vocabulary of historical gardens, to the depictions of the animal kingdom in art, in zoological collections, in artificial landscapes, up to the most varied and necessary interactions with the built landscape – both urban and rural – of the contemporary world, animals will take centre stage in a comprehensive debate, with a number of contributions and a variety of viewpoints.

The first session – *Animals in man's gardens* – tackles the theme of the relationship between animals and the garden dimension, retracing some historical milestones from the point of view of their presence: in defining spaces and their image, in constructing imagery and symbolic figures, in keeping alive the essential mechanisms of its operation, starting from work in the fields.

The second session – *Animals on stage* – spans from the large interactive fresco inherited from the garden to events closer to us, in which man has sought to establish a different closeness and forms of relationship. It is imperative to refer to the long history of zoos in the landscape of bourgeois towns, to subsequent forms of representation of the animal kingdom, currently amended in view of an environmental conscience that entails the reconstruction of habitats, still carefully plotted by man's thought. The debate will focus on the sense of this discrepancy, also thanks to the testimonies of artists whose work explores the need for new relations with the animal world, and even the craft of taxidermists, whose handiwork is able to recreate that which has been destroyed by man.

Presentations that reflect ideas and experiences currently at play in contemporary society, will feed the third session, entitled *Animals in the built landscape*, which highlights contemporary man's wish to establish alliances, complicity, strategic pacts with a view to greater mutual understanding.

The debate will touch on the perception of the rural landscape, on unusual forms of city care and maintenance – entrusted to urban sheep farming and bee keeping, for example – and on the construction of animal "dwellings" designed with a focus on respectful cohabitation rather than oppression. In this connection, the Dutch approach to design – which has always been guided by a consideration for the animal world – is an essential reference point of reference.

Finally, *the conclusion* of the days will put forth a “return to the garden” to underline, from this purview, the need to look at the future with a greater emphasis on the relationship among living beings and their respective forms of communication. Gardens, just like landscape, have always been crossed by relationships based on power. When observed from animals’ viewpoint, gardens become a grounds for cohabitation and experimentation, helping us to cultivate tomorrow’s world.



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Programme

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Thursday 15th February 2018

10am-1.30pm

Introduction to the study days, Luigi Latini and Simonetta Zanon

Animals in man’s gardens, coordinated by José Tito Rojo

Feathers, hairs and scales: animals in the gardens between myths and curiosities, Monique Mosser

Between environment and landscape. The place of animals and garden visions in Chantilly at the time of Le Nôtre, Serge Briffaud

Profit and pleasure: animals in the villa in Italy from antiquity to the Nineteenth century, Margherita Azzi Visentini

3-5.30pm

Animals on stage, coordinated by Joan Nogué

The Scenography of Wilderness, Christina May

The zoo as the theatre of the living, Jean Estebanez

Theming the zoo. The zoo as a themed landscape, Jan-Erik Steinkrüger

Beyond the “custom”. Contemporary Art and Animal Scene, Federico L. Silvestre

6pm

The second life. A look at the life of animals

an event with director Davide Gambino

hosted by Giuseppe Barbera

Friday 16th February 2018

10am-1.30pm, 3-5.30pm

Animals in the built landscape, coordinated by Luigi Latini and Simonetta Zanon

“Who Milks the Cows at Maesgwyn?” Attitudes and affective relationships with animals in the UK rural landscape, Owain Jones

Interactions between animals and men in urbanised settings, Gabriele Bovo

Urban beekeeping, Mauro Veca

The sheep look and the ecological mower. Collective herds in the city, Pauline Frileux

Houses for animals, Andrea Ghisoni

From gardener’s enemies to friends, Hervé Brunon

The Landscape of Man (and his animals), Dirk Sijmons

6pm

The dog’s tail and the hermit crab’s strategy

Gilles Clément

hosted by Monique Mosser

The Landscape Study Days are devised by the Scientific Committee of the Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche, they are coordinated by Luigi Latini and Simonetta Zanon.

The members of the Scientific Committee are: Teresa Andresen, Giuseppe Barbera, Hervé Brunon, Anna Lambertini, Luigi Latini (chairman), Monique Mosser, Joan Nogué, Lionello Puppi, José Tito Rojo, Massimo Venturi Ferriolo and the internal members

Marco Tamaro (director), Patrizia Boschiero, Francesca Ghersetti, Massimo Rossi, Simonetta Zanon

speakers

Margherita Azzi Visentini, Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere e Arti, già Politecnico di Milano
Gabriele Bovo, Città Metropolitana di Torino, Servizio Pianificazione e Gestione Rete Ecologica

Serge Briffaud, École nationale supérieure d'architecture et de paysage de Bordeaux
Hervé Brunon, Centre André Chastel, Paris

Gilles Clément, paesaggista, Parigi

Jean Estebanez, Université Paris-Est Créteil, Département de Géographie, Lab'Urba

Pauline Frileux, École nationale supérieure de paysage de Versailles, Larep

Davide Gambino, regista, Palermo-Bruxelles

Andrea Ghisoni, dottore in architettura, Milano

Owain Jones, Bath Spa University, College of Liberal Arts

Christina May, Kunstmuseum, Ahrenshoop

Monique Mosser, École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Versailles, Centre André Chastel, Paris (Honoraria)

Dirk Sijmons, professore emerito di architettura del paesaggio TU-Delft, H+N+S Landscape Architects

Federico L. Silvestre, Università di Santiago de Compostela, Dipartimento di Storia dell'Arte

Jan-Erik Steinkrüger, Università di Bonn, Dipartimento di Geografia

Mauro Veca, apicoltore urbano, ilmielediElia, Milano



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working sessions coordination

Giuseppe Barbera, Università di Palermo

Luigi Latini, Università Luav, Venezia

Monique Mosser, École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Versailles, Centre André Chastel, Paris (Honoraria)

Joan Nogué, Università di Girona

José Tito Rojo, Università di Granada

Simonetta Zanon, Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche

The simultaneous translation service into Italian and English will be provided.

Participation in the Landscape Study Days is free but, please, inform us about your attendance by e-mail (fbsr@fbsr.it),

phone (+39.0422.5121, Mon-Fri 9-13, 14-18).

The Landscape Study Days will be available via streaming on the website of the Foundation www.fbsr.it.

On the occasion of Landscape Study Days, on Wednesday 14, Thursday 15 and Friday 16 February, Fondazione's library will be open 9am-20pm.