

PROVINCE OF SALERNO

Cilento and Vallo di Diano  
National Park

Council of Padula

Mountain Community  
Vallo di Diano

Press release, 14 May 2004

## **ORTUS ARTIS**

### **Section of "LE OPERE E I GIORNI/WORKS AND DAYS"**

exhibition devised and curated by **Achille Bonito Oliva**  
organized by the Superintendence of Salerno and Avellino together with *studio.eu* of Berlin

**Exhibition**

**Le Opere e i Giorni – La Vanitas/  
Works and Days - Vanity  
ORTUS ARTIS 2**

**Section dedicated to Landscaping**

**Venue**

**Charterhouse of San Lorenzo in Padula (Salerno)**

**Exhibition duration**

**18 June – 30 September 2004**

**Duration International Workshop**

**5 – 12 September 2004**

**Event Duration**

**for three years 2002 – 2003 – 2004**

**Opening hours**

**9am-8pm daily**

**guided tours upon request**

**Exh. Entrance Fee**

**free admission**

**Charterhouse Entrance Fee**

**€ 4.00**

**Grand Opening 'Le Opere e i Giorni/Works  
and Days' and 'Ortus Artis'**

**18 – 19 – 20 June 2004**

**Ancient Carthusian gardens refurbished by international architects.**

**Ortus Artis** is launched for the second year, the international exhibition of architecture of gardens and landscape, which involves the entrance area of the Charterhouse of San Lorenzo in Padula and 11 gardens of the Carthusian monks.

Devised by its curator **Achille Bonito Oliva** as a wide section within **Le Opere e i Giorni/Works and Days**, the exhibition **Ortus Artis** has been organized by the Superintendence of Salerno and Avellino together with *studio.eu* of Berlin, with the patronage of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities of the Campania Region and the Province of Salerno.

The exhibition, set up in the gardens of the monks' cells, is the occasion for an encounter between the themes of landscape and architecture, nature and art, and at the same time offers a comparison among the most up-to-date ideas of international and national contemporary landscaping.

The landscapers invited to take part in this second edition are **Henri Bava**, France; **Bet Figueras**, Spain; **Guido Hager**, Switzerland; **Joao Ferreira Nunes**, Portugal; **Stefan Tisher**, Germany.

The garden made in cell no.17 closes the exhibition; it has been conceived by the students of the Faculty of Architecture at the University "La Sapienza" of Rome, chosen among the projects presented during the workshop of last year.

Next to these six new gardens, the visitor can also admire those made the year before in the area overlooking the Charterhouse and in the gardens by *Atelier le Balto*, France; *Victor Beiramar Diniz*, Portugal; *Helene Hölzl*, Italy; *Topotek 1*, Germany; *West 8*, Holland and the *Festival International des Jardins de Metis* (Quebec – Canada) with *Nip Paysage*.

During **Ortus Artis 2**, from **5 to 12 September 2004**, there will take place the **International Workshop**, a special event focused on garden landscaping and organized by the **Superintendence for the B.A.P.P.S.A.D. of Salerno and Avellino** together with *studio.eu* of Berlin, with the contribution of the Department for City Planning of the Campania Region within the programme of the Regional Great Cultural Events.

The theme of this year is the design of the landscape and the contemporary garden, considered the best place for contact between man and nature, and which is aimed at establishing a direct comparison between landscape and architecture, art and nature.

Students, coming from ten schools and universities in Italy and abroad, specializing in the maintenance of the landscape, take part in the Workshop. For the students and the teachers who accompany them it becomes an occasion for co-operation, exchange and comparison on the theme of the garden. For a whole week the spaces of the chemist's within the Charterhouse will become real classrooms and ateliers, where the university groups attend lessons and conferences.

The working week starts with a Convention verging on the landscape surrounding the Charterhouse and the Vallo di Diano, on the problems brought about by the changes that already happened and on possible interventions of restoration. A moment of debate and discussion on art and the territory, the Convention is curated by **Paola Capone** (University of Salerno), featuring the lecturers: **Bernard Lassus** (founder of the DEA - Diploma of Advanced Studies - of Paris and professor at the University of Pennsylvania and Cambridge), **Leonardo Cascini**, **Michel Conan** and **Ippolito Pizzetti**.

Each group, made up of about five students selected by their own university, aims to study new ideas, create and develop a project specific to a garden. This year the aim is the "giardino delle conserve/garden of preserves", a vegetable garden enclosed by a wall and surrounded by the spaces meant for the manufacturing and preservation of garden produce, as well as for monastic life.

During the development of their projects the working groups are followed by five professionals who made a garden each for the present edition of the exhibition Ortus Artis 2: Henri Bava, Bet Figueras, Guido Hager, Joao Ferreira Nunes and Stefan Tischer. For two days the five architects take part in the workshop with the artists who conceived their own works in the cells next to the garden they created.

The workshop ends with the **exhibition of the projects** by the students in the presence of their teachers. During the last day an international panel of judges presided over by the curator Achille Bonito Oliva selects the **winning** project among those on display, which will then be made in the Ortus Artis edition of 2005.

The exhibition was born with the contribution of: Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, Directorate-General for Contemporary Art and Architecture; Campania Region – Department for the Cultural Heritage; Province of Salerno. In co-operation with: Council of Padula; Mountain Community Vallo di Diano; Cilento and Vallo di Diano National Park; and made thanks to the co-funding of the **European Union**, "Le Opere e i Giorni/Works and Days" gives back to the Charterhouse its role of cultural, social and economical centre of the territory and lays the foundations to create within it a permanent collection of contemporary art with the works that during the three years the artists will leave behind in the monumental structure.

The exhibition will be documented by a catalogue curated by **Achille Bonito Oliva** and published by **Skira**, comprehensive of all the works by the artists who attended during the three years.

The event is also documented by a video by Pappi Corsicato and photographs by Giulio Buono Studio Blu. External coordination by Giuliana Picarelli.

For info about the location visit the website [www.comune.padula.sa.it](http://www.comune.padula.sa.it)



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