

# workshop **WANT II** - OPEN CALL

26th September until 3rd October, 2017, »Giardino di Daniel Spoerri«, Seggiano



[www.danielspoerri.org](http://www.danielspoerri.org)

In autumn 2017 an interdisciplinary Workshop will take place at »Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri« (Tuscany, province of Grosseto).

WANT II («Workshop on art, nature and technology») continues a last year's successful initiative to establish a platform for cultural exchange and interdisciplinary research at »Il Giardino«

It has been with Professor Stefano Mancuso, scientific director of the Foundation »Hic Terminus haeret – Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri«, that the idea for »WANT« has been developed.

For 7 days the park (14 hectares), founded by the artist Daniel Spoerri and open to the public since 1997, will be a meeting point and research centre for artists, botanists and students of all faculties.

»Il Giardino« is a wonderful place to approach modern art. There are more than 100 installations of most different artists, representing various styles and kinds of art – such as the New Realism, object art, kinetic art, traditional sculptures. Main subjects in art such as death, eros, reflection on mortality can also be studied at the »Giardino«.

The interrelation between works of art and nature is one of the reasons for the park's great popularity and will also be fundamental in the workshop.

Participants of WANT II will be accompanied by scientists, philosophers and artists who will introduce scientific concepts as well as technical and conceptual details concerning the works of art which belong to the »Giardino«. The tutors will also be consultants when it comes to realizing creative ideas.

Lectures, conversations and excursions shall convey own ideas, summarized and presented in the form of statements, theses, essays, poems, objects or other at the end of the workshop.

Fondazione

»HIC TERMINUS HAERET«

Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri

I -58038 Seggiano GR

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## Lectures:

The relationship between man and plant is a subject matter intensely discussed in actual scientific research. Plants do have a social life – as evolutionary biologist Susan Dudley has pointed out; they are intelligent beings (Stefano Mancuso) and **Florianne Koechlin**, biologist and chemist from Switzerland studied plants' communication. With a critical attitude concerning gene technology Koechlin works on a modified view of the world considering new insights about plants' life. She has thus become an advocate for the rights of plants.

The traditional notion of a plant shall be expanded, considering updated cultural and philosophic dimensions of current research findings.

Prof. **Hans Werner Ingensiep** (Germany), biologist and philosopher will introduce aspects of natural philosophy that play an important role within the interrelationship between human beings and plants. He will concentrate on anthropology and bioethics, examining for example the ethical dimension of human nutrition and looking at »vegetating« as a borderline situation in human life.

In his book »History of the soul of plants« , weaving between biology and philosophy, Ingensiep deals with a great number of occidental conceptions of plants' life. The perceptions of a plant's soul are deeply connected with basic questions such as:

»How do living creatures differ from one another?«, »What is life?« or »What is considered to be alive?« – Ingensiep pleads for an undogmatic discussion about the question if plants really have a soul and he asks which consequences result from the answer to that question.

The morning lectures end at noon, followed by a collective lunch.

## Creative work:

In the afternoons participants are being invited to explore the »Giardino« and its artistic concept by themselves. Experienced members of the foundation »Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri« might help to develop various projects on which the participants may work either individually or in teams, by means of photography or video, drawings or installations, with objects or in writing. Performances are welcome as well.

The different approaches may be presented and discussed at daily gatherings of about one hour in the evening.

Daniel Spoerri will be available for occasional one-on-one interviews.





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## Registration and costs:

The Workshop will last one week and aims at artists, students, authors, musicians, botanists, scientists, philosophers and everyone interested. No professional qualification obligatory. No age-restriction.

The WANT-organizers would like to inspire an exchange between different disciplines and diverse intellectual approaches.

Max. number of participants: 20

Language: English

A fee of 500 € will be charged, which covers lunch and accomodation in a large house in the historical center at the village of Seggiano (1,5 km by foot from the Giardino)

## The project is being supported by:

- LINV (International Laboratory of Plant Neurobiology, Florenz)
- Foundation »HIC TERMINUS HAERET - Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri« ONLUS
- Township of Seggiano
- Foundation »Radici Intelligenti« , Seggiano
- »Ausstellungshaus Spoerri«, Hadersdorf am Kamp (Austria)

**Informal applications until 10th September:  
Please apply to »HIC TERMINUS HAERET –  
Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri«**

Contact: Susanne Neumann

info@danielspoerri.org (english, italiano, deutsch)

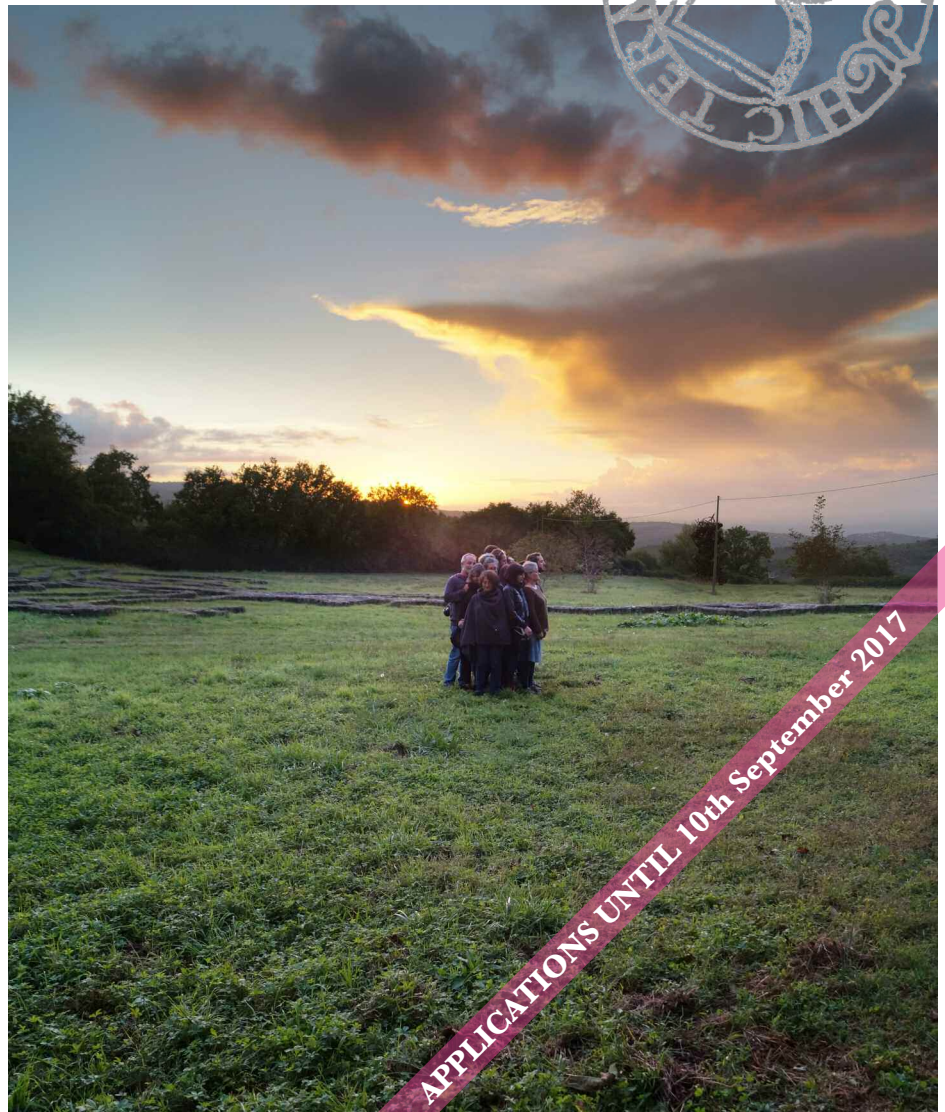
Fondazione

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**APPLICATIONS UNTIL 10th September 2017**

Fotos: Berta Sommer, 2016





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