



# **CULTIVATING THE IDEA OF BIODIVERSITY**

**The arts and their languages for an ecologist engagement in the public space**



**6 -7 JUNE 2023**

**Chiesa S. Antonio Abate (STERI)  
Piazza Marina 61, Palermo**

The workshop is prompted by Palermo's focus on biodiversity as a fil rouge of the research agenda for the National Reconstruction and Resilience Plan funded by Next Generation EU, in order to explore possible declinations of the concept in a humanistic environment. Since the arts and philosophy have become paramount in rethinking our attitude towards sustainability issues, the workshop addresses a twofold perspective: on the one side, the human approach to biodiversity protection in nature and, on the other side, the enhancement of diversity in society and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles.

Discussing recent contributions of artists and thinkers in this field, the aim of the workshop is to discuss and set the methodological structure and conceptual framework for the reconsideration of biodiversity as a transversal and transdisciplinary feature of sustainable culture and living.

## June 6

### 14.30 Welcome Speech:

Massimo Midiri, Rector University of Palermo

Francesca Piazza, Director of the Department of Humanities

Alberto Pirni, Coordinator of the National Doctoral School in Climate Change and Sustainability

Gianfranco Marrone, Coordinator of the Ph.D. in Semiotics: studies on text, discourse, media, culture, University of Palermo

Marina Castiglione, Coordinator of the Ph.D. in Humanities

Roberta Coglitore, Coordinator of the Ph.D. in Visual Culture

Maurizio Cellura, Director Center of Sustainability and ecological transition

Gianluca Sarà, National Biodiversity Future Center

Elisabetta Di Stefano, Introduction

### 15.30 Biodiversity as a transdisciplinary paradigm between science and art, ethics and aesthetics - chair: Elisabetta Di Stefano

Gianluca Sarà (NBFC Palermo), *Biodiversity. An interdisciplinary path between science and art*

Emily Brady (Texas A&M University), *Environmental Aesthetics, Biodiversity, and Co-Flourishing*

Peter Schneemann (University of Bern), *The empty lot. Of remediating brownfields and resisting vegetation*

17.00-18.30 Discussion

## June 7

### 9.00 History, interpretive categories, social impacts - chair: Salvatore Tedesco

Endre Szécsényi (ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest),  
*Biodiversity in the history of Enlightenment Aesthetics: some remarks*

Sabrina Lo Brutto (NBFC Palermo), *The charisma of animal species*

Carolina Fernández-Castrillo (Universidad Carlos III Madrid),  
*Bastard Culture for Climate Change*

10.30 - 13.00 Discussion

13.00 - 14.30 Light lunch

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### 14.30 La biodiversità come argomento e fonte d'ispirazione per l'arte - chair: Diego Mantoan

Giuseppe Venturella (NBFC Palermo), *La biodiversità vegetale: una fonte inesauribile di studio e ispirazione*

Sasha Vinci (artist, Italy), *Internatura e nature multiple*

Laura Pitingaro (artist, Italy), *Tra estinzione e resilienza*

16.00-18.30 Discussion

## Participants:

**Carmelo Cali** (University of Palermo),  
**Alessia Cervini** (University of Palermo),  
**Michele Cometa** (University of Palermo),  
**Gabriella De Marco** (Università di Palermo),  
**Marcello Di Paola** (University of Palermo),  
**Elisabetta Di Stefano** (University of Palermo),  
**Paolo Furia** (University of Torino),  
**Vincenza Garofalo** (Università di Palermo),  
**Lisa Giombini** (University of Roma 3),  
**Gioia Laura Iannilli** (University of Bologna),  
**Arto Haapala** (University of Helsinki),  
**Andrea Le Moli** (University of Palermo),  
**Valeria Maggiore** (University of Palermo),  
**Lorenzo Manera** (Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia),  
**Diego Mantoan** (University of Palermo),  
**Francesca Melina** (IUSS Pavia e Ca' Foscari Venezia),  
**Rita Messori** (University of Parma),  
**Alberto Pirni** (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa),  
**Maria Grazia Portera** (University of Firenze),  
**Ivana Randazzo** (Università di Catania),  
**Elena Romagnoli** (University of Pisa),  
**Mateusz Salwa** (University of Warsaw),  
**Alberto Siani** (University of Pisa),  
**Giacomo Tagliani** (University of Palermo),  
**Matteo Savoldelli** (IUSS Pavia e Ca' Foscari Venezia),  
**Dana Svorova** (University of Palermo),  
**Salvatore Tedesco** (University of Palermo)

## International Workshop promoted by EvaNetwork and co-funded by the European Union - NextGenerationEU

### in collaboration with:

National Biodiversity Future Centre; ELTE Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest; Venice Cluster of the National Doctoral School in Climate Change and Sustainability;

Ph.D. in Semiotics: studies on text, discourse, media, culture;

Ph.D. in Humanities; PhD Visual Culture; Centro sostenibilità e transizione ecologica Palermo

### Under the patronage of:

SIE; IAA; XXV World Congress of Philosophy Rome 2024

### Scientific committee:

Elisabetta Di Stefano, Valeria Maggiore, Diego Mantoan, Giacomo Tagliani, Salvatore Tedesco

