



***Underground***  
**International Landscape Study Days**  
2025, XXI edition

**20th-21st February**, Palazzo Bomben, Treviso and online

**14th February, 5 pm**, online preview

**Press Release**  
28 January 2025

The 21st edition of the **International Landscape Study Days**, organised by Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche, will be held in **Treviso** (at the Palazzo Bomben auditorium) **on 20 and 21 February 2025**, 10 am-17.30 pm, and in **live streaming** on the YouTube Channel of the Fondazione Benetton.

The programme, edited by Luigi Latini (director of Fondazione Benetton and professor of Landscape Architecture at Luav University of Venice) and Simonetta Zanon (head of landscape research and projects of Fondazione Benetton), will be preceded on **February 14**, 5 pm, by the **online talk *Underland*** with **Robert Macfarlane**, writer, Professor at Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, author of the book *Underland* (2019, italian edition: Einaudi 2020).

The theme for the 2025 Study Days, – which represent the key moment of reflection and public debate on the lines of research of the Fondazione Benetton and are structured in talks, debates, editorial presentations and screenings –, revolves around the key word **underground**.

Reflecting on all of this will be **experts, researchers and designers from a range of fields** according to an interdisciplinary approach to the landscape and related matters: something which has always been a cornerstone of the Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche's working, study and research methods in this area.

What lies beneath our feet? Secrets, patterns, connections, tracks, as Robert Macfarlane writes. The map of relationships between human beings and nature becomes complex underground yet also clearer, helping us to emerge more knowledgeable from the subterranean world. Stimulated by observations from **landscape architecture, ecology, the natural sciences, environmental art, anthropology** and the constantly evolving study area of **environmental humanities**, the intention is to reflect on the option of **shifting our gaze over the landscape from the surface to its very depth**. And in so doing, offer a more complex and interconnected picture of life on Earth, made up of intricate, invisible and underground relationships that naturally also involve *Homo sapiens* without considering the latter as a supreme, dominant species. A change of direction that invites us, once again, to reflect on the need to extend the framework of the investigations and development tools that allow us to understand the contemporary sense of landscape, in both its theoretical and operational aspects.

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**Programme**

***Online preview***

**Friday 14th February**

> h 5 pm

**Underland**

an online talk with Robert Macfarlane, writer, Professor of Literature and the Environmental Humanities in the Faculty of English, Director of Studies for Part II in English, Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, author of the book *Underland* (2019, italian edition: Einaudi 2020)



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### **first day**

#### **Thursday 20th February**

##### **> h 10am – 10.30am**

Introduction to Study Days 2025 by the curators Luigi Latini and Simonetta Zanon

##### **> h 10.30am – 1pm**

· *One thousand and one caves. Darkness and sleep of Time*

Matteo Meschiari, Associate professor of Geography, University of Palermo

· *Terra Forma. Giving depth to the surface*

Alexandra Arènes, Architect and researcher at Shaā

· *Imaginaries from the underground*

Mariabruna Fabrizi and Fosco Lucarelli, Architects, curators and associate professors, EAVT Paris-Est

##### **> h 1.30pm – 2.15pm**

#### **A look at underground Treviso Bastione di Santa Sofia**

guided visit organised together with the association “Treviso sotterranea” (for Study Days participants, reservation required, duration 20 minutes)

##### **> h 3pm – 5.30pm**

· *‘Behind’ vs. ‘under’ the landscape*

Michael Jakob, Academy of Architecture, Mendrisio

· *Geoarchitectural Histories*

Galaad Van Daele, Researcher, ETH Zürich

· *The search for water in Trieste and the discovery of the underground river Timavo*

Marco Restaino, Speleologist, President of the Società Adriatica di Speleologia, Trieste

##### **> h 5.30pm**

#### **Il buco**

A film by Michelangelo Frammartino (Italy, 2021, 93')

Screening introduced by the director

### **second day**

#### **Friday 21st February**

##### **> h 10am – 11.30am**

· *Invisible landscapes: the underground connections between roots, fungi and bacteria*

Paola Bonfante, Professor Emeritus of Plant Biology, University of Turin

· *In a hole in the ground there lived... a bee. Journey among inhabitants of the underworld*

Elena Antonioli, Architect and PhD in Landscape Architecture

##### **> h 12pm – 1pm**

#### **On the side of fire. Rites, approaches and cultivation practices in the landscape**

Presentation of the book edited by Luigi Latini and Simonetta Zanon (Fondazione Benetton-Antiga Edizioni, Treviso 2024) by the editors and Marco Belpoliti, writer and essayist, University of Bergamo, author of *To rescue fire*, introductory essay of the book

##### **> h 3pm – 5.30pm**

· *‘I feel it under my shoes’*

Paolo Bürgi, professor, Landscape architect, Camorino

· *Underground water and gardens*

Henry Bava, Agence Ter, Paris

· *Inside out, outside in*

Catherine Mosbach, mosbach paysagistes, Paris

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### **Information**

Free admission, no reservation required, access granted subject to capacity.

The preview talk with Robert Macfarlane will be held on the Zoom platform, with simultaneous translation; registration is required through the link that will be published by the end of January on the Foundation's website and social channels.

The guided tour of underground Treviso can be booked at the reception (Palazzo Bomben) on 20 February from 9 to 10 am and during the coffee break.

Simultaneous Italian/English/Italian translation will be available for all speeches.  
Live streaming on the Foundation's YouTube Channel.  
For information: [paesaggio@fbsr.it](mailto:paesaggio@fbsr.it)

