



Underground

International Landscape Study Days

2025, XXI edition

14th February

online preview

20th-21st February

Treviso, spazi Bomben

(28.I.2025)



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.

Image caption:

Attempts of communication, photo by Anaïs Tondeur, taken from her investigation/performance *Cumulus subterraneus*. The soil Archives, IRD, pedologic personal collection.

The Landscape Study Days are devised by the Scientific Committee of the Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche, they are coordinated by Luigi Latini (chairman of Scientific Committee) and Simonetta Zanon (landscape project). Scientific committee: *Luigi Latini*, Architect, Iuav University of Venice (Chairman); *Giuseppe Barbera*, agronomist, University of Palermo; *Hervé Brunon*, garden historian, André Chastel Centre, Paris, CNRS; *Thilo Folkerts*, landscape architect, 100Landschaftsarchitektur, Berlin; *Anna Lambertini*, architect and landscape architect, University of Firenze; *Monique Mosser*, art historian, Advanced School of Architecture, Versailles, CNRS; *Joan Nogué*, geographer, University of Girona; *Juan Manuel Palerm*, architect, University of Las Palmas; *José Tito Rojo*, botanist, University of Granada.

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, Cambridge, author of the book *Underland* (2019, Italian edition: Einaudi 2020)

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

• *Imaginaires 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

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

• *Underground landscapes*

Catherine Mosbach, mosbach paysagistes, Paris

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