



Photo taken during a visit to the Oasi Zegna, 2017 © UNIDEE

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
FOR THE SELECTION OF 8 PARTICIPANTS,
INCLUDING 8 RESIDENCY GRANTS**

for *Expanded Body. An immersive exploration of the Oasi Zegna*
a residential module with the mentorship of **Andrea Caretto | Raffaella Spagna**
and the guest: **a plant neurobiologist expert in plants sensing systems**
Residency timetable: **26th June – 3rd July 2017**

I. CALL

This is an **open call for applications** to partake in *Expanded Body. An immersive exploration of the Oasi Zegna*, a residential module conceived for Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto and Fondazione Zegna by **Andrea Caretto | Raffaella Spagna** and developed under the umbrella of **UNIDEE - University of Ideas** (directed by Cecilia Guida and developed in collaboration with Juan Esteban Sandoval, within the general direction of Cittadellarte's director Paolo Naldini). This residency module is supported by **Fondazione Zegna** and will take place between Cittadellarte – Fondazione Pistoletto in Biella and Fondazione Zegna in Trivero (BI), Italy.

II. ABOUT THE RESIDENCY

Module Outline

The module offers an immersing experience across the territory of the Oasi Zegna, a mountain protected area extending for about 100 sq km in Piedmont, in the Biellese Alps, between Trivero and

the Cervo Valley. The participants will be involved in the aesthetic experimentation of a radically ecological way of thinking, based on a non-hierarchical ontology in which all the *subjects* (living and non-living, plants, animals, rocks, artefacts, etc.) existing in that place are put on the same level.

How do we perceive the environment we are part of? What does a plant perceive in that same environment? How do we relate with the other living species and the non-living? What are the possible forms of cohabitation? How can we, as artists, operate in a specific context and in what role?

The first part of the module is going to be characterized by a few walking excursions on the territory, as a way to get in touch with the *force field* permeating the landscape of the Oasi Zegna, identifying the main lines of its flux on a grand scale.

The mentors will involve the participants in a few collective actions, shared experiences potentially able to activate benumbed sensory faculties, start data collections and stimulate reflections, followed by an invitation for the group to devise new ways of relating to the other-than-self, to eventually get to the creation of a collection of “exercises of perception”.

Later on, the participants will be invited to individually interact with a specific item or element – a subject identified on a smaller scale of the same landscape – to connect with it, “listening”, this way defining an individual project, an expression of interaction between the two subjects, which will then become part of a collective final work.

Andrea Caretto | Raffaella Spagna

Andrea Caretto (Turin, Italy, 1970) and Raffaella Spagna (Rivoli, Italy, 1967) explore the profound relationships linking human beings to the environment. They conceive art as inquiry, a tool to investigate the multiple dimensions of reality: formal, qualitative and physical quantitative aspects of matter but also philosophical and social ones. In keeping with their educational backgrounds – Landscape Architecture for Spagna, Natural Sciences and Scientific Museology for Caretto – their projects generate complex installations that simultaneously present the study, demonstration and experimentation of their relationship with nature. They investigate the links between human beings and other organisms and inorganic matter, developing long-term projects.

They have been working together on a regular basis since 2002, exhibiting in public and private institutions in Italy and abroad. They are among the founders of the artist collective “Diogene” (www.progettodiogene.eu) and collaborate with the research Center IRIS (Interdisciplinary Research Institute on Sustainability) of the University of Turin and Brescia. They live and work in Cambiano (Turin, Italy).

Among the institutions with which they have collaborated: AIR Krems and kunstraumarcade, Austria, FieldWorks_Wachau (2015); Domaine de Chamarande, France, Vivre/s (2014); Merz Foundation, Turin and Riso Museum, Palermo, Italy, Meteorite in giardino (2014); GAM-Civic Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art, Turin, Italy, Collezione Sistemica (2012); Khoj International Artists Associations, New Delhi, India, “In Context, food edition I”, Delhi Hand Cart (2012); Mudam, Musée d’Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg, Sketches of Space (2010); Marino Marini Museum, Florence, Italy, Azioni 2000-2006 (2006); MART Museum, Rovereto, Italy, Eurasia, Geographic Cross-overs in Art (2008); PAV-Living Art Park, Turin, Italy, Sic Vos non Vobis, Internaturalità, Village Green, Ecosoft Art, Living Material (2014, 2013, 2009, 2008, 2007); CAIRN-Centre d’Art Informel de Recherchesur la Nature, Digne-les-Bains, France, 1Arbre_Populus nigra; De La Transformation Des Choses (2011, 2008); Centre d’Art Le Parvis, Ibos, France, Matières Premières (2007); Obra Social Caja Madrid, Spain, Los Limites del Crecimiento (2007); T1 Turin Triennial, Castello di Rivoli Contemporary Art Museum, The Pantagruel Syndrom, (2005); Villa Croce Contemporary Art Museum, Genova, Italy, Empowerment (2004); Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation, Turin, Italy, Exit and How Latitudes Become Forms (2002; 2003).

www.esculenta.org

Complete module outline and schedule of the week available here:

<http://www.cittadellarte.it/unidee/activity.html?id=95>

III. ABOUT UNIDEE - University of Ideas

[UNIDEE - University of Ideas](#)' format proposes an **educational model** based on 'other' ways of gaining experience in the **meeting of critical theory, activism and artistic practice**, not through subordinate relationships but rather through **levels of interaction, exchanges and reciprocal interference**. Laboratory and seminar modules are held each week at Cittadellarte, moderated by a knowledgeable **mentor** with the support of a **guest**. The groups of participants, who are always different and arrive from all over the world, interact intensely as they discuss and examine relationships between **art and the public sphere** in depth, starting from different practices and going through connections with various disciplines (from visual art to economical politics, urbanism, social justice, representative democracy, soundscapes, self representation etc). UNIDEE is an experimental school that uses methodologies, practices, the languages of art and the forms of activism to educate '*artivators*' or agents for the organisation of actions and processes aimed at initiating responsible changes in societal ecologies.

In 2017 the programme is based on a close examination of three macro-topics: **Revolution, Desire and Mediation**.

IV. ABOUT FONDAZIONE ZEGNA

Fondazione Zegna was set up on 1st December 2000 by the Zegna Family.

Its mission is to give continuity to the values, philosophy and work of Ermenegildo Zegna, who in 1910 in Trivero, in the Biella Alps, founded the wool mill that carries his name to this day. Following his example, quality and dedication may live in harmony with protection of our natural environment, social wellbeing and the cultural development of the local community.

Fondazione Zegna is based in Trivero, where Casa Zegna, an historical archive and cultural center is also situated.

The Foundation plans and coordinates international humanitarian initiatives in four areas of activity:

- conservation and amelioration of environmental and cultural resources;
- fostering of sustainable development in local communities, in Italy and beyond;
- support for medical and scientific research;
- education and training for young people.

Oasi Zegna is an "open-air laboratory" covering over 100 km² and focusing on relationships between people, mountain culture and nature.

V. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

You are eligible to apply if (all conditions below must be met):

- You are a creative professional (visual artist, designer, architect, curator, researcher, etc.) active in any field anywhere in the world;
- You have a fluent knowledge of the English language;
- You submit all the required documentation as part of your application in the correct format and by the given deadline.

VI. ABOUT THE GRANTS

A joint jury, composed of Anna Zegna (President, Fondazione Zegna), Andrea Caretto | Raffaella Spagna (mentors, *Expanded Body. An immersive exploration of the Oasi Zegna*), Cecilia Guida (Director,

UNIDEE – University of Ideas, Cittadellarte), Juan Sandoval (Director, Art Office, Cittadellarte) and Paolo Naldini (General Director, Cittadellarte), will operate the selection of n. **8 participants**.

The selection will be based on artistic merit and the consistency of the candidates' practice with the aims of *Expanded Body. An immersive exploration of the Oasi Zegna* and UNIDEE – University of Ideas.

The 8 residency FULL GRANTS will include:

- Participation to the residential module *Expanded Body. An immersive exploration of the Oasi Zegna* mentored by **Andrea Caretto | Raffaella Spagna**;
- Full board;
- Accommodation (single room, shared bathroom facilities – for 9 nights);
- Medical Insurance (accidents only);
- Use of a shared studio space and workshop facilities.

All costs for travels and Visa are intended at the sole expenses of the selected participants.

Selected participants are expected to be in Biella from Sunday, 25th June to Thursday 4th, July 2017.

VII. TIMELINE

The application period for partaking in the *Expanded Body. An immersive exploration of the Oasi Zegna* module (26th June – 3rd July 2017) starts on 6th March 2017.

The deadline for submitting your application is 2nd April 2017, 11pm CET.

Final results will be published on the UNIDEE- University of Ideas' website (<http://www.cittadellarte.it/unidee/opencallpartners.html>) as well as on the UNIDEE' social media pages by **2nd May 2017**.

Please, note that only selected participants will be contacted when the selection process is over.

VIII. HOW TO APPLY

Please, submit your application (in digital format only) to: unidee.submission@cittadellarte.it stating “UNIDEE/ZEGNA 2017 residency application (your name)” as a subject line (up to 10 MB per email).

If you are submitting more than one email, please state that, for example as subject: UNIDEE/ZEGNA 2017 residency application (your name) 1 of 3 / 2 of 3 / 3 of 3 (no more than three emails).

Please fill out **(in English only)** the application form by including your:

- Basic / contact information;
- Motivation letter (up to 1000 words) clearly linking your practice to the module;
- Artist statement (up to 300 words);

Please include to the e-mail:

- Curriculum Vitae (up to 2 A4 pages, font size 12);
- Portfolio with a selection of **relevant work/research**, as follows:

Images: Submit up to 10, at 100 dpi and medium-sized

Texts: Submit up to 3 examples, published or unpublished

Audio files: Submit up to 3 examples at a duration of up to 10 minutes each

Videos: Submit either URLs if available online or use one of the following upload services only:

Wetransfer, Dropbox, Rapidshare or yousendit. *Be careful with links' expiry dates!*

All material must be labelled with surname followed by an underscore in the file name. For example: John Smith will label his submitted images as *Smith_(title of image).jpg*.

Only digital submissions are accepted.