**ORTUS ARTIS Workshop internazionale di paesaggio/**

**ORTUS ARTIS International Workshop of landscaping**

**curated by Achille Bonito Oliva**

Within the second edition of the exhibition 'Le Opere e i Giorni/Works and Days', promoted by the Superintendence of Salerno and Avellino, devised and curated by Achille Bonito Oliva at the Charterhouse of San Lorenzo in Padula, Province of Salerno, a new section on landscaping called 'Ortus Artis' is presented.

The event 'Ortus Artis' is dedicated to new ideas regarding gardens and produced by the Superintendence of Salerno and Avellino with the contribution of the Department for City Planning of the Campania Region within the programme of the Great Cultural Regional Events.

The exhibition 'Ortus Artis', also devised and curated by Achille Bonito Oliva, held in the gardens of five cells of the Charterhouse, is a moment of encounter between landscape and architecture, nature and art. At the same time it is an occasion of comparison and development among the most up-to-date ideas in the field of contemporary landscaping, nationally and internationally.

The programme of 'Ortus Artis' foresees an international Workshop focusing on the problems of the contemporary garden, which takes place from 7 to 14 September 2003 at the Charterhouse of San Lorenzo in Padula. There will take part students coming from ten Italian, European and American landscaping schools and universities in order to deal with the design of the contemporary garden.

The students are busy designing the garden of one cell, no. 18, in the unique context of its landscape.

During the week of the workshop five landscapers, who in the exhibition 'Ortus Artis' designed their own gardens in the cells they were assigned, take the role of teachers. The European studios of Architecture: Atelier Le Balto (France); Victor Beiramar Diniz (Portugal); Helene Hölzl (Italy), Topotek1 (Germany) and West8 (Holland), each designed and made a temporary contemporary garden in five historical gardens belonging to the Carthusian cells. The teachers responsible for each school are invited to take part in the final presentation of the projects devised during the workshop on 13 September. At the end of the presentation a panel of judges will select the project that will be made in the 2004 edition of the exhibition “Ortus Artis”.

In addition to the five design studios, 'Ortus Artis' involved the Festival des Jardins di Mètis (Quebec-Canada) which sent over the winner of the 2002 edition, the Nip Pysage studio, working in Canada, the United States and France, in order to devise and create a new and provocative arrangement of the area in front of the Charterhouse: a wrecked space, the result of two devastating floods at the end of the Ninth Century.

A moment of reflection is the conference of 9 September on the theme: 'Costruire l'eterogeneo: il progetto del giardino contemporaneo/To build the heterogeneous: the design of the contemporary garden', curated by Paola Capone and presented by Pio Baldi, director general of Contemporary Art and Architecture at the Ministry for the Cultural Heritage and Activities, and in which will take part the international lecturers Paolo Bürgi (University of Philadelphia), Ernesto D’Alfonso (Polytechnic Institute of Milan), Paola Capone (University of Salerno), Bernard Lassus (founder of the DEA in Paris, professor at the University of Pennsylvania and Cambridge), Massimo Venturi Ferriolo (Universities of Salerno and Milan). The aim of the convention is to reflect on the garden as an art work where you can go back after years of restoration and preservation. Today art is measured by new materials and new social approaches which reflect on the creation of gardens as an ancient and new human necessity to fulfill individual and collective needs for living spaces.

The convention, in its different expository and educational aspects, as well as in its theoretical reflection, addresses those professional figures new to the Italian and international architecture scene, encouraging and suggesting a new approach in the field of contemporary landscape, with the awareness of the importance of landscape in the present cultural discussion.