**Triennale of Milan**

**Spazio Material ConneXion**

**Laura Zeni. Coltivare la mente/Laura Zeni. Cultivating the mind**

*curated by Fortunato D’Amico*

**5 September - 4 October 2014**

**Grand opening on Thursday, 4 September at 6.30pm**

**conferences**

- Thursday, 11 September at 6pm **L'approccio bio nella cura del verde urbano/The biological approach to the care of the city green spaces**

- Thursday, 18 September at 6pm **L'Energia vitale: quale relazione tra le piante e la città?/Life energy: what is the relationship between the plants and the city?**

- Thursday, 25 September at 6pm **Come potenziare l'energia e la difesa delle piante/How to strengthen the energy and defense of plants.**

*press release, 3 September 2014*

From 5th September to 4th October the **Triennale of Milan** - **Spazio Material ConneXion** hosts the exhibition “**Laura Zeni. Coltivare la mente/Laura Zeni. Cultivating the mind**”, curated by Fortunato D’Amico, where the visitor can admire **never seen before works** made especially for the event.

Through the works on display - **design objects, graphic works, paintings and installations** - the artist and designer Laura Zeni examines in depth the theme of nature in connection with the contemporary man and stretches out to sensitize society towards a positive evolution, where technology and the natural world coexist in balance.

A wall is dedicated to the *Ritratti interiori/Inner portraits*, human profiles printed on canvas, with painted parts, which represent the containers of thoughts, tales and moods and, through symbolical elements, suggest reflections on the human condition and its possibility of improving.

The continuous research on man, on his inner world and the expression of it in the outer world, leads Laura Zeni to deep studies on eco-sustainability and nutrition, themes that are in close connection also with the topics of **Expo Milan 2015**: **Nutrire il Pianeta, Energia per la Vita/Feeding the Planet, Energy for life.** Indeed for years through her works Laura Zeni has been exhorting people to “cultivate the mind”, “eat with one's own head” respecting environmental sustainability.

These themes, characterized by Laura Zeni's artistic expression, are developed through the experimentation of different techniques and languages, especially in **design objects** such as the *Vassoio/Tray*, the *PiattoTesta/Head Plate* in ceramics and the set made in Krion *L’Ora del Tè/Tea Time*;the *Innaffiatoio Unicorno/Unicorn Watering can, the Misuratori di umidità/Humidity indicator,* the *Fioriera/Flower stand and* the *Tovagliette LaZenArt/Placemats LaZenArt* which remind us of daily gestures linked to nutrition.

On display there are the *Radar*, frameworks made of iron, copper and rope, which exhort to be receptive in order to receive the signals coming from the outside world and from the universe, signals to understand and send back for a positive renewal; among these what stands out is *Radar Illuminato/Lighted Radar*, a table and wall **lamp**.

The works on display, completely made of **environmentally friendly materials** provide a contact with nature thanks to the presence of the *Tavolo-orto/Table-kitchen garden* which contains officinal herbs, the three *Sedute bucoliche/Bucolic seats* with colourful threads and creepers which sink their roots in the biodegradable vases, made of rice husk and provided by Vipot. A showcase hosts a jute bag which contains Triphylla, a powder coming from volcanic rocks, prepared with natural methods to reinforce plants, soils and materials.

The **video** broadcasts loop an installation in motion and refers to a work which takes back to evolution for a new inner awakening.

A series of conferences on the theme of the relationship between man and nature accompanies the exhibition:

 - Thursday, 11 September at 6pm

**"L'approccio bio nella cura del verde urbano/The biological approach to the care of the city green spaces"**

curated by Mauro Carlin, agricultural technician, specialized in biological and biodynamic agriculture, who is the vice-president of Agribio Valle d'Aosta and a consultant for the administering of Triphylla in the fields where it is applied.

- Thursday,18 September at 6pm

**“L'Energia vitale: quale relazione tra le piante e la città?/Life energy: what is the relationship between the plants and the city?”**

curated by Marcello Griffo, expert in subtle energies, teacher of natural disciplines. He co-operates in the project Triphylla for the strengthening of the properties of the nourishment for plants.

- Thursday, 25 September at 6pm

**“Come potenziare l'energia e la difesa delle piante/How to strengthen the energy and defense of plants”**

curated by Giulio Moiraghi, consultant, biodynamic technician, expert in sensitive crystallization, owner of Biodin. Featuring Marco Baudino of Future Power srl, Vipot maker.

The exhibition has been realized thanks to the sponsorship of Triphylla and the technical sponsorship of VIPOT le cose naturali, Krion Porcelanosa Solid Surface and Porcelanosa Grupo

Sponsor



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**Short Biography**

Laura Zeni, Milanese, attended the Accademy of Brera under the guidance of Raffaele De Grada. From the 1980s she has taken part in different solo and group exhibitions in Italy. In 2008 she was at Fuori Salone del Mobile with Jannelli & Volpi. In 2012 on the occasion of the 'White Show' at MyOwnGallery of Superstudiopiù in Milan, she launched the solo exhibition “Laura Zeni. Illuminazioni/Laura Zeni. Enlightenments” curated by Fortunato D’Amico, with catalogue Skira and later held a solo exhibition at BIM-Banca Intermobiliare in the historical city centre of Milan. In 2013 she exhibited at Spazio Tadini in Milan with the exhibition “Laura Zeni. Indian Pattern” curated by Fortunato D’Amico; she took part in a group exhibition at Macs – Mazda Con-Temporary Space of Milan.She was also at the Fuori Salone at Superstudio 13 and at AAM – Arte Accessibile Milano, in Eventiquattro. She also exhibited in Alba in the Church of Saint Joseph and at the Spoleto International Art Fair 2013. She was present at the *9th International Biennale of Contemporary Art of Florence* at the event “Passeggiata d’Arte e di Valori tra gli Olivi/Stroll of Art and Values among the Olive Trees”. In addition during 2013 she took part in a series of events organized by the association 'Arte da Mangiare'. On the occasion of the side events of the Fiera ArteCremona 2014 she exhibited in the prestigious Sala degli Alabardieri (Room of the Halberdiers) of the City Hall of Cremona. During the Milan Design Week 2014 she was present at Superstudio Più at the event *Double Room* of the Porcelanosa Group and with a special project at the Temporary Museum for New Design.

At the moment she lives and works in Milan.

www.laurazeni.it

**Details**

**Title** Laura Zeni. Coltivare la mente/Laura Zeni. Cultivating the mind

**Curated by** di Fortunato D’Amico

**Venue** Triennale of Milan - Spazio Material ConneXion - Viale Alemagna 6, Milan

**Dates** 5 September - 4 October 2014

**Grand opening** Thursday, 4 September at 6.30pm

**Conferences** Thursdays, 11 - 18 - 25 September at 6pm

**Opening Hours** Tue-Sun 10.30am-1.30pm / 2.30pm-8pm

**Entrance fee** free admission
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