

PRESS RELEASE

**Art and rights: right to wellbeing and healthcare**

**Alice Benessia, Andrea Caretto and Raffaella Spagna**  
***Care practices as a process of mutual transformation***  
**9 June, 6:30 pm**

*nctm e l'arte* continues its series of talks dedicated to the topic of healthcare and the right to wellbeing with a further meeting.

This time artists **Andrea Caretto** and **Raffaella Spagna** will talk with **Alice Benessia**, a physicist, epistemologist and visual artist.

The meeting takes its cue from the experience of the Pianpicollo Selvatico Centre for Research, created in the place of the same name by Alice Benessia with the involvement of a vast number of personalities of the cultural world, including, in particular, the artistic duo Caretto and Spagna.

Pianpicollo Selvatico is a village in Alta Langa. Here Benessia has initiated artistic, scientific and philosophical activities with a view to experimenting new possibilities of relationship between living beings and the environment.

The entire project is based on a practice of regeneration that involves daily care and affects every aspect of the ecosystem, from soil to plants to local materials and, especially, the many animals that Pianpicollo hosts: domestic farm animals, subtracted from their usual function for the sake of vital synergy and co-citizenship.

Transforming one's relationship with the environment and with other living beings by replacing the usual control dynamics with a creative and dialogic attitude - Benessia and Caretto-Spagna argue - is not only a way to oppose the destructive processes that are undermining the world, but also triggers a process of mutual transformation that favours our own and others' wellbeing.

The meeting will be held on 9 June at 6:30 p.m. as a webinar, introduced and moderated by Gabi Scardi.

**Andrea Caretto and Raffaella Spagna – bio**

Andrea Caretto (Turin, 1970, degree in Natural Sciences) and Raffaella Spagna (Rivoli, 1967, degree in Architecture) have been working collaboratively on a regular basis since 2002, exhibiting in public and private institutions, in Italy and abroad. They live and work in Cambiano (Turin).

Caretto and Spagna explore the complex interweaving of relationships from which things emerge: the perceptions of the environment, flows and cycles of matter and morphogenesis, transformations of the landscape, the relationship between the wild and the cultivated, the processes of domestication and the relationships between living/inhabiting/building.

Their approach is based on an attitude to "presence" and experience in the world, in close contact with matter in all its transformations and identifications: an exercise of attention and care for things understood as knots within a weaving, which enables the ability to perceive reality as made up of elements in continuous correspondence.

They are founding members of the association of artists "Progetto Diogene" of Turin and of the association Pianpiccolo Selvatico - Centre for Research in the Arts and the Sciences of Levice (Turin). They are permanent collaborators of the research centre IRIS (Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Sustainability) of the University of Turin and with the Department of Philosophy and Educational Sciences of the University of Turin.

**Alice Benessia – bio**

Benessia, a physicist, epistemologist and visual artist, in 2017 founded Pianpiccolo Selvatico, in Alta Langa, which promotes research residences and transdisciplinary and participatory training residences, along with agroecology and interspecific coexistence projects. Her research work is on the border between art, epistemology and ethics of science. She has since 2019 been collaborating with the National Research Council and since 2006 has been a researcher at the IRIS – Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Sustainability - at the University of Turin. She worked as an appointed expert for the European Commission's Joint Research Centre in epistemology and ethics of innovation. She is a founding member of the Italian Association for Sustainability Science - IASS.

**Pianpiccolo Selvatico – about**

Pianpiccolo Selvatico is a farm built in 1811 in Alta Langa, a rural area in the northern Italian region of Piemonte. Its name literally means "Little Wild Plain" ("Piccolo Piano Selvatico") and originates from its location within a small high plain surrounded by woods.

Pianpiccolo Selvatico is a Centre for Research in the Arts and the Sciences.

It offers space and time to explore and experience the creative potential of human beings in relation to other living beings and matter in all its forms; it encourages art making, scientific and philosophical investigations as enlivening and transformative processes; it promotes all forms of (cultural and ecological) diversity.

Pianpiccolo Selvatico is a collective experiment on the endless possibilities of a creative dialogue with nature. At the roots of what it is to be human.