



THE NATURE OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The second biennial exhibition of art therapy Healing Nature 2024: invitation and application form

To all art therapists who make their own art and to artists who have extensive experience with therapeutic relationships.

In September 2022, as part of the 22nd International ISPS Conference 'Co-Constructing Healing Spaces' and the 1st Edition of the International Festival of Art Therapy for Psychosis, which were held in the San Pietro complex in Perugia, the first exhibition of art by art therapists was held: *Black is the Tree of Memories, Blue is the Air*.

The exhibition, in which more than thirty art therapists participated, was an occasion to meet and open a dialogue on the relationship between art and care, and that of art therapist and patient, thereby considering the therapeutic relationship not in a one-way sense, but in terms of reciprocity.

In order not to lose the spirit of the participation, interest and dialogue, the International Exhibition of Art Therapist-Artists will be continued bi-annually. The 2nd edition of the Biennial Exhibition of the Art of Art Therapy will take place in 2024 with the theme:

"Healing Nature: The Nature of Artistic Expression and Relationships", focusing on the therapeutic value of both art and nature.

To participate in the 2nd edition of the exhibition in 2024, please see the following call for proposals for details of how to send material for selection and exhibition.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The exhibition will be held in the evocative rooms of Palazzo della Penna and the former Church of the Evangelist, located in the heart of the historic centre of Perugia, and will be open to the public from August 30 to September 15, 2024.

For the biennial exhibition, a catalogue will be produced of all the works exhibited during the event, which will document this special event. It will also give free entry for the selected artists to a study day on art, nature and care to be held on September 13, 2024 organized with the University of Perugia.

The theme for the 2024 edition focuses on the relationship between artistic expression and nature, with a special focus on the therapeutic value of both art and the natural environment.

Nature has always been one of artists' favourite subjects, serving as a background for historical, mythological, religious and fantastical representations. It has been the protagonist of landscapes, decorations and still lives. With the advent of the modern era, artists undertook a more introspective, interpretative, and less descriptive style. Nature has become a metaphor for individual expression and a primary need of communication. On some occasions, it has been seen as an Eden, a condition of balance and lost harmony, as a lacerated body, or even as an idealized condition. Now, we find ourselves immersed in an increasingly "artificial" and even "virtual" world, with artificial objects that not only refer to reality, but which often substitute for it.

The exhibition will offer a new human landscape, a synthesis of balance between the interior and the exterior, between us and the world that surrounds us. This new landscape compared with the other, will contribute to reflection on our relationship with nature and our social environment.

The call is open to all art therapists trained in recognized art therapy schools and operating in the field of the therapeutic relationship, who express their personal art within the disciplines of photography, painting, graphics, sculpture, performing arts and audio-visual artwork. It is also open to artists with significant experience of running professional workshops for a wide variety of users.

The event will be supported by the University of Perugia.

First step

To apply for selection, fill in and send 'Form 1' (attached) and send:

- high quality images of 3-6 works proposed for the exhibition, alongside a caption listing the materials, format and technique, on A4 paper in Cambria font, size 14;

-a motivational text on the choice of work in relation to the exhibition's theme on A4 paper in Cambria font, size 14;

-a short CV (max 20 lines).

The photograph(s) and/or film(s) of the works, with the relevant caption, must be received by 15 March 2024, and sent to the following email addresses: biennaleat@gmail.com or gayala@hotmail.it.

It is recommended to use [WeTransfer](#) for large files.

The selection of authors and their works will be made by an evaluation committee chaired by **Carlo Coppelli** and **Marco Panizza**.

Second step

This initiative is not-for-profit, and does not yet have sponsorship or funding, so a registration fee is required to cover expenses. It is important to note that the success of the initiative will require the active participation of the art therapists and artists.

The art therapists whose works are selected will be contacted for timing and set-up details. They will be required to complete registration for the call by contributing **€70** to the expenses of the secretariat, the preparation of the exhibition equipment and catalogue, to be paid **by 6 May 2024** (the details of the transfer will be communicated at a later date). The exhibitors will be given a copy of the catalogue and can participate in the aforementioned study day on 13 September.

Set-up and exhibition

The preparation of the exhibition will take place in the days before the inauguration, with the dismantling in the two days after the exhibition closes.

Participants will be responsible for the transport of their works, and their own travel to and from the exhibition space.

Participants will be required to pay the insurance for the protection of their works for both during transportation and during the exhibition.

Participants will be responsible for the preparation (hanging, placement, or whatever else may be required) of the works in the spaces attributed to them and agreed with the curators, in the two days before the inauguration.

Participants will be responsible for the dismantling of their works in the 2 days after the closure of the exhibition.

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Facebook page: Biennale arteterapia

The BAT Organisational Committee

(Giulia Ayala, Carlo Coppelli, Pamela Palomba, Maurizio Peciccia, Alberta Pellacani, Axel Rütten)