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in collaboration with

**OFFICINA 21**  
WORKSHOP OF LANDSCAPE



# **ÆTNA LANDSCAPES 2012**ANNOUNCEMENT

## **SimetoLandscape**

International Design Workshop

8-16 September 2012

“The Chimneys” Culture and Fair Conference Centre. Africa Avenue, 95129 Catania, Italy.

### **Description**

"Simeto\_landscape" is an international design workshop dealing with the landscape, urban and architectural renewal of some characteristic contexts in the contemporary city and territory.

The event is included in the cultural festival AETNA LANDSCAPES, organized by the Foundation of the Order of Designer, Landscape and Conservation Architects from the Province of Catania and by the cultural association “Workshop 21”.

The International Design Workshop involves the University of Catania, some foreign Universities and international architects.

### **art.1 Participation, application and selection procedures**

Eligible applicants are graduates and undergraduates from the Faculty of Architecture and Engineering (Degree Building and Construction / Architecture), Faculty of Economics of the European Union member countries; students from the Academy of Fine Arts, from Postgraduate Specialization Schools and from Masters of the disciplines of landscape architecture, landscape gardening and planning.

The workshop official languages are Italian and English.

Each participant will receive a certificate of participation.

Applicants will be selected on qualifications. Applications must include: the application form in Italian or English; a personal book (pdf) containing the curriculum vitae (max. no. 2 pages A4 size) and a portfolio of projects (n max. 2 pages A4 size).

The application form, the curriculum and the portfolio have to be sent, by e-mail attachment in pdf format, in a single email, to [selectionsimetolandscap@gmail.com](mailto:selectionsimetolandscap@gmail.com). Attachments should not exceed the total size of 1.5 MB.

The deadline for submitting applications is **August 3rd, 2012 at 12:00.**

Applications will be evaluated by a committee composed of members of organizational management and coordination board or by their delegates.

Successful candidates will be informed within **August 7th, 2012** and registration has to be formalized no later than **August 14th, 2012** by paying the registration fee by bank transfer to the following coordinates:

IBAN IT90B0502916900CC0020001316 Banca Popolare dell'Etna Catania



The payment receipt must be sent by mail within 14th August 2012 to  
[selectionsimetolandscap@gmail.com](mailto:selectionsimetolandscap@gmail.com)

The maximum number of allowed participants is 90.

The registration fee is 250.00 euros.

### art.2 Objectives

The workshop aims to encourage the debate among participants as an essential moment of growth, by increasing the ability to design in international working groups. It has the following objectives:

1. Consolidate and promote the identity of the cities around Simeto, in order to build a regional network as a shared schedule to carry out a set of actions on planning, programming, and architectural and urban design.
2. Explore and experiment, through architectural design, the possibilities of transformation of the landscape in relation to urban and natural resources and considering as well, the framework of social, historical, cultural, economic, rural, energetic and mobility systems, which characterize the area of the city that grows along the Simeto river.
3. Acquire and support the contemporary high quality architecture projects to create a theme-based tourist circuit and provide an opportunity to make a permanent design laboratory, through the cyclical biennial workshop.
4. Develop and implement permanent processes of cultural and interdisciplinary contaminations by involving designers, photographers, artists and / or national and international writers to achieve a new cultural landscape.
5. Implement and contribute to the creation of new opportunities for public and private investments in order to initiate processes of sustainable and ethical development.

### art.3 Official Languages

Italian

English

### art.4 Project themes

The workshop's design experience offers 5 sites along the river Simeto and a sixth one that includes the infrastructural system of the Simeto river on a regional scale. The sites are characterized by the presence of the following 5 castles:

Nelson Castle in Bronte, the castles of Adrano, Paternò, Motta and Misterbianco and the Ursino Castle in Catania. The river connects these 5 urban areas and the main framework of the territorial network defining the landscape of the river town.

The general theme is the *riverfront landscape*, that is to say, the towns whose urban areas overlook the Simeto river, which links them to one another

Each identified area highlights a common question: the connections between the river and the crossing networks through the city. As a result of this the workshop focuses on two main project themes: Architecture, Parks.

These issues can in turn be declined in the following sub-themes of the project:

1. Urban parks and open space design
2. From agricultural areas to cities (recovery paths fruition, quarries and abandoned areas, banks of rivers, countryfront, urban gardens)
3. From a consolidated city and / or historical places to degraded areas (margins, peripheries, the "back" of the city...)
4. Infrastructure and the system of public spaces (from the path to the nodes, the connections, the architecture of places of mobility).
5. The infrastructure system of the Simeto's geographical-scale landscape.

Multiple design opportunities to regenerate the relationship between the city and the river and to consolidate the idea of a new geographical city region, the Simeto.

Each group will develop:

- A *master plan* that identifies the nodes of the network and the strategies of connection and regeneration of the space *in-between* along the river- city;
- An architectural project about the connection land / city, like urban Propylaea;
- An architectural project about the intersection between the river and the network connecting with the city.

The landscape-oriented projects, explore and reveal the territory's texture and polarity, in terms of sustainable and shared development.



The purpose is to design a piece of a larger macro system, meant to manage the different scales: architecture and landscape on an urban scale; architecture of individual artifacts and / or architectural devices.

#### art.5 Areas of project

There are six project areas:

- 1 Catania
- 2 Motta/Misterbianco
- 3 Paternò
- 4 Adrano
- 5 Bronte/ Maletto/Randazzo
- 6 Fiume Simeto

#### art.6 Project Groups

The workshop consists of 6 working groups. Each group will consist of:  
two group- leaders architects: a *resident* and a *visiting architect*  
two tutors

15 international students

2 consultants: 1 photographer, 1 local artist

##### visiting

EMBT | Benedetta Tagliabue

S MC | Mario Cucinella

CyO | Cruz Y Ortiz

Hector Fernandez-Elorza

Arup

OMA

##### resident

Giuseppe Scannella

Michele Marchese

Maurizio Spina

Angelo Di Chio

Monoarchitetti | N.Allen/G.Parito/M.Fontana

Alessandra Foti

#### art.7 Tutors

Six registered architects of Architects's Order PPC, from the Province of Catania, are invited to participate as tutor: they must have not completed the 35th year of age to on the expiration date of the notice (**July 31, 2011**)

Applicants will be selected on qualifications by submitting the application form in Italian, accompanied by curriculum vitae (max. no. 2 pages A4 portrait, and a portfolio of projects (n max. 2 pages A3 landscape).

Sending a copy of an identity document is required

The application form, the curriculum, the portfolio and a copy of your passport have be sent, by e-mail attachment in pdf format, in a single email, to [selectionsimetolandscape@gmail.com](mailto:selectionsimetolandscape@gmail.com). Attachments should not exceed the total size of 1.5 MB.

In the Object specify "tutor selection". The deadline for sending applications is **July 31, 2012 at 12.**

Applications will be evaluated by a committee composed of members of the scientific, organizational management and coordination board or by their delegates.

Tutoring is voluntary and free, no compensation or reimbursement of expenses are granted. The six selected tutors will be supported by six tutors appointed on the recommendation of the local associations involved in the workshop organization.

#### art.8 Activities

The workshop lasts for nine days (8-16 September 2012) and consists of: introduction to the themes of work, a on-the-spot investigation in the project areas, team working activities, a final conference and some side activities which are explained in the updated program.

Activities start on Saturday, 8 September 2012 from 16.30 with the registration of participants at the 'International Design Workshop \_ Simeto / Landscape.

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All the activities of the workshop will be held at The Chimneys Culture and Fair Conference Centre\_Africa Avenue, 95129 Catania, Italy

The updated program of all activities is available online at [www.fondazioneordinearchitetticatania.it](http://www.fondazioneordinearchitetticatania.it)

#### **art.9 Facilities**

Accommodation and subsistence expenses are paid by participants. All participants not residing in the Province of Catania can choose to be hosted at the facilities that have an agreement with AETNA LANDSCAPES 2012. List of hotels, accommodation facilities and rates.

#### **art.10 Credits**

#### **art.11 Reserves**

The organization reserves the right to make changes to this notice in order to improve and / or optimize the success of the event.

#### **Scientific and organizational direction and coordination**

Carlotta Reitano (Architects's Order Foundation ppc Ct)  
Benny Caruso (Superintendency of Cultural Heritage of Catania)  
Stefania Marletta (Officina 21)  
Simona Mazzeo, (Architects's Order, PPC of Catania CoGA)

Catania 30.06.2012