

LANDSCAPE

P62. WHO SOWS REAPS

THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE **RADICEPURA GARDEN FESTIVAL** AT GIARRE WILL RUN UNTIL 3 DECEMBER; THE BIENNIAL

OF THE MEDITERRANEAN LANDSCAPE WILL HOST A MANY-SIDED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, GUESTS AND WORKSHOPS FOR A FULL IMMERSION IN THE WORLD OF PLANTS

The first international event devoted to the Mediterranean landscape, the **Radicepura Garden Festival** inaugurated its fourth edition last May at Giarre, and until 3 December it will enable the public to visit 15 gardens and four installations made with plants provided by the historic **Piante Faro** nursery in the botanical park of the same name. Promoted by the **Fondazione Radicepura** and conceived and directed by Mario Faro, this year the festival will be interpreting the theme proposed by its artistic director, Antonio Perazzi: The Garden of Plants. The projects on display showcase the botanical element with the aim of promoting a different style of garden, one that creates a sincere relationship with plants and the environment on a daily basis. Also stimulating reflection on this theme is the garden **Wind and Water, Attempts at Resilience**, designed by Paolo Pejrone, who describes it as follows. "The garden is a form of coexistence, a laboratory of knowledge and experimentation. Many of the plants we grow today come from very different worlds, and in the garden these relationships become an element of strength, happy attempts at peaceful coexistence that give life to paths that are exuberant and unusual, hence unique." In addition to the garden created by Pejrone, the novelties of this edition include seven gardens and an installation. They were designed by the eight teams of architects and landscapers under 36 selected through an international call starting from over 900 applications from 62 countries. The eight teams, coming from Croatia, France, Hong Kong, Italy, Malaysia and the USA, were selected by a jury chaired by Sarah Eberle and consisting of Marco Bay, Daniela Bruno, Adrian Paci, Antonio Perazzi and Manlio Speciale. These are the new projects: **Alla mensa di Madre Etna**, by Linda Grisoli and Gordon Goh, a celebration of the richness of edible plants; **Apiaceae**, by the Sylvestre team (Louis Richard and Etienne Lapleau), a garden entirely made with plants of the eponymous family; **Di-scendere**, by Marta Prosello, Andrea D'Ascola and Sofia Ronchini, an invitation to look at the garden from below, grasping its less obvious aspects; **Inviolabile Amuranza**, by Nicoletta Aveni, a complex plant system in which humanity is a simple spectator; **Shadow and Stone** by Sara Stojakovic, an invitation to discover the beauty of the plant habitats of the Kvarner region, in the northern part of the Croatian coast; **The Womb Garden** by Thomas Brown, a reflection on our daily need for nature; **UFO**, una foresta occulta by the collective **BoHo** (Maria Laura Calogero, Matteo Pessini and Graziano Testa), a design idea that sees tradition as the best possible form of ecology; **Shy Pavilion**, finally, is the installation by the team **Atelier NOT** (Adrian Wen, Frank Wu and Freya Jiao) and revolves around one of the world's commonest plants, **Mimosa pudica**, whose leaves, when touched, close to open again a few minutes later. In addition to the projects devoted to the theme of the year, the Park will also host some gardens of previous editions, created, among others, by James Basson, Michel Péna, Antonio Perazzi and Andy Sturgeon. Art, architecture, culture, ecology, the economy and environmental sustainability are the themes providing the focus of projects, workshops, educational activities and events that for six months will recount both a territory, Sicily, and the sense of nature generated by it. The event will close on 3 December with the awarding of the **Gardenia prize**, whose director, Emanuela Rosa-Clot, will deliver the award to the garden that has shown the finest evolution in the duration of the festival. *A.P.*

