



PALIMPSEST

## Creative Drivers for Sustainable Living Heritage Landscapes

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# PRESS RELEASE

**PALIMPSEST “CREATIVE DIALOGUES” OPEN CALL FINALISTS**

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## **PALIMPSEST “CREATIVE DIALOGUES” Open Call Results**

**Impressive ideas for the transformation of landscapes and communities of three European cities - Milan, Jerez de la Frontera and Łódź.**

After an intensive evaluation process, PALIMPSEST Consortium announces the results of the PALIMPSEST Creative Dialogues Open Call. It was a challenging task as the quality and creativity of the submissions we received were truly remarkable. The 14 selected projects exemplify innovation, creativity, and a commitment to make a positive impact on our Landscapes pilots.

The Creative Dialogues are just around the corner, and these talented creators will be invited to participate in these moments of discussion and co-production. This is an opportunity for them to share their artistic visions with the PALIMPSEST research team and contribute to the transformation of the three selected landscapes and communities facing environmental challenges: Milan, Jerez de la Frontera and Łódź.

Some quick insights into the finalists' profiles:

- The finalists mainly describe their work as visual arts and design/landscape architecture, hybridised with audiovisual & multimedia in Milan pilot;
- Only Łódź has a local candidate, Jerez de la Frontera has three national candidates and Milan one;
- Nine of the finalists' projects were submitted by individuals and 5 by teams (Jerez and Milan have both 2 teams selected; one team for Łódź) making a total of 20 participants;
- Concerning age, the average age bracket of the selected candidates is 35 to 44 years old;
- A perfect gender balance and a perfect tied-match with 10 women and 10 men.

Those remarkable artists, designers, and innovator will help shape the future not only of PALIMPSEST projects but inspire and guide the transformation of the three cities.

The final evaluation process to select one winning projects per pilot, has been initiated and it will be based on the Creative Dialogues that will take place in November and December 2023, during which these talented creators will be invited to participate in moments of discussion and co-production. During these meetings, the creators will share their artistic visions with the PALIMPSEST research team and contribute to the transformation of landscapes and communities facing environmental challenges. The finalists will be announced in February 2024 on the occasion of our online welcome event.

In light of the value, the diversity and the generative capacity of the submitted projects the jury has decided to extend the invitation to participate in the Dialogues meetings to the following proposals per pilot site:



## JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA

### Nuevo Canto de trabajo ('New Work Song') | Cristian Subirà | Spain

The starting phase of the project is using trees (primarily in vineyards) as antennas to collect frequencies via a device built to translate electromagnetic interference in the air into audio. The resulting material will be edited to compose a collective sound piece. This piece could be later presented in collaboration with a local flamenco artist via Festival de Jerez.

### We can't eat soil, but do it | honey & bunny | Austria

"We can't eat soil, but do it" is an arts & science performance project about sustainable food. It starts with a deep research phase about biological and cultural diversity and ends with a silent eat art performance for the local public for 100 guests. The performance is based on stories, rituals, diverse food cultures and it focuses on a sustainable transformation.



### The Songs of Nearby Earth | Estelle Jullian | Spain

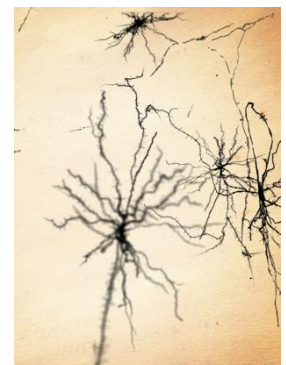


The Songs of Nearby Earth is a workshop that proposes the collective production of ceramic pieces glazed with wood ashes from the pruning of vines and fired with energy from windmills. The objects made will be musical instruments (wind and percussion ones) and tableware (plates and glasses) that will be activated in a celebratory event where wine and "ajo caliente" will be shared and the sound of the artefacts will be incorporated into traditional flamenco songs that allude to agricultural work.

### From Land to Soil | Manuel Prados | Spain

Inspired by the idea that flamenco is an art of the ground, the proposal will focus on the four meanings of the Spanish word "tierra" (earth, land, ground, soil) to address environmental problems that affect the social fabric of Jerez and that can be scaled to other contexts through three lines of action:

- FEEDING THE SOIL will attend to the health of croplands, improving fertility in a sustainable way
- NOBODY'S LAND will study both publicly owned wasteland and industrial areas dedicated to solar energy, and will propose ways to reforest them
- UNDERGROUND GREENHOUSES will make use of a particular type of soil that occurs in Jerez, the "albariza", which remains moist inside despite the dryness of the surface





**Peacegaming the Countryside | Eiland Collective | France**



"Peacegaming" stands at the intersection of serious-games mechanics and wargaming, created for diverse actors, including non-humans. Focused on fostering dialogue on environmental issues through a systemic approach, this map-based hybrid (digital/IRL) simulation leads to a set of co-created cartographies that subvert mainstream narratives.

**ŁÓDŹ**

**The Urban Gardening Laboratory | Witold Szwedkowski | Poland**

The Urban Gardening Laboratory will be a consultation point and a reading room for specialist literature and a place to see and experience the effects of nature-based solutions. As a studio, reading room, exhibition hall and landscape architecture consultation point, the place will be open to residents, tourists, students, journalists and local opinion leaders, entrepreneurs and developers operating not only in Księży Młyn, the area of revitalization, but also in other districts of Łódź.



**Freedom flow, Be like water | Mona El Batrik | Spain**



The proposal is to regenerate the community’s natural surroundings and artistic vibrancy by developing an inspired, non intrusive and functional element nestled into the landscape. Combining a simple and innovative approach, the primarily focus is to support the cleaning of the Jasień river water using a bridge like structure that ties two sides together, at the same time, providing an evocative filtering system that uses strategic organic materials to act as a natural water and air purifier.

**Mechanical Trees | Andrzej Tarasiuk | Finland**

“The Canopy” is part of the Mechanical Tree Project which interprets nature and landscape through the lens of technology, highlighting complexity and interconnectivity of natural and human systems. The Mechanical Tree’ canopy will be made of wool] to test wool’s ability to slow down water flow during rainstorms; reduce the heat island effect by providing shade and water evaporation; reduce particulate, gas and noise pollution; add to the aesthetic quality of the urban landscape through pattern, colour and/or design developed in collaboration with the local community; and act as potential surface for development of local flora.”



**WEAVERS | Weavers | Poland**



SPORES is a creative process with social participation. The aim is to collectively develop a form of SPORES (wrappers-cocoons) which will be a safe place of transformation and rebirth towards hope, by co-creating base structures inspired by nature (nests, burrows, holes) that will lead to a series of overnight stays. Each participant writes down a record of his or her dream in the form of a text or a sketch based on the collected informations or drawings, large-

format embroidery will be created and displayed in the landscape.

**MILAN**

**The River’s Tale | Margherita Muriti | France**

“The River’s Tale: Reconnecting with the River Lambro” aims to shift our perspective from external observation of the landscape to an internal understanding, nurturing a profound sense of responsibility toward it. It explores personal and collective narratives, highlighting interconnections among all beings and examines how the current shape of the landscape reflects our relationship with it. Individually and in small groups, participants will engage in immersive activities like riverside walks, visual and auditory observations, interactions with locals, and historical research. Outcomes will include short videos, accompanied by a series of photographs and texts, offering insights into potential future.



**Acqua Lambro | gethan&myles | France**



Currently in popular imagery a plastic bottle in water is a symbol of pollution while a plastic bottle full of water is a symbol of cleanliness. This is an ontological confusion - in planetary terms they are one and the same thing. We propose to design and produce a limited edition of glass carafes, marked Acqua Lambro, each holding a litre of the Lambro’s water purified to drinkable standards. The purification of the water would be carried out using basic methods (eg. sand filtration and solar distillation) and the

purity would be scientifically verified. The purification apparatus would form a temporary art installation in public space at which a ritual performance where the public could drink the purified water and make a pledge to the river would take place.





### Reverberations of the Lambro Acoustic Heritage Collective | Spain



"Reverberations of the Lambro" is a sound exploration project that aims to reconnect Milanese citizens with the Lambro River. It will use sound as a medium to evoke collective memory by recording the soundscapes of the river and hidden waters, increase environmental awareness by capturing locals' stories and experiences, and organizing workshops for critical listening and promote social inclusion while envisioning a sustainable future for agricultural landscapes. Additional visual and narrative elements could be incorporated to enhance sound aspects.

### Terrazze Incognite | Eva Andronikidou | Greece

The typical/natural section of rivers consists of terraces—zones of biodiversity, functions etc. The concept proposes to work with soil movements to control water infiltration-velocity- levels, vegetation, access, (in)continuities. It traces the lost sections/terraces of the river and invents new ones, both realistically and conceptually. The terraces permit to attempt the restoration of the river's natural ecosystems, as well as to enhance its role as an urban waterscape.



### FLUMEN LAMBRO | Futurecologies | Italy



FLUMEN LAMBRO - reconnecting the Non-human, is a trans-disciplinary project that with contemporary art practices, Nature-based solution and Environmental Humanities aim to reconnect the human with non-human, people of Milan with the River Lambro. As first action Andrea Conte, with studio Andreco and Climate art project will realize the flag of the river Lambro that will be used during small rituals / collective art performance with the citizen to reconnect with the river ecosystem.

Scientific data will be also sampling about water and soil quality and about the biodiversity index. Some aquatic plants will be used as bio-indicators for the river environment in a citizen science perspective.

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PALIMPSEST project focuses on regenerating the lost sustainability wisdom in heritage landscapes through co-creation with creative actors, technical stakeholders and civic society. Architecture, design and art practices dialogue with place-specific needs and broad systemic challenges to imagine new scenarios and experiment with innovative practices connecting human actions, landscape heritage and sustainability objectives. To experiment and envision



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novel landscape scenarios, PALIMPSEST focuses on three pilot landscapes with diverse cultural identities and environmental problems.

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