

# ANATOMICAÆ NATURA 1542 1584

**Anatomicae Natura: 1542-1584**  
**International Conference on Studies**  
**Tivoli, Villa d'Este, 20-21 March 2025**

**DATE**

06 JANUARY 2025

Abstract submission deadline

31 JANUARY 2025

Notification of accepted submissions

**Scientific Committee**

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# VILLÆ

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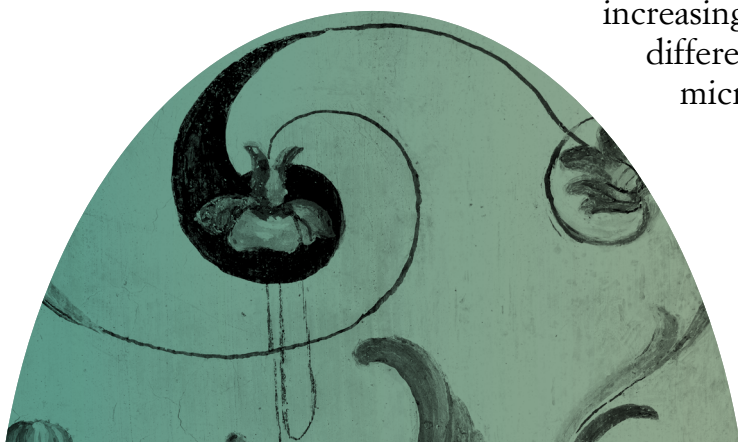
Please specify "Anatomicae Natura"  
in the subject line of any email.

The late Renaissance  
which witnessed the birth  
of Villa d'Este and its garden,  
fostered both  
cabinets of curiosities where unsystematic  
collections were assembled,  
and a different cosmogony  
for a new definition  
of *paràdeisos*.

This era became the cradle of natural and artistic  
knowledge in the early modern age.

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In the mid-16th century, in fact, a synesthetic, ambiguous culture began to emerge, blending natural and artificial elements in a manner often challenging to discern as work of human hands or nature, art or mysterious energy. This concept then formed the basis both of the design of Villa d'Este's gardens and of the Botanical Garden of Padua. The interdependence between botanical and medical knowledge, between circulatory and vital systems with natural analogies and biological similarities, as well as the fluid connection between bodies and the organic mechanisms that govern life, are object of interest (*curiosa*) at the centre of the pre-scientific thinking that developed in the shade of a new cosmopolitan knowledge. This knowledge was cultivated in dialogue with antiquity, even as it contended with an ever-expanding world. In 1542, Andreas Vesalius's *De Humani Corporis Fabrica* and Leonhart Fuchs's herbal *De Historia Stirpium* systematised a research exploring different aspects that would lead to the definition of that *natura naturans*, later codified in 1584 by Giordano Bruno in *De la Causa, Principio et Uno*. A cultural context that opened up to science through a normative encyclopaedism, represented by personalities such as Realdo Colombo, Andrea Cesalpino, and Luca Ghini among others. Scholars that were at the service of a world becoming increasingly marvellous and infinite, never exempt from a different spirituality of neo-Pythagorean origin, where microcosm and macrocosm coincide.





Based on these premises, the study days aim to propose an interdisciplinary focus, which is considered the most suitable approach to delineate such an 'open and contemporary' historical period, especially in relation to the Counter-Reformation climate in which it developed.

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The conference aims to create an opportunity for dialogue among scholars from disciplines that are now seen as antithetical, to reconstruct the portrait of an era that was both contradictory and a precursor to issues that are extremely relevant to our present day.

# INFO:

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in collaboration with  
**Botanical Garden – University of Padua**  
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The conference is open to the public,  
subject to prior written notification.

Participation as a speaker is free of  
charge and subject to the acceptance of  
an abstract of approximately 300 words.  
This must be accompanied (in a separate  
file) by a descriptive note on the author(s),  
including their affiliation, title, e-mail,  
telephone number.

Acceptance of the abstract is determined  
through a *double-blind peer* review  
process. To ensure anonymity during  
the selection process, abstracts must not  
contain any references to the author's  
identity or to specific research and studies  
clearly associated with them.