



# ERANOS FOUNDATION ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2012



ERANOS



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 2012 ERANOS FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The year 2012 has been still characterized by worldwide economic uncertainties that have negatively influenced the activity of many non-profit organizations like ours, whose subsistence largely depends on the generosity of public and private sponsors and partners. Our own financial situation has also been suffering by the unfavorable exchange rate of the Swiss Franc, a situation which diminished the net value of the precious grants from our American partner institutions, such as the **Fetzer Institute** of Kalamazoo (Michigan, USA) and the **Pacifica Graduate Institute** of Santa Barbara (California, USA).

The Eranos Foundation Council (EFC) has nonetheless been able to consolidate the activities program by implementing some of the initiatives that have been started in the previous years. This has been possible because the members of the EFC have continuously supported in various forms the scientific program put together by the president, Fabio Merlini.

We remind that the tasks and objectives of the Foundation can be summarized as follows:

- a) Seeking solutions for financial consolidation in the long-term period;
- b) Renewing and strengthening the relationships with partners and sponsors;
- c) Continuing and developing the scientific and seminar activity, according to the statutes;
- d) Keep planning new logistic solutions to ameliorate, in the mid-term period, the accessibility and utilization of the archives.

The relationship with the Fetzer Institute has continued in 2012 according to the reciprocal trust, in particular thanks to the genuine interest of the president, Dr. Lawrence Sullivan, and of his close collaborators. In 2012 the Foundation could continue also its scientific cooperation with the Pacifica Graduate institute thanks to the appreciated efforts of its president, Dr. Stephen Aizenstat, who, besides being in constant contact with the EFC, has actively participated to the 2012 Eranos Conference and has personally conducted an important workshop in July.

The year 2012 has unfortunately witnessed the continuation of the long lasting legal procedure based on accusations by the federal surveillance office against the previous president and allegations against some of the EFC members. During the investigations and the interrogatories, it has become progressively clear that the allegations have little substance. However, a final decision from the district attorney has not yet been reached and this lengthy dispute has deviated precious time and resources that could have been spent in a more fruitful manner.

### 2. EVENTS HELD BY THE FOUNDATION

In 2012, the Foundation held the following events (sometimes, in collaboration with its scientific partners):

• **The organization of the Eranos Conference on the topic “On the Threshold: Disorientation and New Forms of Space,”** on September 2-8.

The Conference was held in the international and interdisciplinary spirit, which characterized Eranos since its beginnings. Among the renewed scholars who took part at the Conference, we mention: Valerio Adami (European Foundation for Desing), Stephen Aizenstat (Pacifica Graduate Institute), Claudio Bonvecchio (Insubria University), Mario Botta (architect), Adriano Fabris (Pisa University), Bernardo Nante (Fundación Vocación Humana, Universidad del Salvador of Buenos Aires), Fausto Petrella (Pavia University), Gian Piero Quaglino (Turin University), Victor Stoichita (Fribourg University), Amelia Valtolina (Bergamo University), and Silvio Vietta (Hildesheim University). The symposium, after an inaugural encounter on September 5, was held along three days: on September 6-7, the traditional seminars were held in the Eranos lecture hall, in Ascona-Moscia; on September 8, the results of the previous discussions were presented with a wider public at the Monte Verità Congress Center, in Ascona.



• **The organization of the Eranos-Jung Lectures on the topic “The Disappearance of the Masters?,” at the Monte Verità Congress Center.**

This is a series of lectures promoted monthly in Ascona, as an important and integrant part of the activities supported by the Foundation. It is geared towards a large public that has been following with interest, for the latest three years, the re-launch of our historical institution. Among the renewed scholars who took part at the 2012 lectures, we mention: Bernardo Nante (Fundación Vocación Humana, Universidad del Salvador of Buenos Aires), with a lecture on “Caduta e rinascita della figura del maestro nel mondo contemporaneo” (March 2); Maurizio Ferraris (Turin University), with a lecture on “Che cosa ha preso il posto dei Maestri?” (March 30); Michael Engelhard (Genera Consul of Germany in Milan and Chicago) and Nicolaus Koliusis (artist), respectively, with a lecture on “Hinter dem Hügel : Leopardis Räume” and a contemporary art exhibition (May 11-12); Augusto Shantena Sabbadini (Pari Center for New Learning), with a lecture on “Il Tao senza nome: conversazione con due antichi Maestri” (June 22); Marco Vozza (Turin University), with a lecture on “Nietzsche, un maestro sempre attuale?” (October 12); and Fabio Merlini (Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Eranos Foundation), with a lecture on “Chi sono i cattivi maestri?” (November 29). The cycle contributed to consolidate the positive and fruitful collaboration with the Monte Verità Foundation, to which the Eranos Foundation is grateful for the professional and dedicated support and mutual understanding. The cycle testifies also the consolidation of the support by BSI, to which the Eranos Foundation is grateful for the important and sensitive support. A wide and dedicated public attended the lectures, which attracted the attention of the media (radio and newspapers) too.

• **The organization of a seminar as part of the Eranos School, on the topic “Introduction to Dream Tending,” at Eranos in Ascona-Moscia.**

The workshop was held from June 29 to July 1, by Dr. Stephen Aizenstat, founding president and chancellor of the Pacifica Graduate Institute (Santa Barbara, California, USA). The topic was an introduction to “Dream Tending,” an innovative approach to dream work, which was developed by Dr. Aizenstat, on the basis of his 30-year experience of study and clinical practice with dreams.

• **The publication of the 70<sup>th</sup> Eranos Yearbook, entitled *Love on a Fragile Thread*, in collaboration with Daimon Verlag (Einsiedeln, Switzerland).** The volume, edited by Fabio Merlini, Lawrence E. Sullivan, Riccardo Bernardini, and Kate Olson (ISBN 9783856307509), presents, in over 800 pages, the work of the last three years of activities at the Eranos Foundation (2009–2011). It includes the papers given on the theme of the 2011 Eranos Conference, “About Fragility in the Contemporary World,” together with talks given on the occasion of the 2010-2011 Eranos-Jung Lectures, which took place to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Carl Gustav Jung’s passing away. This publication carries an additional special meaning in further consolidating the collaboration with the Fetzer Institute, by presenting the manuscripts of the Dialogues on the Power of Love held at Eranos between 2008 and 2011.

• **The preparation of the 71<sup>st</sup> Eranos Yearbook**, in collaboration with Daimon Verlag (Einsiedeln, Switzerland).

The book will collect the presentations held at the 2012 Eranos Conference, on the topic “On the Threshold: Disorientation and New Forms of Space,” and at the 2012 Eranos-Jung Lectures, on the topic “The Disappearance of the Masters?.” The publication is expected for September 2013.

• **The stipulation of an editorial agreement with Spring Journal Books, Inc. (New Orleans, Louisiana, USA), for an editorial series (*Eranos Series*) in English language.**

The series will gather, in form of miscellaneous volumes, the contributions presented at the Eranos-Jung Lectures.

• **The stipulation of an editorial agreement with Rosenberg & Sellier (Torino, Italia), for an editorial series (*I Saggi di Eranos*) in Italian language.**

The series will gather, in form of monographic books, the contributions presented at the Eranos Conferences or at the Eranos-Jung Lectures, but also other papers that, for their originality and scientific value, are close to the Eranos work.



The above-quoted events attracted both a local and an international public, which was very involved and motivated. A lot of new contacts—participants and supporters—were also added to our mailing list. Other events and seminars were hosted at Eranos in 2012. A list of those activities is shown below.

### **3. EVENTS HOSTED BY THE FOUNDATION**

Several activities have been traditionally hosted at the Eranos location in Ascona-Moscia. As it happens since many years, Eranos has become a privileged location for highly renowned seminars and workshops. Among the many groups from various parts of the world that have sojourned at Eranos, we shall mention the following:

- May 18-20: Writers' retreat workshop, Dr Wilma Scategni, Torino;
- May 28-June 1: Dream Tending workshop, Dr. Stephen Aizenstat, Santa Barbara (California, USA);
- June 2-4: IUFFP retreat, with Swiss delegates;
- June 14-17: Fall Kolloquium workshop, Dr. Robert Hinshaw, Zürich (Switzerland), with students of the C.G. Jung-Institut;
- July 9-15: workshop, Dr. E. Haas & Dr. D. Kaetz (Canada-Austria);
- October 19-21: workshop, Dr. Wilma Scategni, Torino (Italy).

Globally, in 2012, the Eranos location in Moscia has hosted more than 600 visitors. The main apartment in Casa Gabriella has been occupied for above 50 days by an average of 3 persons.

### **4. MEDIA VISIBILITY OF THE FOUNDATION**

The activities of the Foundation have raised a surprising success of attendance, considering the high level of the content. The events organized at the Monte Verità Congress Center (Eranos-Jung Lectures) have assembled collectively more than 800 attendees of very miscellaneous age and background. The hosts at the Eranos property in Moscia have surpassed the 600 people. These activities have been reported in various regional, cantonal, and extra-cantonal media. A press review of the year 2012 is available on the Web site, under the menu "Documents."

The internet site that had been completely reshaped for the second re-launch of 2010. It had reached, by the end of 2011, 15'000 visitors that became 30'000 by the end of 2012, with a total of over 100'000 page views. Considering the highly specialized content and the non-commercial character of the Web site, these numbers witness a sustained interest and represent an encouraging success, which is only explainable with the existence of a consistent and undoubtedly growing number of faithful followers.

When searching by keyword "Eranos Foundation," the link to our Web site is found in top position on the major search engines. The geographical distribution of the Web visitors remain similar to the situation reported in 2011, with the top rankings shared between US and Italy, followed by Switzerland, France, Germany, and UK. We continue to score important visiting rates from South America, Asia, and Australia. On the other hand, the Facebook page initiated in the Spring 2012 has not seen a take off, suggesting that the Eranos's public is probably less interested in this type of communication.



## 5. INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2013 PROGRAM

In 2013, the Foundation is going to hold the following events (sometimes, in collaboration with its scientific partners):

- **The organization of the 2013 Eranos Conference, on the topic “Il denaro: simbolica, incanto e disincanto” / ‘Money—Symbol, Enchantment, and Disenchantment’ / « L’argent : symbolique, enchantement et désenchantement » / „Das Geld. Symbolik, Verzauberung und Entzauberung“**, on September 4-7.

The symposium will last four days. Among the renown scholars who will take part at the Conference and discuss about a so crucial and living matter, we mention: Valerio Adami (European Foundation for Desing), Stephen Aizenstat (Pacifica Graduate Institute), Gianni Aprile (BSI Bank), Leonardo Boff (State University of Rio de Janeiro), Claudio Bonvecchio (Insubria University), Monique Canto-Sperber (CNRS, Fondation Paris Sciences et Lettres), Jean François Courtine (Institut Universitaire de France, Université Paris-Sorbonne), Adriano Fabris (Pisa University), Mauro Guindani (Musikhochschule Stuttgart), Clarisse Herrenschmidt (CNRS), Bernardo Nante (Fundación Vocación Humana, Universidad del Salvador of Buenos Aires), Sabine Plaud (Fondation Paris Sciences et Lettres), Franco Polloni (BSI Bank), Gian Piero Quaglino (Turin University), Francesca Rigotti (Università della Svizzera Italiana), Lawrence E. Sullivan (Fetzer Institute), Amelia Valtolina (Bergamo University), Jean-Jacques Wunenburger (Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3), and Luigi Zoja (International Association for Analytical Psychology). The presentations will be held, on September 4-6, at Eranos in Ascona-Moscia, whilst, on September 7, at the Monte Verità Congress Centre in Ascona.

- **The organization of the Eranos-Jung Lectures on the topic “Soul in the Age of Neuroscience | 1. Human Science Perspective,” at the Monte Verità Congress Center.**

The new cycle of lectures, building on the success of the 2012 edition, has the purpose is to enquiry about the persistent notion of “Soul,” which continues to accompany and to inspire us, not only in the dialogue within ourselves, but also in the perception of the world around us and in the relationships with the persons surrounding us. The idea is to push the enquiry beyond the several oversimplified ideas that are in fashion nowadays and that seem to be reducing all expressions of the “Soul” to the materialism of its neuronal origin. In 2014, on the topic “Soul in the Age of Neuroscience | 1. Natural Science Perspective,” another group of scientists will present the point of view of exact science and natural science on the same topic. In 2013 the following lecturers took part, or will take part, in the series: Pietro Barcellona (Catania University), with a lecture on “Il destino dell’anima” (January 11); Franco Ferrari (Salerno University), with a lecture on “I confini dell’anima nel pensiero antico” (February 1); Bernardo Nante (Fundación Vocación Humana, Universidad del Salvador di Buenos Aires), with a lecture on “Scienza ed esperienza religiosa. Una prospettiva junghiana” (March); Antonio Prete (Siena University), with a lecture on “Nel tempo-spazio dell’anima: lontananza e prossimità del tu” (April 19); Ginette Paris (Pacifica Graduate Institute), with a lecture on “Jung is passé, Jung is of the future. The relevance of depth psychology in an age of neuroscience” (May 31); Angelo Malinconico (International Association for Analytical Psychology) and Silvano Tagliagambe (Sassari University), with a lecture on “Pauli e Jung. Le convergenze tra cultura scientifica e umanistica” (June 7); Fabio Merlini (Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Eranos Foundation), with a lecture on “Anime belle e bellezze senz’anima” (October 25); Amelia Valtolina (Bergamo University), with a lecture on “‘Saetta tarda, che dardeggi dall’anima’. Le neuroscienze al tempo della poesia” (November 7); and Gian Piero Quaglino (Turin University), with a lecture on “L’anima non abita più qui” (December 6).

- **The organization of three seminars, as part of the Eranos School**, at Eranos in Ascona-Moscia. The workshops are the following ones: “Paranoia: una realtà dell’anima che non riguarda solo la psichiatria,” by Luigi Zoja (International Association for Analytical Psychology) (February 23); “Recovering from Heartbreak, Mourning, Loss,” by Ginette Paris (Pacifica Graduate Institute) (June 1-2); and “Collective and Transgenerational Unconscious in Jungian Psychodrama,” by Maurizio Gasseau (Aosta Valley University) (September 28-29).



- **The publication of the 71<sup>st</sup> Eranos Yearbook**, in collaboration with Daimon Verlag (Einsiedeln, Switzerland).

The book will collect the presentations held at the 2012 Eranos Conference, on the topic “On the Threshold: Disorientation and New Forms of Space,” and at the 2012 Eranos-Jung Lectures, on the topic “The Disappearance of the Masters?”

- **The publication of the first volume of the Eranos Series**, in collaboration with Spring Journal Books, Inc. (New Orleans, Louisiana, USA), under the title *The Disappearance of the Masters*.

The volume will gather, in English language, the contributions presented in the 2012 Eranos-Jung Lectures on the topic “The Disappearance of the Masters?”

- **The publication of the second volume of the I Saggi di Eranos series**, in collaboration with Rosenberg & Sellier (Turin, Italy).

The book, which follows *Concetti e frontiere, La mappa del nostro mondo* by Jocelyn Benoist (2011), is authored by Maurizio Ferraris (Turin University).

## 6. CONCLUSIONS, PERSPECTIVES, AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The EFC persist its efforts in seeking solutions that will improve the financial stability. In particular, the EFC is searching a long-term settlement, which could diminish the weight of the mortgage that had to be opened in 2005 to cover the debts of previous administrative structure and to allow the re-launch. Thus it is reassuring to know that for the third year in a row, the Foundation had ended the accounts with a small positive balance, in spite of the generally adverse economical conditions mentioned in the introduction.

In 2012, besides counting on public finances and on its traditional non-profit partners, the Foundation has received a generous support from the Banca della Svizzera Italiana (BSI). Currently the EFC is contacting further academic institutions, editors, and others that may have a potential interest in its activity and history.

Also, in the past year, the Foundation has therefore acted on various fronts in order to ensure the continuity of its mission and visions (see chapter 2 for details). The EFC is particularly proud to have been able to reach all the goals and objectives that had been scheduled for 2012. The scientific program sketched for the year 2013 (see chapter 5) contains further elements that should make it even more attractive for various levels of users and followers, while maintaining the basic “Spirit of Eranos,” with particular attention to the scientific quality of the conferences and of the publications.

With the support of the **Government of Cantone Ticino**, the **Comune di Ascona**, the **Ente Turistico Lago Maggiore**, the **Banca della Svizzera Italiana**, the **Fetzer Institute**, and the **Pacifica Graduate Institute**, and all those who trust in our goals, we are confident to be able to consolidate and further develop the results heretofore obtained and to keep marching towards a successful journey.

**The Foundation expresses to all the above mentioned organizations  
and to the persons representing them  
its most sincere thanks!**

Ascona, April 2013