

Monte Verità

Polo
internazionale
di
attività
accademiche

International
centre
of
academic
activity

Internationaler
Pol
akademischer
Aktivitäten

Pôle
d'attraction
international
d'activités
académiques



**Fondazione
Monte Verità**

Centro
Stefano Franscini
del
Politecnico di Zurigo

Seminari
del Monte Verità
del
Dipartimento dell'istruzione
e della cultura
del Cantone Ticino

Impressum

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Tutti i diritti riservati.
Pubblicato nel 1996.
Stampato in Svizzera.

Il volume è stato curato
dal Servizio Stampa
del Dipartimento
dell'istruzione e della cultura
del Cantone Ticino
(Svizzera).

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Published 1996.
Printed in Switzerland.

Edited
by Press Office
of Department
of Education and Culture
of Cantone Ticino
(Switzerland).

Fondazione Monte Verità
6612 Ascona, Switzerland
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Grafica
Laurent Nicod, Montagnola
Stampa
Salvioni arti grafiche SA, Bellinzona

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Monte Verità, pôle d'attraction international d'activités académiques

Giuseppe Buffi

président de la Fondation Monte Verità

directeur du Département de l'instruction publique et de la culture

Le Monte Verità a réussi à devenir un petit pôle d'attraction d'activités académiques, petit, mais néanmoins connu au niveau international et en constante expansion. Et ce n'est pas peu, si nous considérons qu'il a atteint cet objectif – certes ambitieux, mais dans des termes réalistes – en peu d'années, sans avoir encore l'appui et la collaboration d'une université dans le Canton, sans grandes disponibilités financières sur lesquelles compter.

Le Monte Verità a été acheté en 1926 par le baron von der Heydt, qui joua un rôle de mécène en relançant l'activité culturelle grâce à des rencontres entre artistes, hommes de lettres et représentants du monde de la culture. Il laissa le Monte Verità en héritage au Canton du Tessin.

Après quelques années d'incertitude le Canton, lié par la volonté du baron à poursuivre l'activité culturelle, a conclu en 1989 un accord avec les Ecoles polytechniques fédérales afin de réaliser un centre de séminaires ouvert à toutes les académies suisses et aux organismes culturels tessinois.

Le risque d'un coût de gestion excessif à la charge du Canton représentait la principale difficulté. Il existait en outre l'éventualité de ne pas réussir à établir tout de suite une activité culturelle qualitativement élevée. La collaboration avec l'école Polytechnique de Zurich a permis de surmonter avec une plus grande facilité ces difficultés initiales.

Finalement, en 1991, le passage de propriété à une fondation privée créée spécialement dans ce but a été réalisé. Cette fondation est constituée par le Canton du Tessin, la Commune d'Ascona et les écoles polytechniques fédérales. Le centre de séminaires a ainsi ouvert ses portes à tous, devenant un espace public, et non plus réservé seulement aux professionnels. En 1992 une nouvelle structure a été inaugurée. Celle-ci est pourvue d'un auditorium, d'une salle de réunions, d'une salle équipée d'ordinateurs et de tous les services indispensables à l'organisation de rencontres de recherche; parallèlement, elle offre un hôtel complètement rénové et un nouveau restaurant.

Après ces quelques années d'activité le bilan du centre de séminaires du Monte Verità est très positif. La collaboration interne de la Fondation, en particulier avec les Ecoles polytechniques, est efficace et productive; les coûts de gestion ne provoquent pas de déficit à la charge du Canton; les possibilités d'occupation pour le personnel qui s'occupe de l'organisation des séminaires sont nombreuses; le prestige scientifique atteint dépasse de loin les attentes; les institutions culturelles tessinoises peuvent organiser des réunions qui ont une résonance internationale.

Le Monte Verità a eu une fonction essentielle durant ces années de gestation du projet universitaire, qui a abouti à la constitution de l'Université de la Suisse italienne. Il continuera à avoir une fonction de premier plan dans la politique académique cantonale en apportant une contribution constante d'enrichissement culturel non seulement à ce Canton mais à la communauté scientifique tout entière, qui n'a pas de frontières.

Histoire du Monte Verità et structure du Centre de séminaires

Marina Fraccaroli

responsable du Service de presse du Département de l'instruction et de la culture

Histoire

Cette histoire naît sur la colline située au-dessus de Ascona, qui déjà au début du XX^e siècle sera appelée Monte Verità, puisque le mythe et l'histoire enseignent que les vérités nous sont révélées sur les montagnes (il suffit de citer, par exemple, les Monts Sinaï, Tabor, Olympe, Parnasse et Fujiyama).

Dès 1870 la région de Locarno devient un remarquable lieu de concentration et de production culturelles et artistiques: une multitude d'intellectuels se réunit à Locarno, Minusio, Ascona, presque à vouloir y trouver un refuge loin de la culture industrielle dominante, qu'ils refusent, et pour y créer un monde à part fondé sur des principes de vie basés sur le naturalisme. L'objectif de cette petite communauté est la constitution d'une société basée sur des principes contraires à ceux en vigueur dans le monde contemporain, c'est-à-dire basée sur la liberté la plus complète, sur la simplicité et sur la propriété en commun, sur de nouvelles valeurs religieuses, sur la pratique du nudisme, sur une symbiose avec la nature et sur un singulier type d'habitation (la maison air-lumière), sur une alimentation naturelle, en répudiant donc l'autoritarisme politique et familial, le capitalisme, le dogmatisme religieux, les tabous sexuels.

En 1869 Michail Bakounin arrive à Minusio et y reste cinq ans. Sur le Monte Verità est alors créée une commune basée sur l'anarchie. Ce courant de pensées sera poursuivi ensuite, dès 1904, par Erich Mühsam et Johannes Nahl. Mühsam rêve de fonder une république pour les victimes du capitalisme et de la société, pour les persécutés et le sous-prolétariat. À partir de 1904, avec l'arrivée de Raphaël Friedeberg, des tendances ético-sociales viennent s'immiscer dans ce courant anarchique.

Dès 1900 la colline au-dessus de Ascona devient le théâtre de ce qui est défini "Lebensreform" (réforme de vie), pratiquée jusque vers les années 20. Le belge Henri Oedenkoven acquiert du conseiller national et théosophe Alfredo Pioda la colline, ensuite nommée Monte Verità, et y instaure une commune qui vit en plein air, est végétarienne et tend à la simplicité de la vie naturelle, professe la liberté dans l'amour.

Au Monte Verità se succèdent d'autres mouvements, centrés sur la psychanalyse, sur la révolution sexuelle et sur la symbologie des mythes. La part de la psychanalyse est représentée tout d'abord par Otto Gross, théoricien de la libération de l'homme à travers une vision de la vie exempte d'autoritarismes. En 1933 est organisé la première des "Rencontres Eranos", nom proposé par le spécialiste des religions Rudolf Otto à l'hollandaise Olga Froebe-Kapteyn, fondatrice du mouvement spirituel qui se caractérise par l'intérêt envers les mythes, les religions et la symbologie archétype et qui trouve à Ascona un point de rencontre entre les philosophies occidentale et orientale.

Parallèlement à de nouveaux courants culturels et philosophiques se développent aussi des courants artistiques. En 1910 Rudolf von Laban crée l'"Ecole d'art du Monte Verità", qui prévoit l'initiation à tous les modes d'expression. Une nouvelle danse naît ainsi, conçue comme libre expression des états d'âme et du corps, de laquelle se fait promotrice

Charlotte Bara, sur les traces des innovations introduites par Isadora Duncan.

En 1926 la colline est achetée par le baron Eduard von der Heydt, grand collectionneur d'art, qui mène le Monte Verità vers sa meilleure saison artistique. Il fait construire un nouvel hôtel à Emil Fahrenkamp, augmentant ainsi la circulation et la concentration des personnes sur place.

Dans les premières décennies du XX^{ème} siècle, de nombreux artistes, intellectuels et savants font du Monte Verità leur centre culturel. Dans toute la région séjournent Carl Gustav Jung, Karoly Kerényi, Erich Maria Remarque, Hermann Hesse, Adolf Portmann, Paul Klee, Hans Harp e Sophie Traüber Arp, Robert Schürch, Oskar Schlemmer, Charlotte Bara, Marianne von Werefkin, El Lissitzky, Alexej Jawlensky et d'autres encore. C'est la période de gloire du Monte Verità

En 1956 le baron von der Heydt laisse les immeubles de la colline au Canton du Tessin, qui en devient propriétaire. Pour le Monte Verità s'ouvre une nouvelle période. Avec la constitution, en 1989, d'une fondation privée composée du Canton du Tessin, de la Commune d'Ascona et des Ecoles Polytechniques Fédérales, on envisage le déroulement d'activités internationales de niveau universitaire sur les thèmes les plus divers (séminaires et rencontres sur des thèmes de recherche scientifique, de littérature, d'histoire etc.). En 1992 est inaugurée une nouvelle infrastructure (pourvue de bâtiments neufs, qui s'ajoutent à ceux d'origine complètement rénovés) et avec celle-ci la nouvelle saison du Monte Verità.

Monte Verità:
gruppo di vegetariani (1903)
Monte Verità:
group of vegetarians (1903)



Structure du Centre de séminaires

Le Centre de séminaires du Monte Verità a été créé dans le but d'organiser des rencontres culturelles et scientifiques qui contribuent à donner un nouvel essor à la politique universitaire du Canton du Tessin et à la divulgation du savoir en général, de façon à continuer la tradition de pôle d'attraction et de rayonnement culturel que le Monte Verità avait eue par le passé.

Le Centre est dirigé par une fondation privée constituée par le Canton du Tessin, la Commune d'Ascona (Commune qui constitue le siège du Monte Verità) et par les Ecoles Polytechniques fédérales de Lausanne et de Zurich; Monsieur Giuseppe Buffi, directeur du Département de l'instruction publique et de la culture du Canton du Tessin, est le Président de la Fondation.

La Fondation est propriétaire du Monte Verità et décide de la gestion du Centre de séminaires. Le Conseil de la Fondation est composé de sept représentants: quatre du Canton du Tessin, un de la Commune de Ascona, deux des écoles polytechniques fédérales.

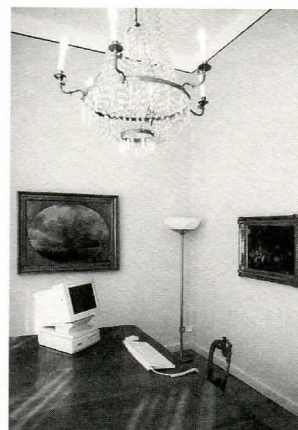
Grâce à un contrat établi avec la Fondation, le Centro Stefano Franscini (séminaires internationaux coordonnés par l'Ecole Polytechnique de Zurich), et les Seminari del Monte Verità (activités d'organismes tessinois coordonnées par le Canton du Tessin) bénéficient en permanence de l'utilisation des infrastructures du Monte Verità.

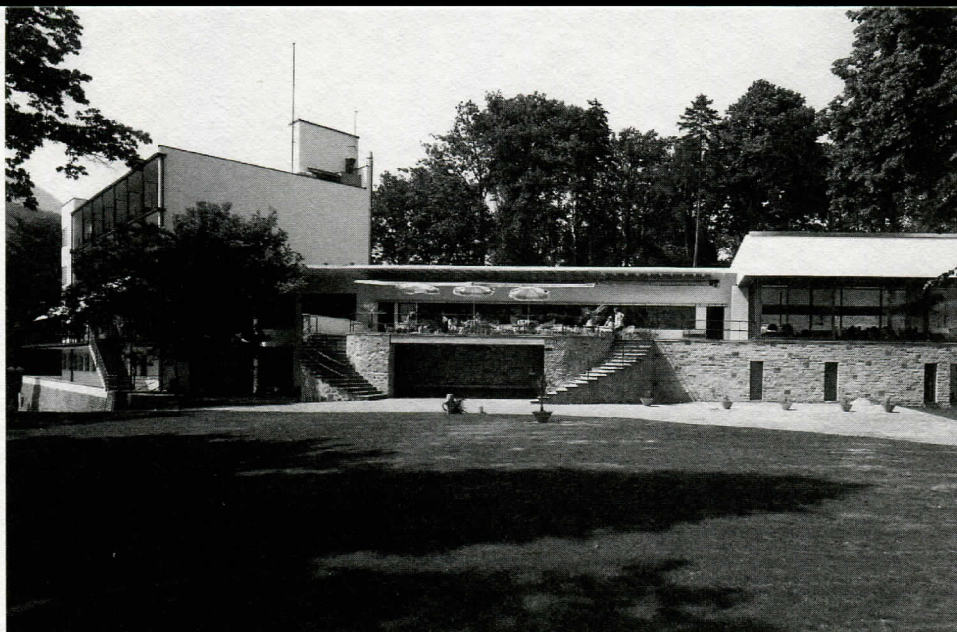
Centro Stefano Franscini

Le Centro Stefano Franscini est une structure de l'Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Zurich, qui organise au Monte Verità des rencontres et des séminaires scientifiques de niveau universitaire; en moyenne 20 à 25 manifestations sont organisées chaque année. Le Centro est dirigé par le professeur Hannes Flüher de l'Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Zurich; le secteur administratif est géré par Katia Bastianelli. Le financement des activités du Centro est acquis grâce à l'Ecole Polytechnique de Zurich, au Fonds national pour la recherche scientifique, à l'Ecole Polytechnique de Lausanne, aux contributions des participants, d'organismes publics ou privés. Le Conseil scientifique décide le programme annuel des activités qui seront développées par le Centro Stefano Franscini.

Seminari del Monte Verità

Les Seminari del Monte Verità coordonnent l'organisation des rencontres projetées par les organismes publics ou privées du Tessin; en moyenne presque 20 manifestations sont organisées chaque année. Le directeur des Séminaires est Monsieur Mauro Martinoni, chef de l'Office des études universitaires du Département de l'instruction et de la culture du Canton du Tessin. Le financement des activités est acquis grâce aux moyens propres, à des contributions cantonales et à divers organismes et fondations. Le programme annuel est coordonné avec le Centro Stefano Franscini et défini avec la Division culturelle du DIC.





Centre de séminaires: prestations

- Infrastructure
- Auditorium: 120 places; écran géant; installation audio, 4 micros et système d'enregistrement de conférences; installation audiovisuelle; traduction simultanée (2 canaux); projecteur graphique NEC avec interface, multisystème Pal, Secam, Ntsc et raccordement pour ordinateur.
- Salon Balint: jusqu'à 200 places pour conférences; 60 places pour séminaires.
- Salles pour travaux de groupe: trois de 40-50 m² et deux de 15 m².
- Bureau pour le secrétariat du cours.
- Salle des ordinateurs: 4 configurations informatiques Ms Dos et Macintosh; choix de programmes mis à jour; ligne modem; E-mail; imprimante laser. Tous les espaces peuvent être installés avec des supports didactiques et audio visuels (diapositives et retro projecteurs), vidéo-TV, écrans, flip-chart, panneaux, tableaux noirs, microphones).
- Hôtel
43 chambres (17 simples et 26 doubles); restaurant et bar; salle de télévision; tennis; parking privé; minibus; parc ouvert au public.
Restaurant
Le restaurant à gestion indépendante est ouvert au public et il est situé dans une belle position au centre du parc; salle de 140 places, véranda et terrasse.
- Musées
Il y a trois musées (Casa Anatta, Casa Selma, Chiaro mondo dei beati) qui évoquent l'histoire du lieu avec une attention particulière pour les mouvements artistiques et culturels qui s'y sont installés entre le XIXème et les premières décennies du XXème siècle.
- Informations
Pour des informations supplémentaires nous vous prions de vous adresser à la direction du Centre de séminaires du Monte Verità,
6612 Ascona, Suisse,
tél. 091 791 01 81
fax 091 780 51 35

The Centro Stefano Franscini at Monte Verità

Hannes Flühler
director of the Centro Stefano Franscini

The international scientific community will always be in need of meeting places. Despite advances in telecommunications, direct, personal contact and communication between researchers remain essential to progress. "Disputes" and verbal battles have always been instrumental in verifying or rejecting new discoveries and scientific theories. The Centro Stefano Franscini is just such a meeting place. It facilitates communication between universities and research organizations, and promotes European scientific integration.

In the past seven years (1989-1995), 73 one-week seminars and various other events have been held at the Centro. The number of participants at the seminars varies between 40 and 100. The organizer of each seminar is always a full professor from a Swiss university. Participants range from young researchers just beginning their careers to Nobel Prize winners, one of whom received the news of his award whilst attending a seminar at Monte Verità. Much of the seminar work is financed by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ) in Zurich. Substantial contributions are also made by the Swiss National Foundation for Scientific Research and by others. The restoration of the famous Bauhaus buildings and the necessary structural adaptations were financed by the Canton Ticino and by the ETHZ.

The spectrum of subjects treated has been extremely wide and has covered every scientific discipline: from cultural questions, such as Italian linguistics, to topics of basic and applied research, such as the evaluation of the risks of technical systems and environmental problems, and to philosophical questions arising out of research, such as the origin of life. The Centro Stefano Franscini is visible proof of the traditionally strong links between the ETHZ and the Canton Ticino. With the creation of the new Swiss Italian University it will play an even more important rôle as a national and international point of contact.

In view of its ideal situation in Ticino, the Centro is also an open platform for public conferences, almost all of which are held in Italian. The combined use of Monte Verità as a centre for scientific seminars and as a cultural centre has been made possible by an enlightened approach by Canton Ticino.

The over 5,000 scientists who have participated in seminars at the Centro have therefore found much more than a mere framework dedicated to the purposes of scientific congresses. They will have taken away with them the message of this unique place which overlooks Ascona and the Lago Maggiore, rich in history and cultural tradition.

Seminars at Monte Verità

Mauro Martinoni

Director of Seminari del Monte Verità

Head Office for university studies, Department of Education and Culture

The organization of seminars and conventions by the Department of Education and Culture under the auspices of Monte Verità, is principally directed along the following lines:

- to bring back some of the seminars typical to the Monte Verità tradition: the search for Utopia; exchanges between East and West; comparative studies of art, science, politics and life-style. Into these categories fit: the Eranos Seminars, which were held in Ascona from 1933 and at Monte Verità from 1992; the Videoart Festival, which also ties into the theme of Utopia and the ability to foresee the future through the interaction between technology, the arts and the humanities; the Balint congresses, which have been held since 1968, covering the relationship between medicine, psychology and art.
- to provide cultural institutions in Ticino with a prestigious setting for presenting their cultural activities to an international audience, through such means as the conventions organized by: the Istituto di Ricerche Economiche, the Osservatorio linguistico della Svizzera italiana, the Fonoteca nazionale, the Servizio oncologico, the Istituto di patologia, to name but a few of the regular users of the centre.
- to offer courses in postgraduate studies in collaboration with Swiss and foreign universities, such as: the University of Montreal's Summer School or the University of Geneva's Courses in Infant Psychology.
- to hold conventions of national and international scientific interest organized independently or through other cultural organizations.

In organizing or facilitating the organization of these seminars the aim is not only to continue along traditional lines, but also to develop new traditions through a series of seminars on the same subjects which define the centre as a reference point for particular areas of study.

Besides these more specifically cultural activities, Monte Verità offers a prestigious location for the meetings of large national and international organizations. For many Ticinese associations as well, a work meeting or an educational seminar at the Monte can provide a pleasant and different experience.

The allocation of dates for various activities among the many interested parties poses obvious difficulties. Since a balance must be struck between making the centre available to local organizations and economic imperatives, a rational and comprehensive usage of the infrastructure is called for. This favours groups whose requirements involve all aspects of the complex including the hotel facilities.

The focus is not on Ticinese events for the people of Ticino: rather, its geographical position, its traditions and its hotel and restaurant facilities make the centre an ideal place for get-togethers lasting several days. These allow people of different cultural backgrounds to get to know each other better than would have been possible during a brief work meeting. The garden and the enchanting surroundings encourage a broader cultural exchange which goes beyond the establishment of purely scientific contacts.

Through its seminars, Monte Verità aims not only at providing a meeting place, however prestigious, but at assuming an active rôle in the face of the enormous challenges posed by modern progress and the necessity of finding new ways to merge intuitive understanding with rigorously scientific knowledge.

Seminari del Monte Verità: summaries of the meetings

Marina Fraccaroli

Head of Media Services of the Department of Education and Culture

To provide a picture of the richness and diversity of the seminars organised during the past few years, this paper gives a brief description of some of the more significant events. The organizing bodies have succeeded in bringing together, in Ascona, numerous specialists from all fields. This has not only given the events an international interest but, more importantly, has resulted in the presentation of papers of very high quality, many of which have been subsequently published.

Fractals in Biology and Medicine (1993)

What are fractals? They are irregularly shaped objects. Fractal geometry, developed by Professor Benoit Mandelbrot, allows these structures to be measured by recognising a certain regularity in Nature's chaos. The concept of applying fractal geometry to biology and medicine has been suggested, in the first instance, for living organisms: for instance, in measuring the surface area of proteins, the dichotomy of the bronchial tree, electrocardiograms, the complexity of the pericellular membrane, granulocytes and lymphocytes etc. During the symposium new concepts and methods for applying fractal geometry were the subject of much discussion. Among the speakers, in addition to Mandelbrot, Ary Goldberger, Sergio Albeverio and Vittorio Pesce Delfino, was also Nobel Prize winner Werner Arber, one of the founders of molecular biology.

The symposium was organised by Dr. G. Losa of the Laboratory for cellular Pathology of the Cantonal Institute for Pathology, and by Professor D. Merlini from Locarno, T. Nonnenmacher from Ulm University and E. R. Weibel from Berne University. The same team will be organizing the second meeting in 1996.

The Balint International Meetings: The Art and Science of the Relations (1995)

"Patient relations and communication: science or art?" This was the theme of the annual Balint Meeting, which focused on the importance of the relationship between doctor and patient. The Balint Meetings (coordinated by professor Boris Luban Plozza), which bring together members of the medical profession - whether active in medical practice, hospitals or university teaching - from all over the world, as well as students, deal with specific themes regarding the relationship between doctor and patient through discussions of the difficulties encountered personally by the participants. Since 1976, the Balint Prize has been awarded for the presentation of research undertaken by medical students. The seminar, this year, examined the aspect of the familiar approach in a therapeutic relationship within the field of psychosomatic medicine. Among the participants were the president of the Swiss Red Cross, Carl Kenner, and the representative of the European Council, Henri Scicluna.

The Balint Meetings (named after the Hungarian scientist Michael Balint, 1896-1979) have been held in Ascona since 1968 and consist of group discussions among professionals in the medical field on the subject of the relationship with the patient; this method of training, based on the exchange of experiences has been defined as the "Ascona model" by the OMS.

The Health section of the Department of Social Work is concerned with prevention and research in the area of health services. Montreal University has developed a system of progressive, modular training for personnel in the health services.

The Fonoteca in Lugano, active since 1986, collects and preserves recordings whose contents have a connection with Switzerland. There are more than 100,000 items in its archives, including tapes, records, cassettes and compact discs. Its collection complements those of the other national institutes: the Library in Berne and the Film Library in Lausanne.

In 1933 the student of religion Rudolf Otto suggested to the Dutch thinker Olga Froebel-Kapteyn that they should give the name "Eranos" to their meetings. Eranos explores the ties which exist between science and intuition by investigating themes such as religion, biology, literature, philosophy and politics.

University Summer Course in the Management of Health Services (1992-1995)

To provide concise and effective training at university level for professionals in the administration and management of health services. This is the object of the university Summer Courses for which a Certificate of Attendance is given by the Health Administration Department of Montreal University, which collaborates with the Department of Social Work of the Canton Ticino in organizing the seminars each year. The fourth of these seminars, attended by more than fifty professionals from all over Europe, took place in 1995. The programme comprised various themes, including: strategy and action in the field of Healthcare quality; innovation in the management of Health services; the management of information systems in Health organizations.

Fonoteca nazionale svizzera: History of the Record (1995)

The Fonoteca nazionale svizzera has organised several interesting seminars in the past five years, such as that on the social history of radio, and that on the history of jazz, which have been recorded in publications by Doctor Theo Mäusli. In 1995, the Fonoteca selected various aspects of the history of the record as the theme for its annual symposium. The aspects included among others: the record as a document of its time; the record as an objet d'art from both a technical and an economic point of view; the record as a product which has influenced musical performances in the 20th century; and the record as marketable consumer good. The event was brought to a close with a speech by the director of the Record Library, Kurt Deggeller, after important contributions by Martin Elste of the Berlin State Institute for Musical Research, Werner Unger of Strasburg University and the collector Hans Peter Woessner.

Eranos Convention: Truth in Dreams (1995)

The Eranos conventions are distinguished by debates on any field of knowledge, emphasizing the ties between different disciplines and the connection between intuitive and scientific thought. In recent years, the conventions have selected themes such as the structure of chaos, and the power and changing meanings of the word. In 1995, the symposium dealt with "Truth in Dreams", as expressions of the language of the unconscious and the spirit, which are worth interpreting and analysing. The participants' discussions ranged from sorcery to romanticism, from Islamic mysticism to modern psychology, from Eastern tradition to ancient philosophy. Among the speakers taking part were Remo Bodei from Pisa, Moshe Idel from Jerusalem, Hayao Kawai from Kyoto and Annemarie Schimmel from Harvard.

The Osservatorio linguistico della Svizzera italiana: Multilingualism (1992-1995)

The Osservatorio linguistico della Svizzera italiana has organized a series of conventions on the subject of the new version of Article 116 of the constitution, governing languages. These conventions were "Languages and Territory" (1992), "Linguistic Boundaries" (1993), "Languages without Territorial Boundaries in Switzerland" (1994) and "Multilingualism" (1995). In all the seminars, scholars from the four linguistic regions of Switzerland (German, French, Italian and Romansch) expounded and compared the results of their research. The fourth convention, which concluded the cycle, dealt with the theme of teaching and promoting Italian throughout the Confederation and the rôle of Italophone Switzerland in safeguarding the language. The seminar threw light on the close ties between linguistic evolution and social, cultural and economic change.

The Osservatorio was founded in 1991 by the State Council of the Canton Ticino in the form of a series of research projects into the various aspects of the linguistic reality of Italophone Switzerland. Publications: "Languages in Ticino" (1994) and "Italian in Switzerland" (1995) by S. Bianconi, director of the Osservatorio.

Society for Swiss Painters, Sculptors, Architects and Visual Artists (1995)

The SSPSAVA, after having held seminars in 1989 "Art, Utopia, Power", and in 1992 "The Archaic" dealt in 1995 with theme "Art and communication", which focused on the various new means of communication connected with artistic creation. The numerous delegates discussed in particular: the use of the computer as an instrument in art and in collective creativity; computer-assisted design in architecture; archetypal forms in digital images, and art on the Internet. The symposium also considered changes in the concept of art arising from the new means of communication and the possible social changes which might result from them. Among the speakers were Salomé Schmid Isler from the St. Gallen Business School, Rudolf Manz from the Zurich Polytechnic, Fritz Pasierbsky from Paderborn University and Rosalba Pajano from Bologna University.

The SSPSAVA was founded in 1866 as a professional organization for artists. It has promoted numerous exhibitions and created the review "Swiss Art". It has been involved in improving the material circumstances and the social security of artists, and has contributed towards developing Swiss cultural policy.

XVI Edition of the VideoArt Festival at Locarno (1995)

The VideoArt Festival has through the years shown the various new developments in video art to the public, by exhibiting selected works and organizing appropriate seminars. In past years contributions have been made by such personalities as Nam June Paik, the father of videoart, Barbara London, Edgar Morin, Michel Camus and Basarab Nicolescu. In 1995 the Festival concentrated on several themes: war, the city, the body, light, communication, sound and love. In celebration of the centenary of film, it considered the relationship between technology and art, and between the development of techniques and new means of expression. The public meetings examined the Internet, the Electronic Art Café (a new form of artistic communication proposed by Achille Bonito Oliva) and "From Casablanca to Locarno" (a live multimedia activity devised by Fred Forest).

The VideoArt Festival of Locarno, founded in 1980, is an event dealing with new forms of image creation made possible by communication technology. In 1982, AIVAC (the International Association for Video in Art and Culture), which coordinates the organization of the festivals, came into being under the auspices of UNESCO in Paris.

The IER, which has its seat in Bellinzona, is an independent scientific research institute of the university type, active principally in the fields of economics, economic policy and regional studies. It has a documentation centre with among its publications are: "Il Periodico", "I Quaderni" and other volumes (co-edited) on particular subjects.

The CDPE concerns itself with coordinating the management of public education and of the promotion of a national educational policy, with the object of developing education and ensuring collaboration between the cantons. The CDPE represent the Swiss educational system at international meetings.

The Swiss Institute of Pedagogy for Professional Training is a division of the Federal Office of Industry, Arts and Trades, and Labour (UFIAML); it's an organization for training the teachers of professional schools. It has three centres: Zollikofen, Lausanne, Lugano.

Institute for Economic Research: Courses on Cross-Border Cooperation (1994)

The IER organises a cycle of international courses on cross-border cooperation (to date it has held two sessions, in 1992 and 1994) aimed at retraining researchers in this field. The second of these courses, held in collaboration with the Regio Basiliensis in Basel, the Centre for European Studies in Geneva, the Arge Alp and the Council of Europe, examined the several aspects of cross-border cooperation. In particular, the course considered the elements required for the development of border regions in Europe. Among the speakers were Enne de Boer and Paul Drewe from Delft University, Charles Ricq of Geneva University, Vladimir Segercrantz from the Technical Research Centre of Finland and Jean Gabbe, General Secretary of the AGEG (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Europäischer Grenzregionen).

Swiss Conference for Directors of Public Education: Multilingual Schools (1993)

The L2 Group of the Pedagogic Commission of the CDPE held its seventh Swiss L2 Forum on "Multilingual Schools for a Multilingual Switzerland". After the recommendations in 1975 and the publication in 1986 of "Switzerland, a Challenge", this Forum was an important step in the efforts of the CDPE towards improving language teaching and encouraging a better knowledge of languages among the young. The Forum has achieved several results: the publication of the Convention Deeds (dossiers 33 of the CDPE, Berne 1995) the issue by the CDPE of the "Declaration concerning the promotion of bilingual teaching in Switzerland" on 2 March 1995, and the creation in Lucerne (18 November 1994) of the Association for the Promotion of Multilingual Teaching in Switzerland.

Professional and Scholastic Education by Long Distance Teaching (1994)

New information and communication technologies are opening new routes for educational development. Among these is long-distance education. The symposium, organized by the Department for Education and Culture of the Canton Ticino and the Swiss Institute of Pedagogy for Professional Training, brought together a variety of specialists in this field. They explored such themes as new forms and technologies aimed at teachers and students, in-house training, large European educational organizations, the rôle of technology in the "learning organization", the outlook for Italophone Switzerland, and collaboration with other countries. Long distance learning presents an interesting and flexible educational method which is becoming more and more widely used.

