

Gardens, Landscapes and Societies in the Indian Ocean

Second Indian Ocean Heritage Conference

September 29th.– October 1st. 2014

Saint-Denis, Réunion

Organized by the Direction des affaires culturelles – Océan indien, l'Institut national du patrimoine, Rectorat de l'académie de La Réunion and l'École supérieure d'architecture de Montpellier, antenne du Port (Réunion)

With the support of the Conseil Régional de La Réunion and the CNFPT

Call of papers

In 1994, the Maison française du meuble créole organized a conference under the title 'Gardens, spatial organization and landscape construction', and the first Indian Ocean Heritage conference in 2011 reinforced the idea that 'around the perimeter of the Indian Ocean there are many echoing correspondences in terms of architecture and town-planning'. In 2014, in the forthcoming second Indian Ocean Heritage Conference, this line of enquiry will be pursued, looking at gardens and landscapes and examining the correspondences and ways of living in territories by societies that are both related and different, but all witnessing considerable change. The conference will be an opportunity to question these societies from the points of view of transmission and creation.

The conference will seek to achieve a fair balance of papers from around the geographical zone of the Indian Ocean, with the three following objectives:

- An overview of policies on gardens and the landscape question in the regional context where territories and societies are undergoing rapid change,
- Establishing a network of botanical gardens around the Indian Ocean,
- The first steps in the creation of a circuit of gardens.

Axis n°1: The Landscape at Reunion and in the Indian Ocean

- Specificities of the climate and the evolution of climate systems
- What are the particularities of the landscape at Reunion and elsewhere in the Indian Ocean?
- How has this landscape changed since the colonial era and under different cultural influences?
- What can archaeological research bring to our understanding of landscapes?
- What is the importance of endemism in the natural heritage of Reunion, or even at the scale of the Mascarene Islands as a whole and elsewhere in the Indian Ocean? Can this notion of endemism be applied to cultural representations of landscapes and social identities?
- What have the consequences been of the creation of the national park and its inscription on UNESCO's list of world heritage? What consequences for the landscape and heritage policies on the island?
- How can we take into account the cultural dimension of biodiversity, for example in the 'vernacular' understanding of nature, traditional pharmacopoeia, imaginary qualities of plants, animals and ecosystems, etc?
- Gardening practices in the Indian Ocean area

Axis n°2: Landscapes and Gardens: a Tool for Thinking about Ecology, Society and Culture

- How will landscapes and ways of living in them evolve in the coming years? The analysis of the ethnobotanist.
- What part will creation have to play in the reinvention of landscapes and the emergence of new gardens?
- How are the social usages of these changing territories to be conserved?
- Where are the traces and sources of these mutations? How to conserve the memory of the transformation of the landscape and retain the memory of the societies which elaborated the landscape?
- Nature and heritage in the Indian Ocean: 'culture of risk' and risks for the cultural heritage
- Are there specific characteristics in the landscape economy within the Indian Ocean area?

Axis n°3: The Promotion of the Natural and Cultural Heritage

- What are the tools for protection and conservation? Are they adapted to the issues identified?
- Brief inventory of the present-day state of the different types of heritage and various kinds of protection, throughout the zone
- How to harmonize protection and evolution?
- For a circuit of gardens and a network of botanical gardens
 - o How can the creation of gardens in a network of collection of medicinal plants help contribute to the conservation of traditional medicine?
 - o How can the functions of the landscape and of gardens, whether these are economic, cultural or religious, be maintained and transformed?

Coordination

The proposals for papers are to be sent to:

- Marc Nouschi : marc.nouschi@culture.gouv.fr
- Gennaro Toscano : gennaro.toscano@inp.fr

These proposals should be **submitted in French and in English before 30 March 2014**. The proposals will include the title of the paper, a text of 1500 characters and the address and contact details of the author, as well as his or her institution

The proceedings of the conference will be published by the École supérieure d'architecture de Montpellier

Location: Saint-Denis, La Réunion

Dates: Monday 29 September to Wednesday, October 1st, 2014

Scientific Committee

- **Anouk Bassier**, adjointe au directeur des études du département des conservateurs, chargée de la formation permanente, Institut national du patrimoine
- **Serge Briffaud**, directeur, CEPAGE – Centre de recherche sur l'histoire et la culture du paysage, Bordeaux
- **Hervé Brunon**, historien des jardins et du paysage, chercheur au CNRS, Centre André Chastel (UMR 8150), Paris Sorbonne
- **Olivier Damée**, architecte paysagiste, Paris
- **Emmanuel Etienne**, adjoint au sous-directeur des monuments historiques et des espaces protégés, service du patrimoine, Ministère de la culture et de la communication
- **Laurent Heulot**, directeur de l'École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Montpellier (ENSAM)
- **Vincent Lefèvre**, sous-directeur des collections, service des musées de France, Ministère de la culture et de la communication
- **Isabelle Maréchal**, chef du service du patrimoine, Ministère de la culture et de la communication
- **Monique Mosser**, historienne de l'art, de l'architecture et des jardins, ingénieur honoraire au CNRS
- **Marc Nouschi**, directeur, direction des affaires culturelles - Océan Indien
- **Gennaro Toscano**, directeur des études du département des conservateurs, directeur de la recherche et des relations scientifiques, Institut national du patrimoine

Monitoring of the Scientific Committee:

- **Sarah Lubineau**, chargée des manifestations culturelles et scientifiques, Inp : sarah.lubineau@inp.fr