

Favorita's Waters

Open Call: Summer School in Palermo, July 5 to 11

A journey into La Favorita peri-urban garden, exploring Palermo's ancient irrigation systems through speculative design investigations, collectively understanding and shaping materials and resources as a means of social and cultural cohabitation



By tradition, the Mediterranean garden is a space of cultivation, culture, and care. Being a rich reservoir of biodiversity, it further stimulates practices of social cohesion while fostering territorial resistance. The Parco della Favorita in Palermo represents a dense web of nature and artifice, design and spontaneity. The core of its century-long endurance lies in its sophisticated water infrastructure.

Against the contemporary climatic and ecological challenges in Mediterranean cities, the Summer School Favourita's Waters explores the contemporary role of the peri-urban garden through a week-long intense workshop. Experimenting in practices that combine water and rituals of care, mapping exercises, and archi-botanic surveys form the base for collaborative design interventions conceived as replicable prototypes. Appreciating the interconnectedness of the city in its entity, we will wander around the city of Palermo and explore its natural reservoirs and cultural spaces and their relationship between water and common spaces for conviviality.



Mediterranean garden

La Favorita garden will be the main site of our design interventions, while we will also **work and share rituals of commoning** in Teatro Garibaldi, hosted by local association Fondazione Studio Rizoma



Speculative design

The school aims to learn from the traditional pioneering irrigation systems of the Mediterranean gardens and produce innovative designs to translate it into contemporary devices amid the **role of water as a carrier of social, cultural and environmental significance**... the speculations have to be discovered ... An irrigation machine? A public fountain? A washbasin? A tank? A steam cloud?



Collective work

The workshop unfolds through on **site investigations and collective research** guided by the workshop mentors, Flavia Saggese and Wunder collective. It will also be spiced up by our guest's lectures and is supported by many local associations with their unique knowledge. In a second phase, we will **test and experiment design prototypes** and realise the designs with local resources.



Sicilian summer

The summer school is a 5 days-long experience of collective research, group works, wanderings, prototyping, lectures, design and construction, shared practices of care and water. It will start on **July 5th 2026** (arrival date) and will close with a final celebration on **July 11th 2026**.

Applications are open until May 10th 2026!

Info: <https://favoritaswaters.cargo.site>

Join us for an online info meeting on 22nd of April, 13:30

<https://meet.google.com/ozv-ocet-fwn?hs=224>

APPLY HERE!

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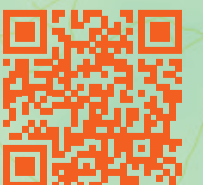
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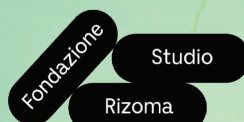
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