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*Nature and Art seem to flee,
Yet, each finds the other before one can tell.*
JOHANN WOLFGANG GOETHE

**CA' DELLE ROSE, Borgo antico di Gorgo, Via Carlo Altoviti,
Fossalta di Portogruaro (VE)
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The Course The Universe of Roses (by Grazia Adamo Giovanetti and Isabella Bembo) **and the World of Officinal Herbs** (by Elena Filippini) is a holistic approach to the Genus Rose. It will propose an overview of roses through history, arts, symbols and literature. Participants will learn more about rose features and rose breeding according to the principles of biodynamics which are applied to the garden. The course will also focus on Officinal Herbs which are in the garden along with roses and whose secrets and precious use in cooking will be revealed. Daily session course at 11am. The course attendance requires €45 per person as contribution to the Association. The entry fee includes: six-hour theoretical and practical Course, learning equipment, a modest rose-tasting buffet, a precious literary gift. Courses are a unique opportunity to learn more about roses, share and exchange ideas. Meetings held at Ca' delle Rose wish to introduce rose-lovers to the Universe of Roses. They 're a journey through the history and symbols of roses which have always been part of human beings' life. Attention will also be drawn to the rose in literature and to the greatest rose verses ever. The direct study of the characteristics and features of *in situ* roses will complete the course. Biodynamic treatments for the rose caring will also be proposed. At the very end of the day Ca' delle Rose invites all its visitors to exchange ideas in its Dialogues on Roses and enjoy rose-tasting delicacies.

Thanks to the permission of the Municipality of Fossalta di Portogruaro a visit to the old medieval and suggestive Church of S. Cristina will be possible.

[...] The Rose has always been considered the Queen of flowers, the perfume of gods, the ornament of the Graces, the delight of Venus. As symbol of youth, grace, virtue the poets defined it the Daughter of the Sky, Ornament of the Earth, Glory of Spring, Queen of Flowers.

*“Quando Zeus decise di dare una regina ai fiori,
di certo ritenne soltanto la rosa degna di tanto sublime onore.
Essa è ornamento della terra, orgoglio del regno vegetale,
corona dei fiori, porpora dei prati, riflesso del bello.
È colma d' amore, al servizio di Afrodite,
risplende di petali profumati, si culla di foglie tremolanti,
si diletta del sorridente Zefiro.”*
ACHILLES TATIUS, II century A. D.

Absolute emblem of the Woman and the Everlasting Femininity, it refers to mercy and charity at once, to love and pain, to modesty and regeneration, to death and rebirth.
What a wonderful mystery a rose is!

A Rose is calm power. As queen of flowers the rose has been a source of the finest thoughts and pages ever written in history and it still is. [...] taken from La Grazia Delle Rose, two-volume oeuvre set by Grazia Adamo Giovannetti

Ca' delle Rose bio garden is basically divided into two parts: at the very beginning you will walk through a rose pathway that is made of twenty-five arches covered with antique, climbing roses and Ramblers leading to the orchard and the spontaneously grown rose garden changing in any season. The garden hosts almost 500 rose varieties that seem to join in an embrace one over the other and take different forms year by year. The flowering of each plant is shorter than hybrids' yet colours and fragrances let the passionate visitors feel wonder and grace, sympathy and sensibility and feel they 're experiencing a new world. As long as you walk through the rose garden you will find ornamental plants: Geraniums, aromatic and officinal Herbs, Herbaceous perennials and young native



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trees covered with long rose shrubs. By taking a further walk you get to the intimate, most secret garden made of four box-edged flowerbeds where is at their centre a modest Japanese cherry tree surrounded by the lavender. Here is a place where you can take your time, have a rest and think.

Ca' delle Rose is a bio garden that preserves Life in a simple and accurate way. "La multilateralità e l'armonia quasi perfetta dei cicli all'interno di un'area sono le caratteristiche di un ecosistema naturale stabilite" Rudolf Steiner. Ca' delle Rose is a small garden that hosts plants in the respect for their features and where they can grow spontaneously. Here nothing inhibits or prevent them from growing. These healthy plants are fed by the earthworm humus for the first three years and later grown with great care and devotion. Diseases are unusual and natural and plants find healing without the use of artificial chemicals despite the high percentage of moisture on the territory and intensely cultivated crops nearby. The soil is the main element of the garden, its essential constituent, and is cultivated with energy and care. Plant and rose growth, flowering and life depend on its quality and health. A good ground thrives with life. Between its nutritive substances and roots are bacteria, fungi, worms and other micro-organisms. They are hardly visible to the naked eye and live according to their life cycle thus creating a dynamic system that provides the soil with oxygen and nourishment. The earthworm Humus is Ca' delle Rose's only secret of a fertile soil. Roses grow peacefully like in old Benedictine cloisters where at the beginning of any culture a rose plant used to watch over the health of other plants and where a reliable hawthorn used to catch any disease to let the most fragile plants grow. Nature never stops, it changes every day, every hour, every night. Ca' delle Rose changes and evolves season after season as outcome of a patient and constant work. Autumn comes with its vermison berries and late flowering. Still some days to go and the creepy winter will shroud everything in its fog. A layer of compost and hay will prevent the roots from freezing yet these weather-resistant thick plants won't need anything else. In winter plants are dormant, loose leaves and regenerate. That is why joy and wonder are even greater when new leaves and buds grow in spring. In May their flowering is at their most beautiful. The land has developed an inward life that feels, tastes, swallows and feeds says Grazia Adamo Giovannetti "and I find it again everytime I dig in the soil and listen to the voice of roses. I plant, trim, water, fertilise, regenerate, learn." The land of this place has been brought back to life and will soon thrive with life. Incense and musk-scented leaves and the colours of fragrant wild rose petals, of Albas and Centifolias, Hybridé Remontant and Tea roses, Bourbons and Gallicas, Musks and Rugosas ornament this garden grown with modesty. Passion and deep belief are the main components of the essence of Ca' delle Rose. Ca' delle Rose belongs to the places celebrated by Ippolito Nievo. Ippolito Nievo was a follower of Garibaldi, a poet and author of *Le Confessioni di un Italiano*. His life was brief but intense and marked by creativity and real events that elapsed quickly in thirty years' time from 1831 to 1861. At the time Italy was experiencing the Risorgimento with its political upheavals, the 1859 war and the Mille expedition. His life was intense and restless as his character was. Nievo was strong-willing and liberal, at times serious and at times cunning and joyful, and tortured by ideals. "Io nacqui veneziano ai 18 ottobre del 1775, giorno dell' Evangelista san Luca, e morirò, per la grazia di Dio, italiano quando lo vorrà la Provvidenza che governa misteriosamente il mondo. Ecco la morale della mia vita. ...". il Castello di Fratta is the first part of *Le Confessioni di un Italiano*, his masterpiece full of life and poetry: his healing region, his enchanting country garden "...mondo dell' aria libera e delle piante, perfino nel gran tempio della natura, ..."

We' re looking forward to welcoming you and we wish you all a great spring!

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