

27.04.2009

## Press release

### ***Review of the "Garden-Workshop", April 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> 2009 at the Fortified Church in Apold/Romania***

*In the framework of an international Garden-Workshop, which took place at the weekend of Evangelic and Catholic Easter from April 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> 2009, 12 participants from Romania, Germany and Austria came to Apold, a Transylvanian village close to Sighisoara. Together with the initiators Marlen Hößelbarth and Leonie Rhode, both Landscape Architects from Germany, they became proactive by gardening at the Fortified Church's ground and Easter was celebrated jointly.*

*The main focuses of the Workshop were the previously abandoned and unused areas of the Citadel's garden. By garden-maintenance works and artistic interventions, parts of the outer Ring-Garden were made accessible and usable again within a few days. By means of the construction of steps, the garden can now be explored on a circuit. A new long stretched stone bench resulted from the workshop. The view into the ruin of the collapsed Fruit House was uncovered by cautious clearance of vegetation. The fundamental structures of the building can so be recognised again.*

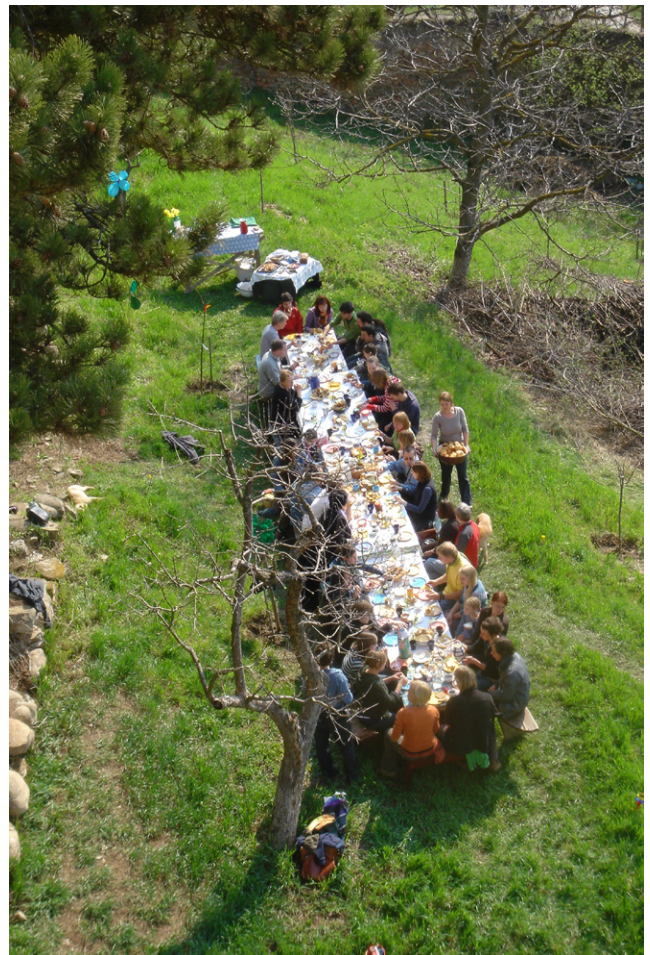


*At the first day of the Workshop, the participants, students, professionals and interested in the fields of Landscape Architecture, Agriculture, Art and Education explored the historical centre of Apold and its characteristics in a playful way. Within a rally they unravelled different tasks, drew and painted. One group for example had to find out, how long the "Yellow Monster", a broken road-construction-machine already shapes the village's streetscape. Due to leaky pipelines the ground water has been polluted by oil for 8 years as villagers reported.*

## **Easter-Breakfast**

*The invitation to a common Easter-breakfast followed by a result-exploring stroll through the garden at Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> was accepted by 40 guests - villagers, local actors and other interested people. The mayor of the commune Apold, Niculae Colceriu, complemented the initiators after his visit of the workshop-places in the garden and welcomed the guests. Afterwards, local products like jam, honey, cake, bread and Easter eggs were served at a long table. Several garden-artistic interventions like colossal paper-flowers and the "Snail-Garden" guided the visitors subsequently through the "Gallery-Garden" to the "Slope-Garden" and the "Ruin-Garden".*

*The "Garden-Workshop" was organized by Marlen Hoesselbarth and Leonie Rhode. Since 2008 they have been operating under the name of "transage" as freelancers in the field of Landscape Architecture and -education in Romania and Germany. In their work in projects in the domain of Urban- and Regional Planning in Romania they put their focus on often neglected green and open spaces in the urban and rural context in Romania. The "Garden-Workshop" was carried out in co-operation with the associations "Corona - Association for the Promotion of Local Initiatives" (Berlin) and "casApold – Local Initiative for Intercultural Activities" (Apold) and was supported by "Fundatia ADEPT" and private persons.*



**transage** are the initiators and coordinators of the project "Green trApPOLD - Public green and open spaces in the rural area of Transylvania using the example of Apold/Trappold". This is an interdisciplinary project with components of Garden and Landscape Architecture, preservation of historic monuments (gardens), development of local tourism, education, environmental education and of intercultural dialogue and community building. They focus on the public open and green spaces, the garden of the Fortified Church and the direct surroundings of the ensemble in Apold.

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