

The spectacular chemistry of Dante's Oltremondo

Teresa Cecchi, Arianna Giuliani ed i chimici del Montani

The proposal is an original celebration of Dante's anniversary with a joint scientific and artistic STEAM approach that, starting from the past, the humanity and sociality described by Dante, looks to the future.

For each Dante's place, chemistry interprets the characteristics of souls, described with the verses of the Divine Comedy, with surprising scenic effects. In Hell, Dante condemns Epicurus' materialism and alchemy; a magnificent oscillating reaction tells the sloth; the greedy and the prodigal have to do with the reactivity of the banknotes; Paolo and Francesca are overwhelmed by the wind of the passion for nitrogen and oxygen that invests the public. A chemical purgatory purifies a mixture of substances on a conical chromatography; the rivers Lethe and Eunoe of the change of memories flow between the molecules of memory. The skies of the Dante universe are represented by the reactivity of the metals associated with them, and in particular, for the sky of the Sun, corresponding to Gold, we will show the public our technique to recover this precious metal from electronic waste. Finally, the Trinity of Paradise will be reproduced as per Dante's description.

The scientific aspects of artistically represented reactions are always explained since ours is a bold didactic experiment: the challenge is to teach the importance of chemistry through the contamination of languages, promote cooperative learning and bring that humanism back into science which remains crucial for our future.

The work was patronized by the Italian Chemical Society, with the cultural and educational support of its Didactic Division, for the value of this show which also wants to be a stimulus for the spread of chemical culture in society.

The live show <https://youtu.be/pScf2RfP51M> represents the most extended live version of three video pitches selected by the jury of the international competition DANTE700TH included in the exhibition at the Dante Society of London from 3 to 30 September 2021 on the occasion of Dante's celebrations:

https://youtu.be/GP_rlRzil5o	https://youtu.be/9ePKZSmMU1Y	https://youtu.be/C4_aQWp7uFc
Inferno: Dante Condemns Materialism and Alchemy	Purgatorio: Soul Purification and Chemical Purification	Paradiso: Chemical show of the Trinity mystery

CREDITS

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Cecilia, Properzi Giulia, Rastelli Cesare, Senigagliesi Michele, Sollini Giorgia, Teodori Chiara, Tordelli Emma, Tschaushev Eros.

Gallery







