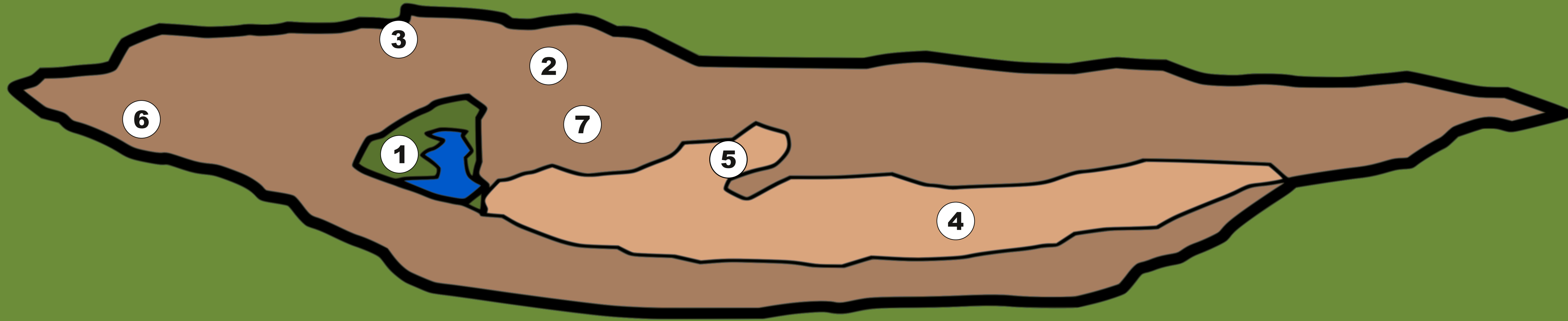


“Symbiotic Gardening as Art”



Artwork by Vincenzo Fiore Marrese
Artist Residency in Rietz's Hermitage
Landschafts- und Kunstverein Rietzer Berg
Germany, April 2024



1. Annotations

I think of the whole hole as a kind of artwork, which I call "Subtle Habitat." But inside the habitat there are seven independent artworks. This is the first piece I made. I found some stones in a nearby field. I take the stones there and follow the natural triangular shape near the water. The aim was to make a first connection with the environment by looking at its shapes. Then I tied a rope around one of the stones and threw the rope into the water with something tied to the other end. What is in the water, tied to the stone? Do you want to jump over the stone? Do you want to find out what is at the end of the rope, or do you want to keep it a secret?



2. Annotations

In the nearby forest I followed some animals. The animals ran away, but I discovered some bones in the ground. One of these bones was a cord, which I used to create this work. I found a metal band in the hole, immovable. Instead of trying to get rid of it, I accepted its presence in the natural environment and created the work around it. The work blends three levels, artificial/mineral (the metal band), animal (the chord), and vegetable (the rope I used to cover part of the metal band).



3. Annotations

There are some big roots fixed in the ground, without branches. I thought: it is easy to cut branches, it is not easy to cut roots. I brought some new roots and an animal skull I found in the forest, and I made an installation connecting the new roots with the old ones.



4. Annotations

This area reminds me of a seaside because of the presence of water and sand. I bring a large branch that I found nearby, like something that the sea has thrown on the sand. Then I tied a metal object I found in a field to the branch, as if to cover a wound. To understand the artwork, you have to look at the branch, the sand and the water from a distance. Then you have to get close to look at the metal object. It's impossible to grasp the work of art from a single point of view. You have to multiply your points of view to see the whole.



5. Annotations

I covered the floor with a coconut fabric. It was like covering someone who needed care. Then I put a brick of humus like a pillow. The coconut fiber covers the soil, but at the same time it is an obstacle for some plants to grow. In the future, the coconut fiber will be absorbed by the soil because it is biodegradable. The humus, on the contrary, is not an obstacle, but something that enriches the soil. It is a gift to the earth that I bring from Berlin.



6. Annotations

Talking to one of you, you told me: "You can find objects of people around in the ground." In fact, after walking around for half an hour, I found a fragment of a gravestone. Then I make this work of art around the fragment. It is about memories that are difficult to keep. In fact, the branches are not completely contained by the net.



7. Annotations

Before I came to the residency, I thought about collaborating with an animal to make a work of art there. The question was how? One day a big dog came into the hole and made some new holes. I used the dog's holes to make the final artwork. I put around the dog's hole 150 "coconut water tablets" which you can use to kill new plants. Then I took some water out of the hole. In fact, the dog used to drink and bathe in this water and suggested that I use it. The "cocosquelltabs" grow after getting wet, as their function.