Interstices
Center for Transversal Thinking

Alain Daniélou Foundation

ORDER AND DISORDER
FIGURES OF CHAOS AND POLITICS OF RESTITUTION

Venue: *The Labyrinth*, Fondation Alain Daniélou (FAD)
Colle Labirinto 24, Zagarolo (Rome), Italy.

Dates: 08 to 10 May 2026

Organizer: *Interstices: Center for Transversal Thinking* in collaboration with FAD

WORKSHOP CONCEPTION

Each world-configuration displays a dramatic aspect when it comes to dealing with the limits of its own consistency, where transgressive elements appear as ostensible generators of disorder. A world which was thought stable suddenly discloses a turbulent dynamic of change, inversion, and disaggregation. Alliances are replaced by confrontations, creation gives way to destruction, the balance of the whole seems fractured and sometimes shattered. It takes a complex elaboration – of a performative, narrative, individual and collective type – a strategy at the entropic interstices of psychological and social life to restitute a significant amount of energy and redress the balance, sometimes at a high price to be paid in moments of crisis.

Order and disorder, said French anthropologist Georges Balandier, are two sides of the same coin. Whether we deny the latter to the point of utter breakdown or absolutize the former to the extent of social oppression, they will always demand an economy of forces to preserve a precarious balance. The indissoluble tension of order and disorder may cast different faces according to the context, and the key to a balanced economy of forces demands a cartography of the "entropic territory". Restitution implies the introduction of patterns where disorder threatens to expand and ravage every instance of balance and

consistency. This operation is sometimes retraced to a myth of origins, or related to the inscription of a new event in historical time, or reserved to sacrificial, ecstatic, and imaginative identification strategies, or entrusted to non-human beings, or inscribed in methods deemed effective and even infallible. In any case, it always involves a complex and carefully elaborate effort to come to terms with corroding factors in the core of an entangled life, so that suffering, misery, and decay may be reframed, alleviated, and eventually transformed. In this sense, the thousand faces that a politics of restitution may adopt translate an attempt to compose a cultural generator of negative entropy within the territory of disorder.

This workshop, organized by *Interstices: Center for Transversal Thinking* in collaboration with the *Alain Daniélou Foundation*, proposes an exploration of psychological, ethnographical, religious, socio-historical, and ecological aspects of order and disorder. In some oppositional pairs such as suffering and healing, war and peace, chaos and cosmos, revolution and conservatism, ecology and collapse, modernity and tradition, the declensions of the unceasing tension between order and disorder appear much more clearly and concretely than in purely formal and all-encompassing schemes. It is on such declensions and its possible trajectories beyond the limits of special disciplines that the workshop intends to focus, creating an encounter and a dialogue among the subjects involved in the process.