

Call for papers

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# Fifty years of Death Instinct and Knowledge

Human Birth Theory and its implications

Rome - november 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2022



*Istinto di Morte e Conoscenza* [Death Instinct and knowledge] is the first book psychiatrist Massimo Fagioli (1931-2017) wrote. The book was first published in January 1972 and has now reached its 14<sup>th</sup> edition; the book has been so far translated into English, German and French.

To celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the publication the book that is considered to be the bedrock of what has been defined as Human Birth Theory, the Fondazione Massimo Fagioli is organizing an international conference. The conference will focus on Fagioli's research on and discovery of the dynamics occurring at human birth and how human birth represents the prime neurobiological event of the human mind and thought. The Italian psychiatrist's conceptualization of the physiology of the mind (Human Birth Theory) provides a new perspective on human beings while setting the basis for a new psychodynamic approach to psychotherapy.

## Keynote Speakers

- Luigi Cancrini, *Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist, former Professor of Psychiatry, at the Sapienza University of Rome*
- Joanna E. Chambers, *Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and OB/GYN, Indiana University School of Medicine*
- Paolo Girardi, *Psychiatrist, former Professor of Psychiatry, at the Sapienza University of Rome*

## Round tables

Two round tables will take place with scholars and experts from different countries to discuss two of the main topics of the conference:

- Dynamic psychotherapy in the light of Human Birth Theory: an international comparison
- Non-rational thinking and human identity

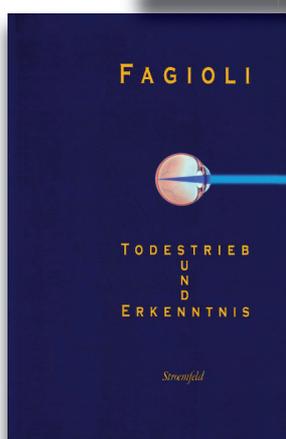
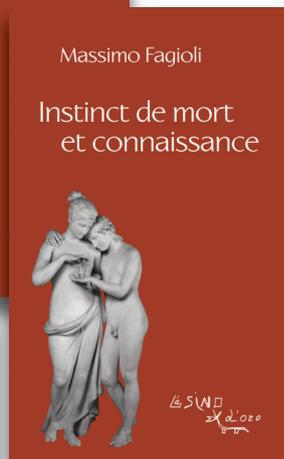
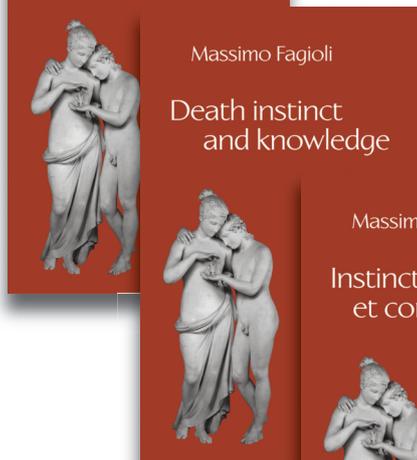
## Papers and posters

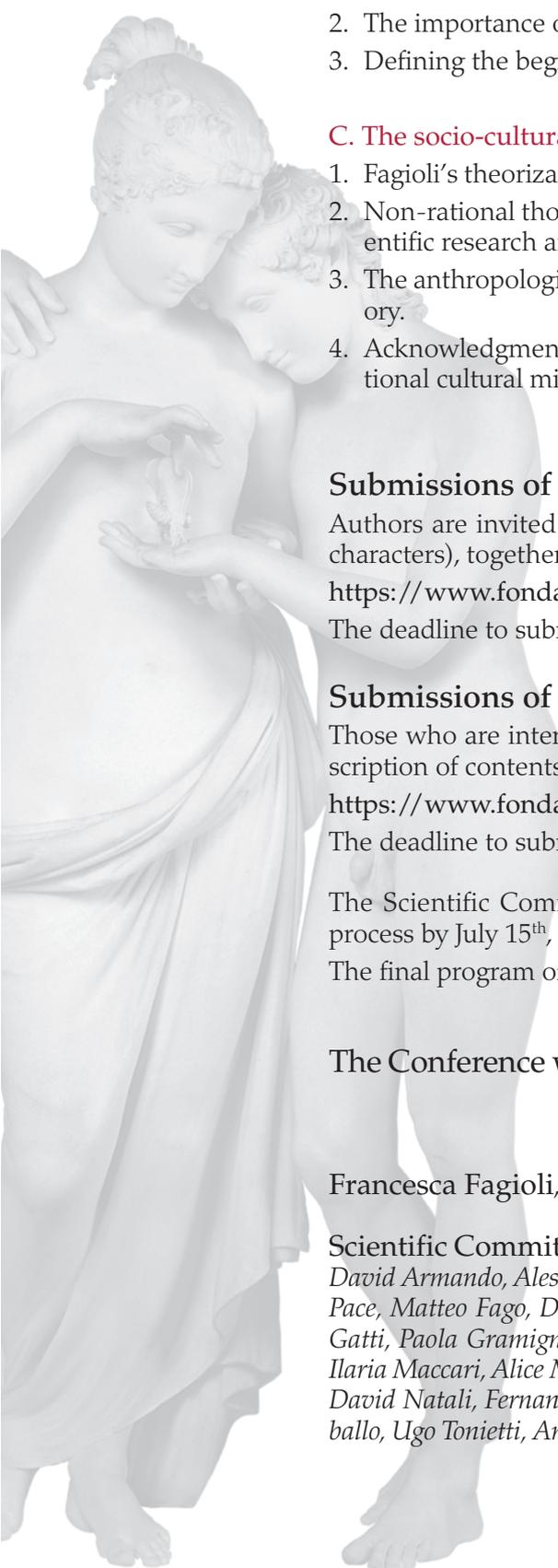
The Fondazione Massimo Fagioli is pleased to invite authors to submit papers or posters; these should be relevant to Human Birth Theory, its implications in the study and treatment of mental illnesses, and role in other scientific or cultural domains. Following is a list of the conference topics; however, contributions on other aspects of the theory, defined in *Death Instinct and knowledge*, in medical and psychiatric domains, as well as in natural, human, and social sciences, will also be welcome.

## Thematic areas

### A. Psychiatry, psychotherapy and development psychology

1. Fagioli's conceptualization of the death instinct and its involvement in the process of knowledge: a historical confrontation with organicism, phenomenological psychiatry, traditional psychoanalysis and developmental psychology.



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2. Differentiating between the following terms: pulsion and instinct, identity and identification, indifference and the lack of affectivity, refusal and negation, *memory-fantasy* and conscious recollection.
  3. Universal characteristics and the potential of the original Self at birth.
  4. Psychiatric and psychotherapeutic identity: a new etiologic and methodological model for the treatment of psychosis and depression, and for clinical practice based on the interpretation of dreams.

### **B. Neonatology and bioethics**

1. Fetal and neonatal neurology: the transformation of the human brain at birth.
2. The importance of the first year of life for child mental development.
3. Defining the beginning and the end of human life and its bioethical implications.

### **C. The socio-cultural context and its implications**

1. Fagioli's theorization in the cultural, historical and social context of the '60s and the '70s.
2. Non-rational thought as the cornerstone of human beings' achievement and role in scientific research and discovery process.
3. The anthropological, philosophical and socio-political implications of Human Birth Theory.
4. Acknowledgment of *Death Instinct and knowledge* and its impact on Italian and international cultural milieus.

### **Submissions of papers**

Authors are invited to submit an extended abstract of their papers (approximately 5,000 characters), together with references, at the following link:

<https://www.fondazionemassimofagioli.it/50years-call-for-papers>

The deadline to submit papers is April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### **Submissions of posters**

Those who are interested in presenting a poster are invited to submit title and a brief description of contents at the following link:

<https://www.fondazionemassimofagioli.it/50years-call-for-papers>

The deadline to submit posters is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Scientific Committee will notify corresponding authors the outcome of the review process by July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The final program of the Conference will be made available by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

**The Conference will be held in Rome on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2022.**

**Francesca Fagioli**, psychiatrist and psychotherapist, chairwoman of the conference.

**Scientific Committee:** *Ernesto Longobardi (chairman), Elisabetta Amalfitano, Carlo Anzilotti, David Armando, Alessia Barbagli, Martina Brandizzi, Paola Casolini, Giusi De Santis, Letizia Del Pace, Matteo Fago, Domenico Fargnoli, Francesco Fargnoli, Paolo Fiori Nastro, Maria Gabriella Gatti, Paola Gramigni, Annelore Homberg, Andreas Iacarella, Cecilia Iannaco, Nella Lo Cascio, Iliara Maccari, Alice Masillo, Andrea Masini, Federico Masini, Elena Monducci, Ada Montellanico, David Natali, Fernando Panzera, Elena Pappagallo, Martina Patanè, Daniela Polese, Andrea Raballo, Ugo Tonietti, Andrea Ventura, Fabio Virgili.*