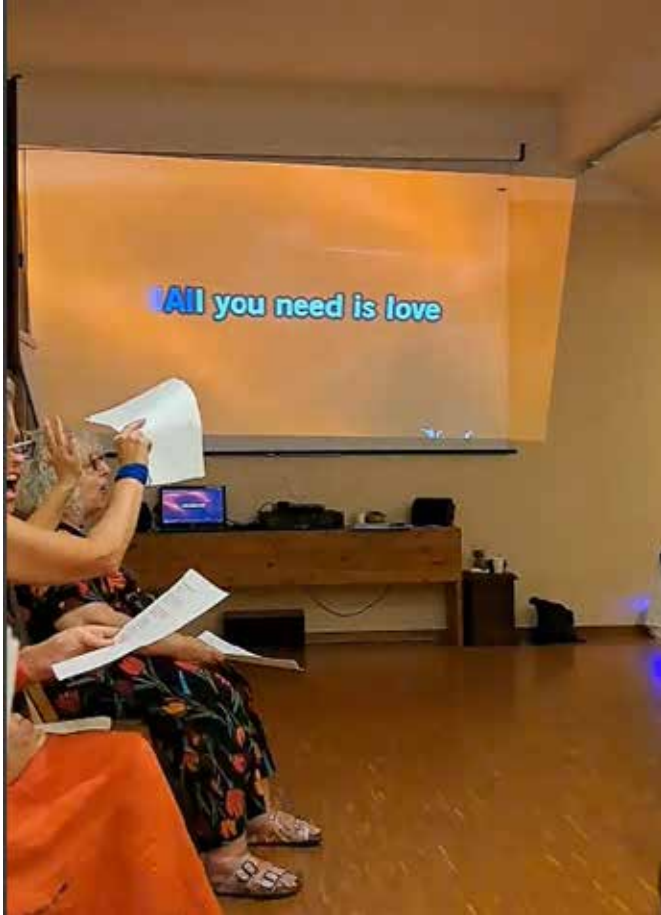


TESTIMONIALS OF CONNECTIONS

Translated by Alberto Gabba

Manuela Voltan, Gruppo alle Fonti

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Casa Assagioli is by its very nature a place, both physical and spiritual, of transformative encounters and connections. This is the profound experience we all shared: the Alle Fonti Group and the 22 friends from every corner of the world – from Armenia to Sweden, from Norway to the USA, from Ireland to Brazil, and many others – during the 11th International Meeting in September 2025.

We call them friends, but they are much more. Our language doesn't offer a broad enough term to describe that affection that transcends friendship and family ties. We'll call them "Soul Siblings", "Brothers and Sisters of Soul".

We found each other and recognized each other. We all brought our own distinctive gift, shared it, and irradiated

the others with our presence, awareness, and knowledge. In those days, we grew together as human beings in an experience of profound unity.

We returned to our homes carrying with us the echoes of a great celebration: our Days of Connection, Sharing, and Growth, in the spirit of the legacy of Roberto Assagioli and of Psychosynthesis.

We will leave it to the participants' own words to describe the details of those days, the poetry, the activities, and the emotions that passed through us.

It is essential to recognize and appreciate that everything we have experienced in this space of sharing and unity is also, and above all, the fruit of the vision of those who, over 12 years ago, believed in the International Meeting and made its creation possible. Now we are reaping the benefits and, with immense gratitude, we continue to foster and keep alive the flame of this hearth that warms and enlightens us.

By Geraldine O'Kelly Cooney - Ireland

The meeting was proposed as The Casa Assagioli Experience celebrated through the ideaforce of Connections; connections with surroundings, among our parts, our center, our psychical functions, our group, our work together; to spread the energy of love from the home of Roberto Assagioli.

The Power of Presence

I feel in order to fully honour the experience of attending the 11th Meeting I need to put it in context by setting the scene in terms of place or presence. The power of presence. This awareness of the power of presence is something Assagioli himself spoke of, "I want to be always present to myself", "Voglio essere sempre presente a me stesso", which he wrote recording his 'first' spiritual experience of presence whilst on a boat far out on an expanse of water, when he was twelve years of age (Ref: *Roberto Assagioli In His Own Words*,

fragments of an autobiography, Recorded by Eugene Smith)

I pay tribute to his words and sentiment in this testimonial.

The location of the 11th Meeting was the Istituto Psicosintesi in Florence, the former home of Roberto Assagioli which he bequeathed to the Institute on his death.

Standing in the street outside number 16, Via San Domenico, I already feel a sense of privilege, and a quiver of excitement of what may come runs through me as I ring the bell.

The house holds a very special atmosphere that manages to be both historic and futuristic. The power of place instantly resonates with me. I feel the living spirit of Psychosynthesis in the very building, and I have asked myself how can this be? Is it the knowledge I bring of how Assagioli lived and worked here? Is it the presence of both individual and the collective persons in Alle Fonti? Anything feels possible here, and indeed this proves to be the case for me.

The presence of this place embodies the very essence of belief, practice, history, future hopes, people who have moved through these walls, persons in all their strengths and weaknesses. There is an energy in the structure of all the years of practising and teaching done there.

The people in Alle Fonti each emanate their personal unique energies which combine to be more than the sum of the parts. There is a palpable Collective Human Energy. I wonder at the all-embracing effect I feel walking in the door. Is it a combination of these factors coming into play? Curiosity, wonder, welcome, belonging, a sense of a calling to play my part in the work to be done.

The Meeting offers various possibilities; experiential workshops, consultation in the Archives, access to Archives and Library, time spent in Florence, guided tour in Fiesole.

All group activities or workshops are on a voluntary basis. This approach lends an air of relaxed but committed involvement; an invitation to self-discovery.

After being warmly welcomed on arrival, there was an introductory connection experience in the garden which served to instantly draw us into a sense of belonging, of connection with the Institute, with each other, and with self.

Archives and Library

There is a powerful sense of presence in both Assagioli's Archives and Library and in his office, which are in Casa Assagioli.

The opportunity to slowly peruse original documents and open Assagioli's library books, which are often annotated in the borders, instantly brings the power of presence to me. Presence of the person, his life, his thinking, his feeling, all come to life for me. It is almost as if I can hear and feel his thinking through his written thoughts and words. Hand-writing was one of his many gifts and is an element I feel a deeply personal connection with.

Workshops

In addition to the time spent lovingly digging in the archives and library, each workshop offered me valuable learning and personal connection with other participants and with the practice of Psychosynthesis which continue to stimulate my growing curiosity and interest. They also contribute to the growth and value of my work as Psychotherapist.

Poetry

Poetry was the first workshop which offered an opportunity to bring poetry and its interpretation into my life and psychotherapeutic client work. I learned how this exercise facilitated the participants to use published poetry as a medium accessible to everyone in the room, especially those who initially believed they could not write poetry.



Mandala

I embraced the opportunity to create my Mandala with the caring guidance offered. Having seen so many Mandala depictions I felt I had seen it all and yet nothing prepared me for how unique it felt to me on this occasion.

The guidance of our facilitator to begin with soft materials was so valuable to me. That continues to be a huge part of the experience for me. As I recall the feel of soft chalky crayons under my fingertips forming the meaningful shapes on the page, I can instantly be with how it channelled me into feeling physically, psychically in touch with my inner self; as if the physicality of the material played a significant part in the enablement of my expression of self. I value the sensitivity of my fingertips being used to the most wonderful effect. Using

my hands to “paint” met the child in me, delighted to express herself in this childlike way.

When I shared the experience with my partner I felt truly seen and understood in the moment. Similarly, I felt I was invited into knowing the essence of my partner as I reflected on her Mandala and shared this loving energy with her.

In practical terms, this experience of self-discovery has influenced how I now feel confident to transmit this form of expression to my psychotherapy clients and proves to be most valuable.

Body Work in San Francesco Church, Fiesole

This workshop of breath work and movement was very powerful. It facilitated me to feel the power of my breath in my body in a new way; it calms and empowers my body each time I practice this. The power of place and presence played a significant part in the experience for me. It was a beautiful outdoor location, overlooking the Tuscan hills, for the body and breathing exercise. Each time I repeat the exercise I am instantly transported to the beautiful spiritual location by the church in Fiesole.

I find this breath work is easily assimilated into my work and is valued by my clients in Psychotherapy.

Having time to spend in the presence of San Francesco Church was deeply moving and affecting. This power of presence was facilitated by the chamber quartet gently practising in the background. It was a transcendent experience.

Sacred Dance

For me the dance workshop embodies the Connections theme of the Meeting. I call it the basket dance as I felt myself woven by action into the presence of the people and place under caring gentle guidance of our facilitator. Gently weaving in dance and music, feeling the energy of loving humanity was a deeply emotional moment of fulfilment for me.

What We May Weave

Connections is the ideaforce of this Meeting. Weaving Connection, my interpretation of this has made this Meeting deeply personal for me.

I was privileged to be invited to make my contribution at the celebration ceremony on our last evening together. I brought to the group my interpretation of a personal connection experience in what I name “What We May Weave” in honour of the title of Piero Ferrucci’s book “What We May Be”. This experience of creating a collective weave with a single thread of wool woven into all participants was for me a personally visceral, physical and outward expression of the loving connection we share.

Psychosynthesis Day

It was a rare privilege to be in the Casa Assagioli Istituto di Psicosintesi on this special day of the year. The occasion was enriched by Kenneth Sorensen’s meditation which felt truly special, close and present. Kenneth’s presence throughout was a joy and a privilege. His workshop facilitated a deep intimacy, a sense of mutual powerful loving connection with a fellow participant, which stays with me.



Assagiolini

It seems right and fitting to finish the Meeting with words of Assagioli. Assagiolini. Words like Belonging, Growth, Love, Solidarity, these are words to inspire, and fire curiosity. Assagiolini encourage us to own and wonder about the power of presence in words and to act on them.

Legacy/Take Away

As I reflect on the Meeting, I am filled with a sense of an experience which is both deeply fulfilling and unfinished, hopefully never to be finished. I wonder why it has this effect on me? It is something of a mystery, teasing my curiosity. I feel motivated to pursue this line of enquiry inside me, to act on will. I find inspiration and enlightenment in unexpected places. I read a quote by Albert Einstein about the wisdom to not seek affirmation in what we are and do but to be and do simply for the sake of it; how this is the pathway to a happy existence.

What is the legacy of the Meeting? I am left with a powerful wondering. I wonder about how the presence of place in the beliefs, practice, history, future hopes, people who have moved through these walls, persons in all their strengths and weaknesses are influencing me. I feel there is a combined energy woven in the structure of all the years of practising and teaching done there. A collective loving energy passing through all the people in Alle Fonti. Each emanates their personal unique energies which combine to be more than the sum of the parts. It is a collective human power of loving energy that is embedded in all aspects of the meeting. I am left with a belonging, a sense of being called to task, work to be done, for me to play my part.



Il tunnel di foglie al monastero

By Bristena G. Mantu - Romania

The 11th International Meeting at Casa Assagioli in September 2025 was a totally unforgettable experience. It was a real testimony to the dedication, care and commitment that Gruppo alle Fonti fosters towards the ongoing growth and development of the spirit, practice and legacy of psychosynthesis. I really appreciated the loving attention to every detail that each member of the team displayed - everything from the design of the schedule, the preparation of the space and food catering, and the psychospiritual holding of the group. I felt very warmly welcomed, included and cared for throughout the entire weekend. We were even allowed to use one room specifically for having a lie-down during the

afternoon, as the days were packed and the lunch was just so delicious, one really benefited from a little siesta! I also enjoyed the range of activities carefully selected to ensure they catered to a variety of needs, from academic, artistic, psychological, meditative and even celebratory! Saturday night, we came together to celebrate together through song, dance, poetry and games, an occasion which kindled much joy, laughter and fun. I will gladly come back to Casa Assagioli as a place not only of immense inspiration due to Assagioli's extensive library (one can get easily lost or overwhelmed in it!), but also because it is a place where true soulful communion, connection and belonging are being lovingly cultivated among fellow international psychosynthesists. Thank you, Gruppo alle Fonti, it was a heartfelt honour to meet all of you, and I really hope to see you again in the coming years!"

By Alena Alberani - USA

Being at Casa Assagioli for the Eleventh International Meeting – “Connections: The Casa Assagioli Experience” was nothing short of sublime. Each day felt sacred—beginning with attunements, unfolding into inspiring workshops, and celebrated with delicious shared meals al fresco. Dancing ritually in the garden where Assagioli once meditated, studying in his library, and touching his original manuscripts felt like communing directly with his luminous spirit. The workshops I was blessed to attend—offered by Ami, Manuela, and Kenneth—each opened new portals of inspiration, love, and expanded consciousness. Celebrating World Psychosynthesis Day among this loving, open-hearted, radiant community—my “Assagioli family”—filled my heart with abundance, joy, and deep gratitude. Throughout this sacred weekend, Assagioli's infinite presence seemed to come alive—his wisdom woven into every moment of connection, reflection, and silence. I felt renewed, inspired, and profoundly connected to kindred souls from around the world—each now part of my global Psychosynthesis family.

By Gabriela Gonçalves Ferreira - Brazil

Beginning as best you can
To connect all sense of yourself
Kindness will lead you to find your feet again
The storm shall pass
But while it is here, it asks you to be slow
Give time for the water from the storm to nourish the
roots that will give you strength to be
Being slow will allow you to find your feet again and
again
Just where you are is where you will rediscover all sense
of yourself
By staying, you allow things to pass and give space for
what ignites you

We hear a gentle and respectful knock on the door of our “Inner Home”. It’s up to us to open the door and let the experience of Psychosynthesis in. Sometimes it comes looking for you, and sometimes we feel its call. The sense of belonging that unites us isn’t just the physical place, but the inner home, from which we will never be parted, where we can always find comfort and peace. In this Home, we all recognize ourselves and have our place.

Thank you, Casa Assagioli! See you next time!
Manuela Voltan for the Alle Fonti Group

