

The Chianti electrochemistry meeting—a short look at an ongoing interaction focused on metal-containing molecules

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Published online: 28 April 2007
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Initiated by the idea to set up a periodical meeting among electrochemists and inorganic chemists devoted to the electrochemical aspects of metal-containing molecules—in 1992 at a NATO Advanced Research Workshop held in Sintra, Portugal—a series of conferences taking place biannually in Certosa di Pontignano (a wonderful retreat in a medieval monastery operated by the University of Siena) was installed. The old complex (commenced in 1343 and completed in 1703), which still maintains the typical features of fourteenth century Christian buildings, is pleasantly immersed in the peaceful landscape of the rolling hills of the Sienese countryside and surrounded by

their famous vineyards and olive groves, which overlooks the hills of Tuscany. The peaceful accommodation offers a peerless combination of science and nature, which has been greatly appreciated by all the participants. The size is limited, and so is the number of participants.

In 2006, the scientists met at this place for the fourth time—with new faces and new aspects from both sides, the electrochemical and the inorganic one. Numerous lectures and poster presentations nicely illustrated recent advances both in the synthesis and characterisation (sometimes also including application) of metal-containing molecules and in the electrochemistry and spectroelectrochemistry of these systems. The present special issue of this journal provides a representative cross-section covering all of these aspects. A special feature was added at this meeting—the participants celebrated the 65th birthday of the organiser Piero Zanello. Most appropriately, this collection of selected contributions shall thus serve also as a token of appreciation of all contributing authors to his work, his contributions to inorganic chemistry and his notable efforts to install this platform at Certosa di Pontignano for scientific exchange. Special thanks are due to the editor in chief and publisher for providing this opportunity and to the referees for their competent help in enhancing the submitted manuscripts.

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