



## THE LABARUM



The Labarum of the Italian **Regency of Carnaro**, based on a sketch by Gabriele D'Annunzio, and designed and perfected by Adolfo De Carolis, was exhibited in Fiume on occasion of the presentation of the *Charter of Carnaro*.

The background of the flag is dark red, with the Italian and Fiume tricolour flags in the upper third. The other two thirds are occupied by the emblem: a golden, scale-less snake coiled round and biting its tail.

Inside the circle are seven seven-point steel stars representing the *Ursa Major* constellation. The cartouche bears the words “**QUIS CONTRA NOS?**”, which is part of the motto: “**SI SPIRITUS PRO NOBIS / QUIS CONTRA NOS?**”, inspired by a phrase from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans.<sup>1</sup>



The **Ouroboros** (Greek Ουροβόρος, from ουροβόρος όφις “tail-devouring

snake”) is an ancient symbol depicting a serpent or dragon swallowing its own tail and forming a circle. The Ouroboros often represents **self-reflexivity** or **cyclicity**, especially in the sense of something constantly **re-creating** itself, the **eternal return**, and other things perceived as cycles that begin anew as soon as they end. It can also represent the idea of **primordial unity** related to something existing in or persisting from the beginning with such force or qualities it cannot be extinguished. The Ouroboros is often associated with **Gnosticism**, and **Hermeticism**.<sup>2</sup>

1. Source: <http://guide.supereva.it/astrologia/interventi/2002/01/86621.shtml>

2. Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ouroboros>