

Studio APHORISMA
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Studio Aphorisma's atelier is located on a hill in Tuscany in a former farm holding nestled among vineyards, cypresses, olive trees and centuries old oak trees, near Cassia, an ancient road that connects Florence to Siena.

Our atelier represents a reference and cultural exchange point for people boasting different experiences in the European textile and art sectors. During certain periods throughout the year, it turns into an open lab where courses are offered that focus on teaching weaving techniques and art subjects.

2018 Programme

Art courses:

Painting / Bauhaus Inspiration

24th May - 2nd June / 26th July - 4th August / 10th - 15th September

Monochrome - The colours of nature

20th - 22nd August

Weaving courses:

Weaving / Bauhaus Inspiration

24th May - 2nd June / 26th July - 4th August / 10th - 15th September

Painting / Bauhaus Inspiration

Drawing, painting, collage, mixed media, photography

24th May - 2nd June / 26th July - 4th August / 10th - 15th September 2018

2019 celebrates the 100th anniversary of Bauhaus, the international school founded by Walter Gropius which bridged the gap between art and crafts and paved the way towards modern design.

The main objective of our project is to examine the teaching methods, techniques, aesthetic and pedagogical concepts of Bauhaus and to comprehend their lasting impact on modern design and contemporary artistic practices.

During the laboratory activities we will experiment the creation of works, drawings and paintings inspired by the works of artists who have taught at Bauhaus, focusing our attention mainly on Paul Klee.

More specifically, our course includes in-depth studies on the connection between shape, function and colour.

Director of the course: Nicola Sansò
Requirements for attendance: the course is open to everybody
Spoken language: Italian, the introduction will be translated in English

Monochrome The colours of nature

20th - 22nd August

This course is intended to guide participants as they discover the fascinating world of natural colours derived from dyeing plants found in the area of Chianti in Tuscany. The primary objective is to communicate the basic techniques for the extraction and production of plant colour then applying the pigments sourced to the painting. This course will also provide the opportunity for reflection on the experience of the monochromatic painting within the context of modern and contemporary art. Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about this theme and together, guided by the course tutors, will dive into and experience the magical world of extraction of colours from plants, realising original monochromatic paintings.

Directors of the course: Nicola Sansò, Anna Silberschmidt
Requirements for attendance: the course is open to everybody
Spoken language: Italian, German, English, French

Weaving / Bauhaus Inspiration

24th May - 22nd June / 26th July - 4th August / 10th - 15th September

2019 celebrates the 100th anniversary of Bauhaus, the international school founded by Walter Gropius which bridged the gap between art and crafts and paved the way towards modern design.

The participants will be individually guided throughout all the phases of their work.

Starting from our intensive work experience during the reconstruction of the Gropius-Zimmer textiles in Weimar, we are proposing a unique creative experience to the participants of the 2018 courses based on the theme: "Bauhaus inspiration". The main objective of our project is to examine the teaching methods, techniques, aesthetic and pedagogical concepts of Bauhaus and to comprehend their lasting impact on modern textile design and contemporary artistic practices.

The laboratory activities will allow us to experiment the creation of textile structures inspired by Bauhaus. More specifically, our activity includes in-depth studies on the connection between structure and colour and that between shape and function.

The participants will work out different fabric designs and weave a series of samples during the course.

Directors of the course: Anna Silberschmidt, Nicola Sansò
Requirements for attendance: the course is open to everybody
Spoken language: Italian, German, English, French

Training Courses in Weaving

Upon request, at our atelier, we offer weaving and fabric design courses. These courses are addressed to small groups of people who wish to gain further knowledge on specific topics by taking part in single courses and through a more varied apprenticeship over a period of time. In addition, besides basic weaving courses, we also offer advanced weaving and fabric design courses.

During the programme's activities, theoretical lectures take place in close connection with practical weaving lessons. The activities at the loom are supported and integrated by theoretical lectures on the following topics: knowledge of weaves and textile fibers, fabric design, presentation, technical calculations.

Two or three short introductory courses on basic weaving are held every year.

For additional information on the topic or specific requests, please contact us directly:
aphorisma@virgilio.it

Directors of the courses: Anna Silberschmidt, Nicola Sansò

General information

The courses are open to both beginners and professionals. You can register even if you do not have any specific knowledge on the course subject. The lecture programme is restricted and foresees a maximum number of eight persons for each single course. Each participant will be followed by the teachers directly and can use all the equipment, materials and instruments useful to develop his project.

Hours: morning from 9 a.m. to 13 p.m., afternoon from 14.30 p.m. to 17.30 p.m. Courses are held every day except Wednesdays (excluding "Monochrome") and Sundays. 10-day courses will end the last Saturday at 2 p.m.

Attendance

The fee of the 6-day course is € 580, while the fee of the 10-day course is € 810 and the fee of the Monochrome-course is € 390, VAT included. A discount on the course fee will be offered to students. A discount will also be offered to whom registers to the course at least 12 weeks prior to its beginning. € 200 shall be paid as non-refundable deposit after the confirmation of your registration. The balance will be paid on the first day of the course. In case of cancellation, the deposit paid can be used by the applicant as deposit to attend another course within the next year.

To register, please send an email at: aphorisma@virgilio.it or fill out and send the registration form.

Upon registration, the participant will receive a written confirmation and any useful information.

Accommodation

Upon request, Studio Aphorisma will assist the participants to find the most suitable accommodation for their needs. All the rooms are located in panoramic and quiet areas, inside farm accommodation for tourists or hotels. The participants can also stay at the Youth Hostel in Tavarnelle Val di Pesa. There is a camping located 5 km from the Studio Aphorisma.

From the town, Florence, Siena and S.Gimignano can be easily reached through public means of transportation.

Nearest airports: Florence and Pisa.

Studio Aphorisma

Studio Aphorisma, directed by artist Nicola Sansò and textile designer Anna Silberschmidt, is a studio that focuses on research, design and professional consulting mainly with regards to topics concerning fabric design activities and modern artistic creations.

Anna Silberschmidt born in Zurich, Switzerland, textile designer, she lives near Florence where she manages her weaving atelier and organizes courses.

Teacher of fabric design at the Centro scolastico delle industrie artistiche in Lugano and other schools in Switzerland.

Nicola Sansò, Born in Apulia, Master of Fine Arts, Accademia di Belle Arti in Rome.

Teacher of Visual Communication, artist and graphic designer.

Coordinator, Art Director of cultural art projects for the European Union. In 2010, he organized an important installation at A trans Pavilion, Berlin.