

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.

## 2019 Programme

*Art courses:*

**Painting / Textile Design: Textile Identity** re-invented tradition

**30th May - 8th June / 18th - 27th July / 16th - 21st September**

**Monochrome** - The colours of nature **19th - 21st August**

*Weaving courses:*

**Weaving: Textile Identity** re-invented tradition

**30th May - 8th June / 18th - 27th July / 16th - 21st September**

**Bauhaus Inspiration** **5th - 10th August**

### Weaving: Textile Identity re-invented tradition

**30th May - 8th June / 18th - 27th July / 16th - 21st September**

Our courses introduce the idea of re-invention of a fabric starting from the analysis of textiles of past traditions. Today there is a renewed interest in the creation of handcrafted fabrics, in particular within contemporary fashion, also because of the awareness of ecological sustainability present in the creative processes of handcrafted fabric. The aim of our proposal is to develop new textile design tools that are able to interpret weaving systems and techniques of past cultures with modern concepts and designs.

**Topics covered:** Design elements used in traditional textiles such as: colour, shape, material, technique and function; construction and deconstruction of a handmade fabric; textures and weaves drawn from many popular cultural contexts; novel materials; elaboration of a series of samples on the loom.

**Director of the course:** Anna Silberschmidt

**Spoken languages:** Italian, English, French, German

### Painting / Textile Design: Textile Identity drawing, collage, colour, textures

**30th May - 8th June / 18th - 27th July / 16th - 21st September**

**Topics covered:** design elements used in traditional textiles such as colour, shape and material as inspiration for new designs; choosing an inspiration theme for the composition of a mood board made with collage of images, colours, illustrations, drawings, photographs, fabric samples, etc.;

how to create your own colour palette; how to elaborate fabric designs with techniques such as frottage, collage, masking etc.; how to design textures of fabrics taken from various iconographic contexts of popular cultures.

**Director of the course:** Nicola Sansò

**Spoken language:** Italian, the introduction will be translated in English

## Monochrome The colours of nature

**19th - 21st 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 (special course)

**5th - 10th August**

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

**2nd - 5th March / 28th - 30th June / 1st - 4th November**

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. There is also the possibility of individual tuition.

For additional information on the topic or specific requests, please contact us directly:

[aphorisma@virgilio.it](mailto:aphorisma@virgilio.it)

**Directors of the course:** Anna Silberschmidt, Nicola Sansò

**Requirements for attendance:** the course is open to everybody

**Spoken language:** Italian, German, English, French

## 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](mailto: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.

The nearest airports are 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.