

Studio APHORISMA
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Studio Aphorisma's atelier is located on a hill where Chianti wine is made, in a former farm holding nestled among vineyards, cypresses, olive trees and centuries old oak trees, between Florence and 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.

2015 programme

Art courses:

Artist Book Thoughts, texts, textures, marks and shapes in the creation of an artist book.

28th May – 6th June / 30th July – 8th August

Monochrome The colours of nature

31st August - 5th September

Weaving courses:

Woven Book Thoughts, yarns, textures, marks and shapes in the creation of a woven book.

28th May – 6th June / 30th July – 8th August / 21st – 26th September

Fabric Design Course Special course

2nd - 7th July

Painting

Artist Book - Thoughts, texts, textures, marks and shapes in the creation of an artist book.

28th May – 6th June / 30th July - 8th August

The objective of the course is to see, through hands-on activities, how the book, which was once the privileged writing medium, is losing today its function to support the written word to embrace multiple expressions developed towards a complex language experience, more multi-sensorial.

The course activity foresees the creation and execution of an artistic object in the form of a limited edition book, a book that can also consist of a single sheet, with cover and internal pages created using mixed techniques. The participants attending the course will dispose of all the tools needed to create their personal book-object, conceiving a poetic and sensorial, visual and tactile tale through texts and images, consisting of a mix of letters, marks, drawings, shapes, colours and images.

The participants can freely use different techniques and materials like paper recycled from other books, tempera, watercolour, collage, frottage, drawing, photography, monotyping, hand-made paper, etc.

Director of the course: Nicola Sansò

Spoken language: Italian, an introduction will be translated in English

Monochrome The colours of nature

31st August – 5th September

The “Monochrome” 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 fascinating theme and together, guided by the course tutors, will dive into and experience the magical world of extraction and the creation of colours from plants, realising with these colours original monochromatic paintings of great quality and painting intensity.

Directors of the course: Nicola Sansò, Anna Silberschmidt

Spoken languages: Italian, German, English, French

Weaving

Woven Book - Thoughts, yarns, textures, marks and shapes in the creation of a woven book.

28th May - 6th June / 30th July - 8th August / 21st - 26th September

According to the etymology, the Italian word “libro” derives from Latin “liber” that was originally indicating the film beneath the tree bark. Moreover, the botanic term “liber” recalls an existing relation since its origins, between writing and textile fibres. In fact, from the term “liber” also derives “Liberian fibres”, which are vegetable fibres essentially obtained from the trunk of some plants like hemp, linen, jute, etc..

The objective of the course is to see, through hands-on activities, how the book, which was once the privileged writing medium, is losing today its function to support the written word to embrace multiple expressions developed towards a complex language experience, more multi-sensorial.

The course activity foresees the design and creation of a unique textile object in the form of a book, pliable or other, a book that can also be created from a fabric/text consisting of woven textures, special materials, layers, embroideries, cuts, etc.

Each participant assisted by the instructor will choose his/her personal path, starting from creation until the execution of the design. He/she will also be assisted in implementing all practical tools aimed at executing his/her woven book.

All textile materials (natural and non, Liberian fibres, etc.) or non textile materials can be freely used by the participants, also papers recycled from other books, newspapers, Japanese paper yarns, etc.

Requirements for attendance: The course is open to everybody

Directors of the course: Anna Silberschmidt, Nicola Sansò

Spoken languages: Italian, German, English, French

Fabric Design Course Special course

2nd - 7th July

The special course organised by Studio Aphorisma for the 2015 teaching season will be related to the PITTI FILATI exhibition that will be held in Florence from 1st - 3rd July and can represent for our students, the occasion to view the latest trends in the textile and fashion sectors, and also to gain further knowledge of the various fabric design and creative methods. Through this course, Studio Aphorisma intends to discuss with the participants, the different topics concerning fabric design.

Topics covered

- Inspiration: how to gain inspiration from the most unexpected sources
- Colour: how to conceive a colour range and how to create a colour palette
- Presentation: how to lay out your works in a personal Portfolio

Directors of the course: Nicola Sansò, Anna Silberschmidt

Spoken languages: Italian, German, English, French

General informations

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 seven 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.

Attendance

The fee of the 6-day course is € 580, while the fee of the 10-day course is € 810, VAT included. 20% 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 upon 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 accommodations for tourists or hotels. The participants can also stay at the Youth Hostel in Tavarnelle Val di Pesa. 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 CSIA in Lugano and other schools in Switzerland and Italy.

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.