

# Summer 2012 Florence and Southern Italy RESTORATION WORKSHOP



This Summer Workshop provides an exciting opportunity for people of varying ages and backgrounds to deepen their personal cultural experience and creative skills. This workshop, offered twice, in June and in July, consists of a month-long exploration of restoration, history, religion and culture, balancing studio and classroom instruction on the LdM premises in Florence with field work in an inspiring Italian location.

- 4-Week Program
- 90 Contact Hours
- 6 Credits

## JUNE 2012

**Check in:** Thursday May 24 – **Check out:** Saturday June 23

**Class starts:** Monday May 28 – **Class ends:** Thursday June 21 – **Field week:** June 3 - 9

## JULY 2012

**Check in:** Thursday June 28 – **Check out:** Saturday July 28

**Class starts:** Monday July 2 – **Class ends:** Thursday July 26 – **Field week:** July 8 - 14

# General Program Details

- Minimum number of participants required to open the workshop: 5
- Please bear in mind the following: the stay in **Florence** consists of regular attendance at the LdM Institute, where the participants follow scheduled daily classes in the school's premises and around the city (if pertinent), whereas the '**field week**' consists of full day activities spent at the scheduled location, where the participants will be involved full-time with didactic activities balanced with relaxation and entertainment.

## The Tuition Fee INCLUDES

- The entire course for a total of 90 contact hours and 6 credits.
- Accommodation (*agriturismo*, B&B, hostel or family) and full board (breakfast, lunch bags, dinner) at the scheduled field location.
- Transportation from Florence to the field location and back.

## The Tuition Fee DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Accommodation and board in Florence.
- Beverages (to be paid for on site).
- Required personal materials (to be brought from home and/or purchased in Florence).
- Lab fee (if any - to be paid on site).
- Course texts (if any - to be purchased in Florence).
- Any minor transportation by public bus.

Further details and suggestions about expenses will be given during enrollment and the first classes.

## Transportation

- The trip to the field location is organized by LdM and will be outlined through a mandatory pre-departure orientation session.
- The departure usually takes place on a Saturday, and arrival back in Florence is also planned for Saturday. Exact details on meeting point/time will be given in class.
- The transportation will take place by private bus or public transportation (bus, train or airplane) arranged by LdM.
- Participants who are late for personal reasons will be required to make their own private arrangements for transportation and no refund will be made for such a cost.

## Accommodation and Board

- For the **field week**, the participants will be hosted in selected hotels, *agriturismo*, B&Bs, hotels or families, where they will enjoy full board (breakfast, lunch bags, dinner). The group will be accommodated in double/triple/quad rooms. Single rooms are generally NOT available. The rooms will be assigned to the participants according to roommate requests, common program, and gender. The available accommodation and further details will be given during enrollment.
- The cost for accommodation and board for the weeks planned in **Florence** is NOT included in the tuition fee, and may vary according to the type of accommodation. The accommodation in Florence can be arranged through the school's housing service. Further details will be given during enrollment.

## Application

- Prospective applicants must contact the address below for further details about the program and how to apply.
- **Deadlines for application**
  - ❖ **June Session:** April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012
  - ❖ **July Session:** May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012



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# Tentative Course Syllabus

## **FLORENCE AND SOUTHERN ITALY RESTORATION WORKSHOP**

LdM Course Code: RES 225 F

Instructor: **Prof. Lorenzo Casamenti**

**Teacher contact/availability:** available to see students individually, before/after class, by appointment.

**Contact hours:** 90

**Credit hours:** 6

### **Course Schedule**

Exact schedule and dates at paragraph 13A and 13B

**Class time:** regular Florence classes generally run MON-THUR **1:00PM-3:30PM**; during the field week generally MON-FRI full-time

**Location:** regular classes in **Florence**; Field week in **Rocca Imperiale**

**Additional costs:** approx 50 Euro for required working materials and visits/entry fees (see paragraph 10 below)

### **1- DESCRIPTION**

During three weeks in **Florence** students will work in the Restoration Department of the LdM institute and learn the ancient techniques used for making oil and tempera paintings, learn to recognize the century in which the paintings were created, work on original paintings from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> century, learning how to use all modern painting restoration techniques to bring the antique paintings back to their original state (including wooden frames and gilding techniques, if necessary).

Time permitting, students will have a brief survey on fresco painting techniques and fresco conservation.

The field week will take place in **Rocca Imperiale**, a characteristic medieval hill town located in the region of Calabria, in the Taranto Gulf, 4 km from the sea. It is a very important archaeological area since there was an important Greek settlement because of its fertile earth and strategic position. The most important monument of Rocca Imperiale is the medieval fortress.

Here, students will have the chance to work on the restoration of a poliptic painting of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century located in the “Chiesa Madre” of the town.

Participants will acquire confidence and practical knowledge in working with authentic and antique works of art, through a true hands-on approach to restoration and conservation.

Some cultural and recreational activities will be included in the Calabria stay, such as visiting a farmhouse, going for a swim in the Mediterranean sea, meeting the towns major, having a picnic in the countryside, special dinner, etc.

### **2- OBJECTIVES, GOALS and OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course a student will

- know what ancient oil paintings consist of
- recognize the different painting techniques over the centuries
- decide on proper restoration techniques
- obtain a consistent practical survey of restoration methods

### **3- PREREQUISITES**

There are no academic requirements for the beginning course, although the ability to “see” colors is of vital importance during the phases of aesthetic in-painting. Guidance from the instructor will enable students with no artistic background to understand what the task of a restorer entails. Consider that walking tours and visits may be scheduled.

#### **4- METHOD**

The course will be conducted through lectures, site visits, laboratory work under the instructor’s supervision, and practical on-site restoration work.

#### **5- ASSESSMENT**

Students are evaluated on overall lab work, participation, effort, technical ability, improvement, technical and artistic skills. Throughout the course various hand-on exercises will be done, various projects completed.

Most art-historical and technical information needed are available through the instructor and the LDM library and will be an integral part of the assessment.

Should issues arise of academic dishonesty, the teacher will refer to the LdM written rules of conduct on such matters.

#### **6- EXAMS**

The final exam is based on the professor’s evaluation of the completed work, the improvement, a short written essay based on theory, lectures and handouts.

#### **7- EVALUATION and GRADING SYSTEM**

The final grade is made up of the following:

- 20% Attendance and class participation
- 25% On-site effort, midterm evaluation
- 10% Additional projects, assignments, extra tests
- 20% Lab, participation, efforts, technical ability, improvement
- 25% Final projects, final result, technical/ artistic evaluation

Students are evaluated by means of work done throughout the course

**A** = 100 - 93, **A-** = 92 - 90, **B+** = 89 - 87, **B** = 86 - 83, **B-** = 82 - 80,  
**C+** = 79 - 77, **C-** = 76 - 73, **C-** = 72 - 70, **D** = 69 - 60, **F** = 59 - 0

#### **8- ATTENDANCE and BEHAVIOUR**

**Mandatory attendance** is a primary requirement for a responsible learning experience at LdM. Please note that:

- If the student misses **THREE** classes, the **Final grade** will be lowered by one full letter grade.
- If more than **THREE** classes are missed, the final grade will be “**F**” and **NO credits** will be given for this course.

**Punctuality is mandatory.** Students must arrive in class on time: any lateness, leaving class during the lesson without notice, not showing up on time after the break, or leaving earlier, will impact the participation grade and the Final Grade. Three late arrivals or equivalent (10 minutes or more) result in one absence on the attendance count. Missing half a lesson or more will be considered as one full absence.

- It is the responsibility of the student to catch up on any missed work and to keep track of his or her absences and tardies.
- Make-up classes are always mandatory as part of the course program.
- Students are required to **behave** properly within the school premises. Classrooms are to be left in

**order and clean.** Students must take **care** of available equipment and materials and promptly report any damage and loss. Students may NOT keep cell phones, Blackberry systems or laptop computers and wireless internet switched on during classes.

## **9– READINGS and SOURCES**

Course and exams are based on lectures, handouts, visits, and lab work. A single mandatory textbook will not be required. The given handouts are to be studied meticulously; notes must be taken during lectures and visits. Extra research for personal interest can be done online or in the LDM library (or within Florence in general).

The handout includes the following readings:

- *Phases of Painting Restoration: The cleaning—The remounting of a damaged canvas.* (outline prepared by Prof Casamenti).
- *Approaches to Cleaning and Restoration*, in David Bomford, *Conservation of paintings*, London: National Gallery Publications, 1997. [REST 24]
- *Types of Damage and how they are Caused,” in:* Nicolaus, Knut, *The restoration of paintings*, Cologne: Konemann, 1999. pg. 80-89. [REST 2]
- *General Restoration Operations*, in Nicolaus, Knut, *The restoration of paintings*, Cologne: Konemann, 1999. pg. 90-104 [REST 2]

### **Selected bibliography:**

- James Beck, Michael Daley, *Art restoration: the culture, the business and the scandal*, London : John Murray, 1993. [REST 1]
- Nicolaus, Knut, *The restoration of paintings*, Cologne: Konemann, 1999. [REST 2]
- *Science for conservators: cleaning*, London ; New York : Conservation Unit of the Museums & Galleries Commission in conjunction with Routledge, 1992. [REST 7a]
- *Painted wood: history & conservation*, Los Angeles: Getty Conservation Institute, 1998. [REST 9]
- Mark Leonard (editor), *Personal viewpoints: thoughts about paintings conservation*, a seminar organized by The J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Conservation Institute, and the Getty Research Institute at the Getty Center, Los Angeles, June 21-22, 2001, Los Angeles: Getty Conservation Institute, 2003. [REST 12]
- Caroline Villers (editor), *Lining paintings: papers from the Greenwich Conference on Comparative Lining Techniques*, Papers from the Greenwich Conference on Comparative Lining Techniques, London : Archetype in association with the National Maritime Museum, 2003. [REST 14]
- W. Stanley Taft Jr., James W. Mayer, *The science of paintings*, New York: Springer, 2000. [REST 15]
- David Bomford, *Conservation of paintings*, London: National Gallery Publications, 1997. [REST 24]
- A.P. Laurie, *The painter's methods & materials*, New York: Dover Publications, 1967. [REST 25]
- *History of the restoration and conservation of works of art*, Butterworth-Heinemann, 2007. [REST 28]
- David Bomford, Mark Leonard (editors), *Issues in the conservation of paintings*, Los Angeles: Getty Conservation Institute, 2004. [REST 41]
- Christine Sitwell, Sarah Staniforth, *Studies in the history of painting restoration*, London: Archetype Publications Ltd: National Trust, 1998. [REST 44]
- Cesare Brandi, *Theory of restoration*, Roma: Firenze: Istituto centrale per il restauro, Nardini, 2005. [REST 46]

## **10– ADDITIONAL COSTS**

A **lab fee** of **50 Euro** is required to cover the materials, colors and tools to be found and shared in class (see. list of materials at point 12). Note: if these items are bought individually/for individual use, the cost is almost doubled.

Approx 1.50 Euro for each required bus ride in Florence (required for some visits).

### **11– VISITS and TRIPS**

One or two visits to a specific place (either museum, monastery, church, studio or other) will help enlighten the techniques and historical background learned in class.

1. Such visits will be announced at latest one week earlier and will generally take place during regular class time.
2. For such visits generally only the bus ride is to be paid by each student (1.20 Euro each).
3. Always make sure you know the exact meeting points each week (usually in classroom) and how to reach the place; be aware that there might be changes in the schedule.
4. Please don't be late if there is a meeting point as the class cannot wait for you to start the visit and you will also have to pay entrance if you are late. A late show will be treated as absent. If you know you will be absent, notify your professor the week before, if possible.
5. Make sure you always have your map with you and know where you are going so you learn your way around.

### **12– MATERIALS**

During the course each student will deal with a series of tools and materials as listed below.

These will be available directly in class and **MUST BE SHARED IN CLASS AND NOT TAKEN HOME.**

(\*) Only brushes and other few tools will belong to the students for personal use.

The given amount of materials is estimated according to an average use by each student and on the work load.

Full details of these items will be given during the first lesson. These materials will be available though the payment of the **lab fee** of **50 Euro**. **NOTE:** if these items are bought individually and for individual use, the cost is almost twice as much.

1. 3 Brushes for restoration No. 1,2,3 (\*)
2. A complete surgical scalpel
3. ½ liter Oil of turpentine
4. Alcohol
5. ½ liter Damar varnish
6. 500 grams Gold plaster
7. 200 grams Rabbit skin glue
8. 150 grams Fish glue
9. Water colours (the basic range)
10. Tempera paints. Yellow, red, blue, brown, white and black (each tube for 4 students)
11. Varnish colour (used for two lessons at the end of the course, each tube for 6/7 students)
12. Solvent "Solvente Forte per restauro"
13. Fixative spray
14. 200 grams neutral wax
15. Plastic palette
16. 1 roll of masking tape (1 roll for 4 students)

### **For the Calabria stay:**

For the fieldtrip week we suggest bringing adequate **clothing** (among which a light sweater for cool evenings) and other personal supplies such as:

1. **Strong comfortable walking/hiking shoes**
2. Good walking socks
3. Comfortable clothes (t/shirts, cotton pants, jeans, cotton shirts, polo shirts, shorts etc.)

4. Fleecy sweater/cotton sweater
5. Rain jacket
6. Hat/cap
7. A small backpack
8. Sunglasses
9. Swimming suit
10. Slippers/flip flops
11. Flashlight
12. Swiss Army knife
13. Mosquito repellent (OFF, AUTAN, POLARAMINE...)
14. Sunscreen
15. any medicine that you might need (allergy, headache, aspirin...)

Any other lab materials and working tools will be provided on site.

## **13 A- CLASS SCHEDULE for JUNE**

Thursday May 24  
Friday May 25

Arrival/housing check-in  
Orientation/welcome meeting

### **WEEK 1 - Florence**

Class 1) Mon May 28  
Class 2) Tue May 29  
Class 3) Wed May 30  
Class 4) Thu May 31

Introduction and description of the different course phases  
The pictorial technique of ancient painting  
Cleaning an ancient painting  
Cleaning an ancient painting  
**Information on trip, organization of stay and restoration work in Rocca Imperiale**

**Sunday June 3**

**Transfer to Calabria**

**WEEK 2 - Southern Italy**  
Classes 5 – 9)

(Sunday June 3 – Saturday June 9)  
Monday–Friday full day. Work in the church of St Francis in Rocca Imperiale

During the week a dinner will be offered by the community of Rocca Imperiale.

**Saturday June 9**

**Return to Florence**

### **WEEK 3 - Florence**

Class 10) Mon June 11  
  
Class 11) Tue June 12  
Class 12) Wed June 13  
Class 13) Thu June 14

Preparation of the different kinds of plaster for filling cracks in paintings  
Painting plastering  
Painting restoration  
Refining work

### **WEEK 4 - Florence**

Class 14) Mon June 18  
  
Class 15) Tue June 19  
Class 16) Wed June 20  
Class 17) Thu June 21

Protective treatment of painting before the pictorial restoration. Finish painting fresco and detach  
Demonstration of detachment technique for fresco and place on canvas  
Restoring missing color  
**FINAL EXAM** Summing up all the different phases of the work done

Saturday June 23

Housing check-out

## 13B- CLASS SCHEDULE for JULY

Thursday June 28  
Friday July 29

Arrival/housing check-in  
Orientation/welcome meeting

### WEEK 1 - Florence

Class 1) Mon July 2  
Class 2) Tue July 3  
Class 3) Wed July 4  
Class 4) Thu July 5

Introduction and description of the different course phases  
The pictorial technique of ancient painting  
Cleaning an ancient painting  
Cleaning an ancient painting  
**Information on trip, organization of stay and restoration work in Rocca Imperiale**

**Sunday July 8**

**Transfer to Calabria**

**WEEK 2 - Southern Italy**  
Classes 5 – 9)

(Sunday July 8 – Saturday July 14)  
Monday–Friday full day. Work in the church of St Francis in Rocca Imperiale

During the week a dinner will be offered by the community of Rocca Imperiale

**Saturday July 14**

**Return to Florence**

### WEEK 3 - Florence

Class 10) Mon July 16  
  
Class 11) Tue July 17  
Class 12) Wed July 18  
Class 13) Thu July 19

Preparation of the different kinds of plaster for filling cracks in paintings  
Painting plastering  
Painting restoration  
Refining work

### WEEK 4 - Florence

Class 14) Mon July 23  
  
Class 15) Tue July 24  
Class 16) Wed July 25  
Class 17) Thu July 26

Protective treatment of painting before the pictorial restoration. Finish painting fresco and detach  
Demonstration of detachment technique for fresco and place on canvas  
Restoring missing color  
**FINAL EXAM** Summing up all the different phases of the work done

Saturday July 28

Housing check-out