

WORKSHOP ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF PAINTING



Program : 6 days

Each lesson will feature a section on the technical/historical aspects of the materials followed by a hands-on session.

1. The invention of the paint-brush in painting
2. How to make a paint-brush (marten, badger, wild boar, pig).
3. Exploring goose feather quills used in writing and draw woodcock feathers used to paint Angels hair during the Renaissance.
4. How to make a painters palette. How the use of a copper painting surface developed during the Flemish Dutch golden age.
5. The invention of the stretcher. Differences between fixed stretchers: Tuscan and French variations.
6. How the development of fabric covered stretchers occurred.
7. Different methods of stretcher preparation according to the choice of wood frame or painting canvas, linen, juta or other material.
8. Use of paper: how it is prepared or is grawn over a stretcher.
9. Color: colors derived from the liquids in grasses and pollens
10. Pigments: ground earths and pulverized stones.
11. Various types of binders: water and pigment mixtures for the affresco water and sugar (also used for gilding) natural binders based on egg and animal glue modern acrylic binders.
12. Differences between watercolor, tempera, oil, and acrylic considered in conjunction with the preparation of specific support.
13. Finishing techniques for surface protection and aging: from bees wax to Damar varnish.
14. Historical notes on the differences and comparisons between several techniques: Leonardo, Michelangelo, Botticelli, Raffaello
15. From Byzantine mosaics to Giotto and Masaccio
16. Piero della Francesca and the study of perspective

Teacher

Alfredo Futuro

A painter and sculptor, he owes his artistic leanings to the multifarious and variegated aspects of his family environment.

He studied in Florence and found his reference models in architects Pierluigi Spadolini and Leonardo Savioli, evolving academism in personal expression through the bonds which unite design, painting and sculpture as essential components of architectural development.

He began to travel and soon found opportunities for expressing himself in London and Paris, where he lived from '80 to '90. In that decade, apart from exhibitions and performances in public and private galleries, he produced portraits and compositions for important families and personages (Peugeot, Angremy, Citroen, Arigoni, Jospin, Coulom, Vadepied and Boudot de La Motte); and he met Olga Picabia, Françoise Sagan and Madame Mitterand. Together with Leonid Talalaëff, his sponsor and gallery-manager of the time, he worked on the Cité de la Roquette in the growing development of the Bastille quarter and participated in the principal artistic-cultural productions and initiatives which led to the "Nouvelle Opera" at the resurgence of all that arrondissement.

Returning to Italy, he worked for the grand families of Florence (Rucellai, Pucci, Antinori, Mazzei, Frescobaldi, Marchi, Pallavicino, Branca, Folonari, Gucci, D'Afflitto, Quaratesi, and Geddes da Filicaia) producing a range of portraits and compositions. Apart from contacts and expressive interests in several countries of the European Community, his fame grew in the USA and Switzerland. His principal works include important portraits such as: Pope John Paul II, Lady Diana, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Giovannino Agnelli and Sam Walton.

The farthest-flung and perhaps the most mysterious work composed by Alfredo Futuro can be found on Easter Island, where in 2000 the artist dedicated to the love of humanity a circle with a diameter of 100 metres, inscribed by hand with an assembled "line" of volcanic rocks.

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Practical information

Daily schedule

The cadence of the lessons varies according to each workshop ; each teacher have great freedom editing their schedule: nonetheless there are some fixed appointments that recur.

Sunday

4 to 7 p.m. : arrival and registration

8.30 p.m. : dinner and meeting with teacher and other students

From Monday to Friday

8.30 to 9.30 a.m.: breakfast

12.30 to 2 p.m. : packed lunch

8.30 p.m. : dinner

10 p.m. : review session

Saturday

8.30 to 9.30: breakfast

Final review session and workshop conclusions

The workshop is over at 12 a.m.

Check out within 12 a.m. of Sunday

Fee

Workshop fee is : € 1500 .

The cost includes :

- lessons 6 days
- 7 nights accomodation in the "Artist's house" *
- provisions for sel-catering breakfast
- packed lunch
- dinner at typical restaurant
- materials for the workshops
- shuttle service for excursions (when applicable)
- use of the lab over the lesson's hours (maximum until 11 p.m.)
- use of "meeting room " over the lesson's hours (maximum until 11 p.m.)

*The first students to enrol may take up accommodation in the "Artists' house", in double or triple rooms with shared bathrooms and kitchen, in a self-catering family situation, thus favouring a genuine exchange of experiences.

Beyond the first enrolled, any further students may avail of accommodation, paying a supplementary charge, in single rooms or sharing in agriturismo (farmhouse holiday centres) which have a favourable arrangement with us and are situated not more than five minutes' walk from the location of the courses.

Is not included :

- travel to and from the location of the workshop

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Partecipants

The number of partecipants is minimum 5 maximum 15.
The workshop will be held to achieve the minimum number of partecipants.

It is open to all skill levels.

Where we are

We are in Greve in Chianti , near Florence, Tuscany – Italy
It is suggested, when possible, to come by car, also to explore the surrounding area.

TRAIN

The closest station is Firenze Santa Maria Novella . Behind the railway station, there is the bus station, for bus schedule please consult www.acvbus.it . Let know your arrival in Greve in Chianti and we can arrange a free pick up service on Sunday afternoon.

CAR

From Nord, highway A1 direction Rome or from Sud , highway A1 direction Bologna , the exit is Firenze Certosa , then take the road direction Greve in Chianti . Arriving at the ESSO petrol station in Greve in Chianti veer right (following the brown sign for PIEVE DI SAN CRESCI) . At the small bridge turn right across the bridge and then immediately left up a steep hill. Proceed uphill (via di Zano) and remain on the road which soon become unproved . You will pass the villa di ZANO on your right, continue for another approximately 800 m. and you will see the PIEVE DI SAN CRESCI.

If you have a navigator fill in the following information: Greve in Chianti, Località San Cresci 1

AIRPLANE

The closest airport is the one of Florence . From there you can easily reach the train station by bus and then follow the train itinerary (see above). We are about 90 minutes away from the airport.

You can also rent a car to come in Greve in Chianti .

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Arrival and departure

You should arrive between 4 and 7 p.m. on SUNDAY: that will give you time to check into your room, and be ready for the dinner at 8.30 p.m. where you will meet your teacher and other participants.

The workshops end at noon on Saturday.

Check out within 12 a.m. of Sunday

Accommodation

The first students to enrol may take up accommodation in the "Artists' house", in double or triple rooms with shared bathrooms and kitchen, in a self-catering family situation, thus favouring a genuine exchange of experiences.

Beyond the first enrolled, any further students may avail of accommodation, paying a supplementary charge (ask for a quote), in single rooms or sharing in agriturismo (farmhouse holiday centres) which have a favourable arrangement with us and are situated not more than five minutes' walk from the location of the courses.

Internet

Free Internet connection wireless is possible both in the meeting room and in the "Artist's house".

Enrolment

The number of participants for each workshop is a minimum of 5 and a maximum 15 people, in order to maintain a more direct relationship with the teacher.

You can enrol :

- by e-mail
- by fax

For your reservation to be effective you must send a deposit of Euro 500 for workshop as down payment.

Registration form constitute an agreement to the terms and conditions as laid out here.

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Payment

The balance is due 30 days before the beginning of the workshop.

You can pay through :

- **Bank transfer to :**
Beneficiary: La Macina di San Cresci
IBAN IT02 L 07601 02800 000067195313
- **By PAYPAL**

Workshop cancellation /Refunds

When working with professional teachers it can happen that at the last minute an unalterable assignment forces them to cancel a workshop.

A workshop can be cancelled if we do not reach the minimum number of participants. In these cases the students can choose either to be fully reimbursed or transferred to another course.

If you decide to cancel for any reason, the refunds terms are :

- 60 days before the starting date of workshop: total reimburse
- Between 60 and 16 days before the starting date of workshop : 50% of the fee
- Less 15 days before the starting date of workshop : no reimburse

La Macina di San Cresci is not responsible for reimbursement of travel expenses in case a workshop is cancelled. We recommend that you buy refundable air/train tickets and/or travel insurance.

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What to bring

All materials for the workshop are included.
We suggest to bring a coat for the painting .

You can bring a selection of your works for the first meeting with the teacher .

The atmosphere is informal. We recommend practical and comfortable clothes.

Language

The courses are held by Italian teachers able to speak in English .

Insurance

La Macina di San Cresci is not liable for personal injuries or equipment damage during the workshop duration. The signing of the enrolment form releases La Macina di San Cresci from any liability.

Companions

The Chianti region is an enchanting territory which attracts millions of people. If you wish to participate in one of our courses and you have a partner, family-member or friend, contact us for an "accommodation-only quote".

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Information

For any information , please contact us :

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Mail:

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