

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.

2021 Programme

Weaving courses:

Symmetry / Asymmetry Proportion and Harmony in Fabric Design

27 May - 5 June / 22 - 31 July 2021

Training courses in weaving:

12 - 15 February / 1 - 4 July / 14 - 17 October / 5 - 8 December 2021

Special course:

Symmetry / Asymmetry in Bauhaus 13 - 18 September 2021

Symmetry / Asymmetry Proportion and Harmony in Fabric Design

27 May - 5 June / 22 - 31 July 2021

When designing a textile, symmetry is a fundamental concept that determines both the fabric appearance and the style in terms of structure and colour.

If, when designing a fabric, symmetry communicates balance, harmony and limitation, asymmetry, on the other hand, communicates dynamism, play and freedom. Asymmetry therefore represents a "break" of symmetry, through which, if used in a targeted and effective way, a fabric can be made more attractive and aesthetically pleasing.

The following topics will be covered during the course:

- Introduction to the conscious use of different design tools when planning a fabric in order to combine the different elements into a well-proportioned, harmonious and aesthetically pleasing whole.
- Symmetry and asymmetry in fabric colour design
- Symmetry and asymmetry in weave structures and patterns
- Symmetry and asymmetry in tapestry weaving

Directors of the course: Anna Silberschmidt, Nicola Sansò

Requirements for attendance: the course is open to everybody

Spoken languages: Italian, German, English, French

Monochrome The colours of nature

only on demand

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

Symmetry / Asymmetry in Bauhaus

13 - 18 September 2021

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 fabric 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 symmetry / asymmetry.

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 and fabric design

12 - 15 February / 1 - 4 July / 14 - 17 October / 5 - 8 December 2021

The course is suitable both for participants who already have knowledge of weaving and would like to deepen it, as well as for participants who are approaching the fascinating world of creating with threads for the first time.

Programme:

- Introduction to the basic techniques of hand weaving and fabric design
- Preparing a warp and dressing the loom
- Textile fibres and yarns
- Weave diagrams
- Designing and weaving different patterns
- Design and weaving of an individual fabric or product
- Deepening of individually chosen topics on request

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 1 p.m., afternoon from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 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 4-day course is € 450, the fee for the 6-day course is € 580, while the fee of the 10-day course is € 810, 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 in and send the registration form.

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.