

SUMMER CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

June and July 2023

THE LdM SUMMER RESTORATION WORKSHOP provides an exciting opportunity for participants of various ages and backgrounds to deepen their personal cultural experience and creative skills. As a 4-week program, the workshop consists of a month-long hands-on exploration of restoration and conservation, and it is offered twice, in June and in July. Along with related historical, religious and cultural insights, students balance studio classes in Florence with two field works in inspiring locations in Central Italy.

Summer I June 2023: Florence and Central Italy Easel Paintings and Wood Conservation Workshop

Florence and Capraia Island

RES 225

Credits: 6

Hours: 90

Program start: May 31st (includes Housing Check-In and Orientation)

Program end: June 29th (includes Housing check out and transfer to Florence)

Florence component (June 1st - June 9th): LdM Restoration Lab

At the LdM Restoration Labs in Florence, participants get prepared for the on-field experience.

Participants will focus on mock-up panels as well as on original wooden artifacts, polychrome wooden sculptures, and canvases, gaining practical skills and knowledge concerning:

- Decay causes on canvas and wood artifacts
- Historical painting techniques (oil and tempera painting)
- Principal historical and modern painting restoration techniques, such as consolidation and retouching.

On-field weeks (June 9th - June 29th): Capraia Island

During the field workshop, students work at the Sant'Antonio church (17th century), where they will be restoring original artistic artifacts: two wooden sculptures and one wooden organ baldaquin.

The on-site work falls under the supervision of the Pisa Superintendency of Artistic Heritage.

Students apply appropriate materials and conservation and restoration techniques to authentic works of art under the direction of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage.

The Sant'Antonio Church on Capraia Island

The church and convent were built by the Franciscan Order in the second half of the 17th century. The origins are due to a Franciscan monk, Pier Giorgio di Bastia, who was sent to the island in 1655 and convinced the community of Capraia to host a settlement of Franciscans. From 1873 to 1986 the convent housed the prison headquarters, which housed the management and offices.

In 2016, the restoration work on the facade and interior of the church was completed, which were previously in poor condition. The convent and the church of Sant'Antonio will host a cultural centre and a historical and archeological museum.

About Capraia Island

Located in the middle of the Tuscan archipelago in front of Leghorn, Livorno, this island is renowned for its enchanting nature and ecology respect. It hosts a natural park, where animal species at extinction risk can be spotted, such as monk seals and falcons.



Summer II July 2023: Florence and Central Italy Fresco, Easel Painting, and Wood Conservation Workshop

Florence and Piancastagnaio (Siena Province)

RES 226

Credits: 6

Hours: 90

Program start: July 6th (includes Housing Check-In and Orientation)

Program end: August 3rd (includes Housing check out and transfer to Florence)

Florence component (July 10th - July 14th): LdM Restoration Labs

At the LdM Restoration Labs in Florence, participants get prepared for the on-field experience, gaining practical skills and knowledge concerning:

- Original fresco techniques, from the mixing of fresco mortar (intonaco) to its application on support, and the use of pigments.
- Decay causes on frescoes.
- Principal historical and modern painting restoration techniques, such as consolidation and retouching.

On-field weeks: Piancastagnaio (Siena Province) Southern Tuscany (July 14th - August 3rd)

During the on-field weeks, students work in the ex Church of Santa delle Grazie at Piancastagnaio (near Siena), restoring 15th century frescoes.

Following diagnostic study of the artwork in order to understand dating and conservation conditions, students concentrate on cleaning, consolidating, and retouching the artworks.

Next, students learn to use different products for the restoration of the surface layers. On the last step, students work on the pictorial layer.

The on-site work falls under the supervision of the Siena Superintendency of Artistic Heritage.

The town: Piancastagnaio (Siena Province)

This town, on Mount Amiata, is famous for its medieval Rocca Fortress, the beautiful Bourbon del Monte Palace, and the historic Palio, which takes place in the month of July and is even more ancient than the one in Siena. Piancastagnaio is also famous for its chestnuts, that give the place its name, and for the Cinnabar (mercury) quarries.

Field Trips

Located on a mountain, Piancastagnaio is the perfect place to be during the warm Italian Summer. The town, situated in the southern part of Tuscany, is connected via bus to Florence and Siena, one of the most beautiful cities of Tuscany, famous for its 13th century Dome Cathedral in white and black marble, Piazza del Campo, the main square of the city where every year the contrade of the city celebrates the ancient tradition of Palio (in July and August), Italy's most famous horse race.

The area is not short of natural attractions, such as the Bagni di San Filippo, a natural hot spring in the forests of Tuscany in the beauty of Val d'Orcia. History lovers will enjoy visiting the medieval gems of Sovana and Pitigliano, ancient towns built on tufa promontories, a stone which is typical of the area and was largely used by Etruscan also in their artisanal production. The proximity of the Argentario coast, with its sandy beaches and coastal towers, and ancient villages, allows for day trips to fully enjoy the Italian summer.



General Information

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). The field work consists of full day activities spent at the scheduled location, where the participants will be involved full-time with educational activities balanced with recreational activities.

General Admission Requirements

- Participants must be at least 18 years of age.
- Participants must be in a good medical/psychological condition to succeed in the program.

Students who are interested, can apply for US credits.

To Apply

For more information, to learn about fees and accommodation, as well as for the application form, please contact info@ldminstitute.com

Application Deadlines for Summer 2023

June Session: April 10th, 2023

July Session: May 15th, 2023

Limited number of spots available.



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