International Council of Fine Arts Deans

Triennial International Symposium
June 21 – 24, 2011
Due to the contracted room block, the conference will be held to 45 ICFAD members plus their guests. Register early to reserve your spot!

Cost: $595 member: $495 guest
(Includes reception, Consulate dinner, lunches, private waking tour, transportation for off-site events, entrance fees, private concert, whole day excursion, plus for members, all costs for four sessions)

Florence: Where the Past Meets the Present

Florence is widely regarded as one of the most beautiful cities in the world and its artistic, historic and cultural heritage and impact upon the world remains vast up to this day. Whether it’s museums, architecture, theater, dance, or music that you enjoy, there is something for every interest. Florence blends art and culture in such a way that you'll always find the new to see, do or experience, as it offers endless opportunities to become intimately acquainted with the achievements of Italy’s past and present.

Full Itinerary

DAY 1
Tuesday, June 21
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Participants and registered guests will enjoy a wine reception in the beautiful gardens of host Studio Art Centers International’s (SACI) facility Palazzo dei Cartelloni. The Palazzo was remodeled as a residence in the 17th century for the mathematician Vincenzo Viviani, pupil of the astronomer and scientist Galileo Galilei. Viviani dedicated his home to his teacher and placed two large scrolls on the building’s façade that describe the extraordinary work and achievements of his master. One notices the Palazzo immediately by the bust of Galileo that crowns the palatial entranceway.

DAY 2
Wednesday, June 22
Location: Palazzo dei Cartelloni

Session One  Florence: Another Side of the Story
9:30 am

Daniel Reeves, Dean, Arkansas State University, will present a lively slide lecture that reveals some of the unique and not so famous attributes of Florence’s history, its artists, merchants, bankers, architects and musicians. In short, things you don’t learn about in classes or books.

11:15 am  In the Footsteps of the Masters

Daniel Reeves will lead a guided walking tour for participants that will include stops at Santa Maria Novella, Santa Trinità Bridge, Piazza Santo Spirito, Palazzo Vecchio, the famed Duomo, and much more. The tour will end at SACI’s Jules Maidoff Palazzo for the Visual Arts
1:15 pm Registered guests will meet Daniel Reeves at the Jules Maidoff Palazzo for the Visual Arts for a walking tour ending at the Palazzo dei Cartelloni.

1:30 pm Light lunch for participants at Jules Maidoff Palazzo for the Visual Arts

Session Two
2:00 – 3:30 pm

Life and Manners in Renaissance Florence
Linda Reynolds, Art Historian, SACI

A kaleidoscopic view of daily activities in this city of merchants and scholars, sinners, and Saints: The festivities, the sermons, the high life and the low. The city of Dante's "greedy, envious and proud people," whose competitiveness helped create the Renaissance.

Risorgimento in Florence and the Beginnings of Modern Painting
Mary Beckinsale, President, SACI

During the Risorgimento, when Italy began to liberate itself to form a nation, Florence became the capital of Italy for a number of years and the place where radical artists gathered who supported the new Italy. The Macchiaioli, following Mazzini's ideas, developed a new style of painting which was to influence Degas, Manet, Mary Cassatt, and lead to Impressionism.

7:30 pm Dinner Reception at the US Consulate General Participants and Registered Guests

DAY 3
Thursday, June 23
Location: Jules Maidoff Palazzo for the Visual Arts

Session Three
9:30 am Bringing the Unique to Study Abroad in the Arts

A panel of ICFAD deans will discuss unique study abroad programs that are offered for dance, theater, architecture, music and the visual arts. Participants will be encouraged to look for opportunities that can enrich their students through discipline-specific experiences outside of their culture.

Session Four
11:30 am Between Tradition and Revolution

Margherita Abbozzo, Artist and Professor of Art History, will frame the local art scene within the cultural policies of the old versus the new political administrations. She will also present the opinions of practitioners of the field, and will offer an overview of the various places and organizations that make art "happen" in Florence.

The Promotion of Contemporary Arts, its inherent pitfalls, developmental strategies and lessons from the Museo Zauli case study

Matteo Zauli, Director, Zauli Museum, Faenza

1:15 pm Depart from Palazzo Jules Maidoff for the Visual Arts
Participants and registered guests
Travel to the nearby village of Settignano on the hills outside Florence for lunch at the 17th century Tuscan Villa Gamberaia followed by a tour of its famous 18th-century terraced gardens. Return to Florence for a free afternoon.

6:30 pm Private Lute concert by Gian Luca Lastraioli at the recently restored Santa Maria degli Angeli Chapel
Participants and registered guests

Day 4
Friday, June 24

A day trip for participants and registered guests

Travel to the central Tuscan plain for a guided walking tour of the Fattoria di Celle, which hosts the important collection of the Gori family. Here selected international artists have been invited to create noteworthy installations in the remarkable outdoor spaces of the romantic park and farmland as well as inside the historic villa. Next, a full Italian lunch will be served in the city center of Prato followed by a self-guided tour of the Pecci Museum of Contemporary Art.

3:00 pm Closing Session at the Pecci

Mary Beckinsale will discuss the Munari System, which is the educational system used at the Pecci Museum in Prato and the Beauborg Museum in Paris. Starting in primary school, children are introduced to basic conceptual ideas of artistic practice.

3:30 pm Final Summary

10:00 pm This evening enjoy a display of fireworks over the Arno in honor of Saint John the Baptist, patron saint of Florence.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25 OPTIONS

1. Gabriella Ganugi, President of Apicius, International School of Hospitality Culinary Institute (located in Florence), will provide a 3-hour hands-on cooking class followed by dinner of creations and food and wine pairing with a Sommelier. Minimum 10 people. Cost: 40 Euros person to be paid at the time of the lesson. Reserve your space on the ICFAD registration form.

2. Carlo Zauli Museum in Faenza – a museum that is dedicated to contemporary art, an anomaly for Renaissance infused Tuscany. Will need to take a train. To be done on your own.