

WORKSHOP PROJECT SHEET

Academic Year 2023/2024

Titolo Workshop / Title:

The importance of Painting (and how to make it become important)

A cura di / By:

Propose: Fabrizio Dell'Arno

Entrepreneur: Mauro Di Silvestre

Indirizzato a / Intended audience:

The WS is preferably addressed to II- and III-year Painting and Visual Art students

Partecipanti / Participants:

MIN 12-MAX 25

Requisiti richiesti / Requirements:

- English Language
- a minimum of drawing and painting skills

Durata e Crediti / Duration and Credits:

30 hours

Periodo di svolgimento / Period:Oct 16th - Oct 21st 2023**Giorni, orari ed aule di svolgimento / Days, times and classroom:**

Monday 16 October from 9.00 to 16.00 (1 hour lunch break)

Tuesday 17 October from 9.00 to 16.00 (1 hour lunch break)

Wednesday 18 October from 9.00 to 16.00 (1 hour lunch break)

Thursday 19 October from 9.00 to 16.00 (1 hour lunch break)

Friday 20 October from 9.00 to 16.00 (1 hour lunch break)

RUFA AUSONI HEADQUARTERS – A4 PAINTING ROOM**Breve descrizione / Short description:**

What we will talk about:

First of all, as a painter, I would like to talk about **the importance of Painting** a medium that has been declared dead many times since the invention of Photography, but that actually has never died and it grew stronger and stronger through the years.

I would also like to talk about how important is, in Art, **to be authentic**, honest and talk about the things we really know and that really belong to us. How important is to share

our "personal" world when we make art and avoid talking about non-personal things and how this matter of being "sincere" would have to spread all around us, starting with the artist we decide to hang out with.

I would like to emphasize how important is **not to follow any trend** and encourage not to be obsessed about being recognized right away. Most of artist do Art to leave a trace and being remembered after death, I will also talk about the importance of using **materials that will last** over time. I will also talk about **the importance of an image**. The icon, the image, is at the very beginning of our creative process, we must take seriously the creation of an "image". Today's world bombards us with all sorts of images, some artists decide to shy away from adding more images among the many that already exist and they choose abstraction. I respect their choices, but I consider more challenging and exciting to face all the imagines and photographs that already exist and yet having the courage to add another series of pictures and paintings on top of what we really have. In the end I will give few advice and tips regard **the struggle and the surviving on being an artist** in a world (system) where the majority of us will probably never going to "make it big" and still could never give up because we create out of "urgency" and no one could never stop urgency, no matter what. The entire course will be in English.

What we actually do with our hands:

We will exercise on paper first (I would like to communicate to all participants, in advance, if possible, to bring some images, from magazines, old books, etc.). For the first two days (two and a half if we need) for the process and the building of a strong image or a strong concept usually takes more time than to make the actual work. We will play with images cut out of magazines, pieces of colorful paper, backgrounds, etc. We will basically play with the composition before tracing a mark on the paper/canvas. In the first two and a half days we will insist working, drawing, experimenting, erasing, etc., only on paper. These "studies" will also be shown at the student's final exposition that will take place in the classroom, where every RUFA student will talk about his/her work. From day three the students could start to work on their canvases. Before starting the actual composition that every student will choose to do, every canvas will be painted or covered with college or both, that will only be the background on top of where the students are going to paint. Because of such a small time available, I will suggest building most of the painting in acrylic and use oil colors only as a "velatura" (a thin layer) that will dry faster. I will make sure that every single student will have enough attention and that every and each of them will give their own best and that will be as honest as they can be.

Target: The main target, as I said above, is to make the students understand how important and serious is to make a painting and to add another image in this already saturated Art world.

Motivation: I will make the students think about all the art that already has been made by the great masters (and not so great ones) and encourage them to deal with all of them, not to be afraid of them nor ignore them. I would like to make them realize, considering their young age) how important it is for them to create a piece of art, and that's not about quantity (or size) but only quality.

Short Biography:

Mauro Di Silvestre is a painter that has lived and worked in many cities like Los Angeles, London and New York. He has collaborated with many Italian artists such as Pizzi Cannella, Annie Ratti, Enzo Cucchi, Gianni Dessì and the photographer Claudio Abate before starting his own career. He had exhibition in and outside of Italy, his first solo show was in 2007 at z2o presented by Achille Bonito Oliva. He has won several prizes; he has

participated in many art residencies throughout the world and showed his works in galleries and museums throughout the world. He works in Rome.