



# Studio Italia 2011

«Your Art, Yourself: Form and Content»

June 18 - 28 & October 3 - 13



stands for  
International Center for Synthesis Centre International pour la Synthèse

"Synthesis" is the putting together of parts or elements so as to form a whole, a unifying whole; the whole as all aspects of one's being, its totality. Our logo is the hand made circle, symbol of that whole, of the union of art and being and of the evolution of society through arts and culture. Its orange color represents the enthusiasm, creativity, and determination required in the search of one's completeness.

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## ABOUT our workshops

icscis...the Art School is in fact an art school without walls, as its studios are located throughout the world. The painting workshops and art history seminars are given by professional artists, art historians, may they be painters, photographers, architects, etc.

All of our painting workshops are intended for:

- 1) the very first timers wishing to discover painting;
- 2) artists of all levels who desire to reflect upon their art and need new visions, new challenges, in brief, a new commitment toward painting;
- 3) artists who simply wish to carry on what they do without supervision;
- 4) individuals who wish to explore the creative process through painting; and
- 5) the "symbolic other" who wish to accompany their partner to an icscis workshop either to enjoy the sites and the regional cuisine, or to explore their first encounter with the painting medium.

icscis...the Art School is more; it is also a series of art history lectures which introduce you to the art and architecture of the country in which you will be staying ; it is also visits to important historical sites and exhibits. These lectures are tailored to help you find your own personal path toward image-making.

## The Location

Since 1997, Studio Italia is given near Torrita di Siena in the beautiful Tuscany. We will stay in an old medieval borgo house, a few yards from the XV<sup>th</sup> century Contessa's Palazzo (below), with its original terra cotta tiled floors and beamed ceilings, yet with the comfort of modern conveniences. The house has several bedrooms, bathrooms, a living room with a huge fireplace and a kitchen. Meals provided at the lodge are a reflection of the Italian cuisine, one of the finest in the world. Bells will call you early in the morning to paint, or to simply wander among the vines to meditate upon your work. Needless to say, this environment will contribute to the re-evaluation of your pictorial themes and to the renewal of your palette. The view of the hilltop medieval villages such as Pienza (*The English Patient*), Castelmuzio, or Prolio will undoubtedly leave you mesmerized.



*"We feel that we have no right to show our students how to paint like we do, but to "guide them" in their personal quest for meaning, self-expression and excellence for their own image making, may it be figurative or abstract".*

*"We facilitate the creative process to emerge by offering our students a unique environment where they will feel the "encounter"... where one's mind, body, spirit is so engaged in the act of creating that one completely forgets time and space and is transported to another realm. Only in that dimension you can hear your own being, your own original ideas; therefore creating a work of art completely your own. No words can explain the mystery of this "encounter" (icscis).*

## The Workshop

A real workshop; ten full days entirely devoted to art in the medium of your choice; mornings dedicated to significant instruction at the lodge, afternoons to lighter coaching in a village in Tuscany (Cortona, Montepulciano, etc.) or Umbria, and evenings to discussion on various art issues. It will be up to you to start with full paintings or work on sketches during the first few days, and then proceed to more accomplished works derived from these esquisses. Also, you are free to work at your own pace; if for any reason you need to take some time off and just wander around, you may do so. We will spend one day in Florence visiting the Uffizi and some of its most important sites. Usually at the end of the workshop, we organize an exhibit somewhere around our lodge. Lectures for all and personalized instruction are the most important foundations of this workshop.



## icscis and Rigomagno

Since 2005, icscis has been working with a community in the Val di Chiana in establishing the art component of the Rigomagno Art and Jazz June Festival (Il Colle degli Ulivi). Since then, icscis painters have been showing their works during this week long happening, on top of meeting other Italian artists. Usually, during the last night, icscis and its artists participate in La Benefinita, the celebration of the end of the festival with an open air supper served on the village piazza and followed by a dancing party.

"How difficult it is to see that doubt, fear, and uncertainty are precious steps towards the creative path".

## The price

Price for Studio Italia 2011 is CAD \$2,725 or the equivalent in American dollars at the time of full payment. The price includes: 10 night accommodation, all breakfasts, 8 lunches, 9 dinners, transportation from and to Arezzo train station, transportation to our painting sites, train ticket to Florence, entrance to the Uffizi and tuition.

Before we leave, you will receive our pre-departure newsletter with all the details about: what to bring, art material list, meeting point, schedule, contact information for your family, etc. We will also send you an expectations data sheet to personalize our teaching.



## A Proposed Schedule

This schedule, which is subject to weather is flexible and addressed to the novice. Certainly, the advanced painter does not need to follow this "orario". Mornings and afternoons are usually dedicated to theory and painting, and evening to movies, and/or serious art/life discussions; art IS life.

Day	Mornings (9:00 a.m. to 12:00)	✓	Afternoons (14:30 to 17:30)	✓	Evenings (before, during or after dinner) see*	✓
1			a) Painting at leisure; getting to know you. b) Loosening-up exercises.			
2	Basic Landscape Perspective (in studio) bring sketch pad!		Applying the drawing knowledge on the landscape at <b>our lodge</b> (with touch ups of colours) 15 drawings please!			
3	The Complementary Colours (in studio)		Applying the complementary concept on the landscape in the <b>Val d'Orcia</b> , around <b>Pienza</b> .			
4	The Analogous (in studio).		Applying the analogous concept on the landscape on top of <b>Rigomagno</b>			
5	The Third Colours (in Studio)		<b>(14h to 15h30)</b> <b>MID-SESSION CRIT</b>		<b>(15h30-18h30)</b> The Third Colours in <b>Montepulciano</b>	
6	Painting at leisure at our lodge (little guidance from your instructor)		Painting at leisure at <b>our lodge</b> or <b>elsewhere</b> (little guidance from your instructor)			
7	The True Greys (in Studio)		The real greys in <b>Cortona</b> .			
8	Firenze (bring your pencil)s. (see details of day on page 3)		The Uffizi at noon in <b>Firenze</b> .			
9	<b>Assisi</b>		<b>Assisi</b>			
10	<b>Bagno Vignoni</b> To be completed with a fast drying medium		FINAL-CRIT and packing		Farewell Diner	
11	Departure to Arezzo (8h00)		Roma or Florence at your leisure			

\* This schedule covers around 39 hours of painting instruction, 9 hours of art history and theory. Topics to be covered: "Introduction to Mediology" • "Introduction to Semiology" • "The Trecento" • "The Renaissance" • "Form and Content" (the *Della Pittura* by Alberti) • or other subject pertaining to the group

### Your Instructor; Prof. Yves M. Larocque

With a bachelors' degree in Visual Arts, and in Theory and History of Art from the University of Ottawa, a Master degree in History of Art from the Université de Montréal, a Diplôme d'Études Approfondies and a Ph. D. in Art History and Archaeology from the Sorbonne (Université de Paris I), Yves Larocque is today icscis' director and consultant in the fields of creativity and visual arts. Yves has been teaching painting and drawing for more than 25 years in Ottawa, France, Italy and Colombia. His paintings have appeared in several group exhibitions, most importantly *Arteder* at the Muestra d'Arto Grafica of Bilbao in Spain where he represented Canada. TVOntario also produced a short program on his works. His works have also been shown in Rome, Toronto, Montréal and Ottawa; many are part of private collections.

*"Yves is a teacher who knows how to get the potential of his students. He makes us dive in the depth of who we are". (Le Droit, Ottawa 1999)*

*"ICSCIS is a brilliant concept. Yves you have a gleaming outlook on life and exude a passion in everything you teach! I enjoyed both your company and your instruction. It takes a gifted teacher to recognize the individual need of each student and to find insight to help them grow spiritually and artistically, and all that with a dash of humour! We discovered something new about ourselves. Bravo! I encourage ICSCIS to continue in its philosophy's and teachings. I hope to join you again in another place for a new adventure. (T.L. Ottawa, 2007)*

*"You have given us the most wonderful, eventful and meaningful adventure and taste of Tuscany. My experience was one that I shall never forget...I learned about Tuscany, its lifestyle, languages, food, wine, the lay of the land...oh yes and painting! I am glad I selected this kind of experience that allowed me to be part of a small group of like-minded folks and get to paint as well. It was the perfect balance for me". (P. F. New Mexico, 2007)*