

The Centro Internazionale Arti Calligrafiche e del Libro,  
in collaboration with the Arezzo Public Library, organizes the course:

# BOOKS BY HAND

FROM HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS TO CONTEMPORARY GESTURAL WRITING

with Monica Dengo

Arezzo, September 16 - 22, 2012



**Books by Hand** is a calligraphy and bookbinding workshop held every year in Arezzo, a medieval art city in Tuscany, near Florence. Students study in Monica Dengo's studio, at the Public Library and the Historical Archive, all located in the city center. They accommodate in a holiday home facing the gorgeous Piazza Grande or in another B&B in the city center where it's easy to find small trattorias and typical restaurants, sit at cafés by the piazzas and enjoy the many beauties of this medieval town.

In this unique course students study the historical hands directly from the sources: manuscripts, documents, correspondence. They also develop their own hands, experimenting with forms, inks, instruments, papers. Each student completes at least a couple of books, but often they are able to go home with several.

This year we will study XVI to XVIII century correspondence and documents written in a multiplicity of italic hands. We will also have the opportunity to study directly on manuscripts from various periods, paying special attention to spacing and page design. Students will then develop their own personal italic hands, taking special care about letters and line spacing, page design, rhythm. We will study and experiment with the different possibilities of writing fluently and legibly or more expressively and experimentally.

At the end of this workshop students will learn how to make a folded book for their notes and studies and a sewn book for all the experimental works. They will learn how to use the right papers and make the sewing, and how to measure, mark, fold, cut and make the covers with handmade paper.

**Students from many parts of the world have participated in this workshop which has become a well known yearly event among lettering artists, calligraphers and bookbinding lovers.**

#### TUTOR:

Monica Dengo is an artist and a professional calligrapher. She has taught in many parts of the world, including the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Belgium. In Italy she collaborates with the Fondazione Musei Civici in Venezia and works as freelance.

For more information see [www.monicadengo.com](http://www.monicadengo.com) and [www.freehandwriting.net](http://www.freehandwriting.net).

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Although most participants have had previous experiences in calligraphy, art or design, we do accept some beginners. Please send a resumé. Tuition will be in English and Italian.

#### LOCATION:

Arezzo - Italy

Lessons will be held in Monica Dengo's studio, a large and luminous room located in the Arezzo historical center. Students will also study at the Arezzo Public Library [www.bibliotecarezzo.it](http://www.bibliotecarezzo.it) and the Arezzo Historical Archive. The library offers free internet access and also a wi-fi service which extends to the nearby parks. If you wish, you can bring your own lap-top.

#### DATES:

Arrival: September 15th. Evening drink . Class begins on Sunday September 16th. Class ends on Saturday September 22nd. Departures from Sunday September 23rd. Wednesday free.

#### TUITION:

6 days with Monica Dengo. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (small lunch break). Wednesday is free.

#### ACCOMODATION:

Students will accommodate in a holiday home situated at walking distance from the classroom. You can see the web sites at: <http://www.lacortedelre.com/>. Meals are not included. Arezzo historical center is small and full of narrow streets and typical restaurants with reasonable prices.

#### FEES:

Total cost: Euro 950. Includes tuition, accomodation and paper.

Transportation and meals are not included.

Deposit: Euro 150 (non refundable) due by May 15th 2012.

Final payment: Euro 800 by July 15th 2012.

