



STUDIO
ARTS
COLLEGE
INTERNATIONAL

SACI MUSEUM COLLABORATIONS FLORENCE, ITALY



SACI COLLABORATIONS

STUDIO ARTS COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL FLORENCE IS EXTENDING THE CLASSROOM INTO WORLD-RENOWNED MUSEUMS WITH NEW COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES IN ART AND DESIGN.

KNOWN AROUND THE WORLD AS THE HEART OF THE RENAISSANCE, FLORENCE, ITALY, IS A MIX OF OLD AND NEW, TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY. FLORENCE'S LAYERED, RICH HISTORY EMBODIES A MOMENT THAT DEFINED ART AS WE KNOW IT, AND ITS MULTICULTURAL CONTEMPORARY CULTURE CONTINUES TO INSPIRE INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS, WRITERS, AND THINKERS TODAY.

SACI IS AT THE CENTER OF THIS INNOVATION. IN US-ACCREDITED PROGRAMS AND COURSES MERGING INDIVIDUAL ARTISTIC PRACTICE IN A CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT WITH FLORENCE'S RICH AND LAYERED PAST, STUDENTS CHOOSE FROM 84 COURSES RANGING FROM FRESCO PAINTING AND SCULPTURE TO FASHION DESIGN AND DIGITAL MULTIMEDIA. BEYOND THE CLASSROOM, INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATIONS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH ARE THE STAPLES OF SACI LIFE AND LEARNING, AND SACI'S NEW COLLABORATIONS CONNECT STUDENTS WITH SOME OF ITALY'S MOST RENOWNED MUSEUMS. PROPELLING AN ALREADY LIFE-CHANGING OPPORTUNITY TO NEW HEIGHTS, THESE INITIATIVES BREAK DOWN BOUNDARIES BETWEEN ART, DESIGN, FASHION, ANTHROPOLOGY, SCIENCE, AND HISTORY TO DEVELOP INDEPENDENT AND INNOVATIVE ARTISTS WITH AN UNMATCHED KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS OF CONTEMPORARY AND HISTORICAL CULTURE IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD.

SHOES DESIGNED BY SALVATORE FERRAGAMO ON DISPLAY AT THE EXHIBITION "1927. THE RETURN TO ITALY."





SACI MX: DESIGNING THE MUSEUM

EXPERIENCE

In partnership with some of Florence's most renowned museums, the SACI MX (Museum Experience) initiative allows students to partner with the **Galleria dell'Accademia**, **Bargello Musei**, **La Specola**, **Museo del Tessuto**, and **Museo degli Innocenti** to confront problems of mobility and information flow facing many museums today. In a collaborative and professionally-minded environment, students work with museum professionals to design brand identity and wayfinding solutions, paying particular attention to changing visitor needs and technological advancements. Students in SACI's MFA in Communication Design program also complete individual projects with select museums. Project Based Learning gives SACI students real-life design experiences in conjunction with their design-oriented studios and workshops.

SACI MX: BRAND IDENTITY AND

WAYFINDING

SACI MX students have the exclusive and unique opportunity to work side by side with the leadership and administrators of renowned Italian museums to improve the overarching visitor experience, designing

print and digital promotional materials such as maps, brochures, merchandise, apps, websites, and logos. Through this ongoing collaboration, SACI MA in Art History and MFA in Communication Design students, along with SACI undergraduates in Museology, Graphic Design, Illustration, and Typography courses, acquire key skills in the field of cultural communication. The SACI experience promotes innovative design methods with an interdisciplinary approach.

SACI MX: ACCESSIBILITY FOR THE BLIND

AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED IN THE

GALLERIA DELL'ACCADEMIA

Beyond brand management and wayfinding systems, SACI MX students tackle an even greater task: how to confront issues of accessibility and inclusion/inclusiveness within museums. The project is built upon the ideal that, as centers of culture, museums must serve the whole public by focusing on all kinds of visitors, including blind and partially sighted people.

In Spring 2017, SACI MX participants were tasked with jumpstarting this process at the **Galleria dell'Accademia**. Students thoroughly researched and evaluated various sections of the museum to create an immersive experience for partially sighted guests. Using alternative tours

and directional systems, audio and tactile supplements, such as audio description pens and 3D resolution sculptures, and other approaches, the students developed interactive audio and sensorial paths. If implemented, these methods would offer enhanced museum visits to partially sighted visitors.

FERRAGAMO - FASHIONING SPACES

Learning from Leaders of Italian High Fashion and Design

Fashioning Spaces, a SACI Fashion Design program developed in collaboration with the **Ferragamo Foundation** and **Salvatore Ferragamo Museum** in Florence, opens doors to Italy's unmatched expertise in fashion and design. The initiative centers around Ferragamo's upcoming *1927. The Return to Italy*, a year-long exhibition celebrating the 90th anniversary of Salvatore Ferragamo's return to his homeland. The program approaches the Ferragamo exhibition strategy and implementation of *1927. The Return to Italy* as a case-study for effective storefront and museum display and design. Students will learn from SACI's faculty members in Fashion Design, Interior Design, Visual Design, and Museology, and the Director of the Ferragamo Museum, Dr. Stefania Ricci, how to develop their own team-based designs for possible pop-up installations in Ferragamo's flagship stores.

WELLS OF WONDERS

SACI Archaeology and SACI MX Students Join with Florida State University Classics Department to Exhibit Groundbreaking Archaeological Discoveries in Tuscany

The SACI Conservation Department and SACI MX participants recently collaborated on the exhibition *Wells of Wonders – New Discoveries from Cetamura del Chianti*, which opened in June 2017 at the prestigious **National Archaeological Museum of Florence**. After a dramatic surge of discoveries between 2010-2016 at two well sites in Cetamura del Chianti, thousands of items were recovered and 300 were selected for the exhibition, which celebrated **6 years of work by 100 SACI Art Conservation students** in collaboration with renowned professor and Etruscan scholar **Dr. Nancy T. de Grummond** from Florida State University. In this cultural and scientifically important undertaking, SACI students conserved approximately



Following private viewings and participation in workshops related to the exhibition, students created their own political artworks for a final publication.

BODY ARCHIVES / ART, MIND & DIVERSITY

Creating Contemporary Art through Historical Investigations

Proving that art is perhaps most valuable when it crosses into other fields, students in the **Body Archives** and **Art, Mind & Diversity** courses respond to important themes in science, history, anthropology, and psychology to create engaging contemporary work for some of Florence's oldest and most prestigious institutions. Students in these courses regularly exhibit in the **Museum of Anthropology** and the **Museum of Natural History, La Specola**, and students pursuing Directed Independent Studies have the opportunity to conduct independent research within the museum archives.

Body Archives revolves around the representation of the body throughout history. **Art, Mind & Diversity** focuses on key moments in the history of the interpretation of the human mind while developing multidisciplinary art projects in collaboration with a therapy center in Florence. Students in both courses utilize the **Biomedical Collection at Careggi Hospital** in Florence, the **Museum of Anthropology**, the **Museum of Natural History, La Specola**, and more for their research. The Spring 2016 Body Archives course traveled to Vienna as part of a collaboration between SACI and Danube University Krems.

180 Etruscan, Roman, and Late Antique artifacts, dating between 3rd century BCE and 4th CE, using Italian approaches to clean, dry, reassemble, and reconstruct the artifacts for display.

SACI MX students designed the entirety of the show's promotion and marketing materials. Their tasks focused on design identity for banners, posters, animated invitations, and labels, created by Spring 2017 SACI Student Danielle Gorton, as well as informational signage, with the show's exhibition panels created by Spring 2017 SACI Student Olivia Ellis. This crossover between the Archaeology Conservation Department and the Design Department embodied SACI's ongoing goal to unite diverse fields to extend the impact of art and design.

OGGETTI POLITICI / POLITICAL OBJECTS

Responding to Contemporary Artists at Palazzo Strozzi

Continuing SACI's tradition of collaboration with the **Palazzo Strozzi Foundation**, Florence's leading foundation and museum for contemporary art, SACI students and faculty members work with the Education Department of the **CCC Strozziina** on diverse exhibitions. In response to current themes in contemporary art, students take part in city-wide dialogues with artists and scholars at multiple art and academic institutions. Recently students in SACI's MFA in Studio Art and MFA in Photography programs took part in *Oggetti Politici/Political Objects* in response to Ai Weiwei. *Libero*, an exhibition of work by the controversial political artist Ai Weiwei.

SACI IS

A United States non-profit 501(c)(3) educational entity incorporated in 1976

A directly accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD)

Affiliated with Bowling Green State University (BGSU) in Ohio, which is accredited by NASAD and by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

Recognized by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Italian Ministry of Universities as a foreign non-profit university-level program

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It is the policy of Studio Arts College International (SACI) and Bowling Green State University (BGSU) that no person shall be subject to discrimination in whatever relationship with SACI or BGSU because of disability, age, race, religion, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, or national origin.

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