



Join us for a two-week intensive calligraphy course at Casa Verna, in Rapicciano, Italy.

Workshop Description:

SHAPE YOUR STORY

Team taught by Brody Neuenschwander and Amity Parks

Do you begin a new piece of calligraphy with a laborious search for a worthy text? Or do you just want to splash some colors on the paper and then do some lovely italics on top? Or do you sometimes sit there and think: “I am in a rut and always do the same thing. How do I find a new and exciting idea for this piece?”

If any of this sounds familiar, then this is the course for you. You will *not* have to write worthy quotes – your own thoughts are much more profound. And you will *not* be faced with the dilemma of how to make the work interesting or colorful – that will all happen because you will be investigating your own words and your own experiences. The result will be an artist’s book that will surprise you and everyone in the workshop. And it will lead you to deeper places in your own life that will inspire your calligraphy long after the workshop had ended.

Before you arrive at the workshop you will be asked to write some short texts about experiences you have had, and these texts will form the core of your book. We will focus on meaning, not design. Everything you do in your book will be to enhance its meaning. Let the look take care of itself. You will produce a multi-faceted interpretation of your texts, using calligraphy, found letters, mixed media, journal work, drawing, etc.

We will stop every now and then for a discussion of modern art, especially modern art with text in it. The focus will be on art that asks the viewer to do at least half the brainwork. These discussions will help you to deepen the meaning in your work by explaining some of the strategies used by many modern artists.

This workshop is designed to move calligraphers from craft to art. Day after day, exercise after exercise, you will learn to bring out the meaning of your story and give it new and very personal visual interpretations. The muse will sneak up and surprise you, we promise!

Join us for an inspiring two weeks in Italy. We’ll spend time together creating, socializing, exploring, recharging and nourishing our minds and bodies! You will stay with us, in our house or in a house in the tiny village of Rapicciano, near Spoleto in Umbria, Italy. Home-

cooked meals will be served in Casa Verna or on its lovely terrace. Our prices include accommodations, almost all meals, day and night access to the studio, nine days of instruction, most art supplies, and two half-day field trips. There will be two free days mid-course to either explore the area or to stay and work independently.

Class is limited to 10 Students, with plus-one options as well. Single and double rooms are available. Prices range from €2900 - €3900 per person, for the two-week session.

For detailed information and registration instructions please send your **name and email address to casavernaumbria@gmail.com**.

