

What people are saying about the International School of Painting, Drawing, and Sculpture

B.P. wrote:

Now about the school, there isn't much that I can say to express how wonderful it was, and pretty much nothing I can say in criticism. I really loved that time I spent in Montecastello because of the town, the trips, but most of all my fellow students and our teachers. We had an amazing group that really grew to be like a family. The group was also really talented, which was great in getting me motivated to work and challenge myself. I loved (the faculty). They all had such different approaches in their artwork that the learning experience was very dynamic. The town was great and it is one of my goals to see it again at some point in my life, even though right now all I want to do is go back! I also really appreciated the trips to other areas in Italy.

C.P. wrote:

I enjoyed my session (June-July) in Italy so much. I constantly refer to things I learned there. The program was beneficial. The teachers in my session were extremely caring and available, and my studio space was amazing and invaluable!

A.L. wrote:

Thank you and all those associated with the School for the wonderful stay in Montecastello. I know everyone else feels the same from the emails I have received. It was a very productive stay for me and I am now busy making larger work from the smaller studies I completed there. My dealer has already sold several small pieces, so it looks like I will be having a show of the Italian paintings.

O.A. wrote:

Thank you for the most wonderful experience in Montecastello. My three weeks were incredible!!! The (staff) was wonderful, the food was unbelievably good, our teachers were extraordinary, and the time to paint and converse with other artists was an opportunity I will never forget and hope to repeat!!!

I.P. wrote:

I want to say thank you for running your program and let you know that I'm very glad I could be a part of it. I can't imagine how much work and stress must go into overseeing an operation like that but I want you to know that its definitely appreciated.

C.D. wrote:

Let me say that my daughter had a most wonderful and rewarding experience at The International School of Painting, Drawing, and Sculpture in Umbria this past summer. Thank you.

V.W. wrote:

I just want to thank all of you for making the last three weeks so enjoyable and allowing us all to fully explore our own work, at our own pace. Everyone at the school was welcoming and supportive, from helping with shipped art supplies that didn't make it on time, to baggage and mailing stuff back home, to introducing us to local painters and artists we never would have discovered on our own. It was an incredible gift to be enveloped in an atmosphere of such joy and warmth-most of all the glorious labor of painting and sketching. I came to Italy to find refuge from my frenzied corporate world for a few weeks and to forge a discipline again with my own work. I gained in so many ways-meeting lovely, strong artists who weren't afraid to push themselves or try something new. Your critiques were kind and generous and made me feel empowered to go even further. I left refreshed, renewed and once again obsessed with the idea of working - waking from dreams of color and form was another perk that I hadn't expected. To be so fully engrossed and well taken care of on both the spiritual and practical levels is a real treasure, one that I'll try to duplicate back here in PA. But it won't be the same without your smiling faces and laughter. Con molti ringraziamenti e memorie affettuose, grazie for the fabulous opportunity to experience painting in Italy! I hope to return.

L.K. wrote:

I have not yet recovered from the melancholy I was feeling when I left on Saturday morning. Especially when the stewardess laid down the plate of airline food in front of me. We're not in Montecastello any more Dorothy. Reality is sometimes harsh. Where's the wine and the fresh fruit? Anyway, I am so grateful to have had the experience and to meet such wonderful like minded people. I miss everyone dearly and wish them all the best. Thank you so much for your note and your wonderful hospitality. The trips, the rooms, the studio space, the food, oh my God the food, and everything about the school is worth every penny and more. I don't think anyone can stay there and not have it impact them in some way. If you ever need any recommendations for yourself or the school don't hesitate to ask. I shall return.

G.D. wrote:

The school was wonderful. It was so beautiful and I really want to go back at some point. Everything about the trip was great: food, people, trips, making art, studios, the landscape, etc. Another thing that made it so great was the other students. Everyone had such a good personality, and we really were operating together as a positive group of individuals. (And of course the faculty was awesome, too.) It was a really great experience, and thank you for having the school out there!

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A.C. wrote:

Again, I can't thank you enough for such an amazing program. I don't know many artists here to recommend it to, but I rave about it to anyone who cares to listen regardless of their interests.

E.W. wrote:

I wanted to be in touch with you since I have just arrived back in the states and am recovering slowly from jet lag and being home. It is hard to have to deal with real life after that experience. I really, really loved every minute of being in Montecastello. I loved my studio, my room and the people. The whole group was very special. Everyone was considerate of each other, supportive of each other's work and it was inspiring to be in that environment, to say the least. I learned a lot from (the faculty). So you can see that it was a great success for me, and I even talked about coming back. I have a lot of changes going on in my life, but if I know I could look forward to Italy again, it would change everything.

M.L. wrote:

Just a note to say how very much I enjoyed my stay at the International School, in the company of the others there and the charms of Montecastello and the surrounding countryside, which produced 21 little paintings to bring home to Ireland. Some I think I will work up into bigger paintings and will form part of my solo exhibition next summer a couple of the small ones will be in group shows. It was a very, very happy time; I hope to have another visit in the future. Thank you for such an inspiring place to go to.

M.T. wrote:

The six-week course in Montecastello is great. It's a good course that I have been recommending my friends, who are interested in short term painting course, to take up. I'm glad that I've learn and enjoyed the School very much. What I'm looking forward to at this point of time is to see how I would paint ! I'm glad that the School exists !! and I'm so lucky to have picked it up out of the blue from the web site.

M.M. wrote:

Thanks for everything, Marc. Your program is amazing; no one left those six weeks unaffected or unchanged in some deeply personal way.

J.K. wrote:

(My son) had nothing but good reports about his time in Montecastello. So much so I wish I could go. He will never forget it.

M.D. wrote:

I wanted to thank you again for an INCREDIBLE summer. I never imagined I would be so transformed in just 6 weeks. The school and, most importantly, the teachers saved me years of struggling with technique and made me earn my right of confidence. No words could express what I learned this summer because I learned so much about art and ALL of life that it blows my mind. My art work is really starting to take on it's own in a way that I would have never imagined thanks to the International School, and a "thanks" just isn't enough... but I guess it'll have to do for now. I would love it more than anything to go back in the not-so-distant future.

J.A. wrote:

I wanted to write again to thank you for everything this summer -- for arranging such a great program. Rock Solid staff, good eats. I learned so much. I need to make sure I keep painting this year, so I can begin to see all the lessons mature. It's always too much to take in in 6 weeks. Every one of the teachers brought something distinctive -- whether their personality or their ability to communicate -- or simply their different technical approaches to painting. Something for everyone. As a returning student -- the experience of the school was completely different from my first time there. During my first year I attended the school- I was simply trying to take in the volumes of information flowing my way from every direction regarding how to paint, how to create an image, how to really see more deeply and honestly. This time around my focus changed dramatically. This summer was all about the ideas and the inspiration behind painting, the "why" of painting, how to make art work with real integrity. I left with an increased confidence in myself as an independent artist, an idea of the direction in which my work needs to grow, and again enough technical information to keep me busy for a few years. All in all it was a very rewarding, valuable experience. I just wanted to say thanks and I hope the last session is a great success for you and your students.