

VISUAL ARTS AND CURATORIAL STUDIES

Introduction

The place of art in a society in transformation, as it is nowadays, is defined according to a series of dynamic parameters through which it negotiates its status and operational conditions. The research marking today the role of the artist can be seen as a continuous production of space and time - those of the exhibition, of representation, of direct activities here and now - among all the possible social, individual, economic and political spaces and times. So it is possible to talk about plurality of areas and operational processes that must be conquered, imagined, or revealed when they are disguised in everyday and social life. As a consequence, there is a close relationship or even an overlapping between artistic and curatorial research: not only for a change in their respective roles, but for the continuous redefining of artistic space that sees both as active subjects of study.

Educational philosophy

The two-year Master of Arts (MA) Degree in Visual Arts and Curatorial Studies is the only program in Italy and Europe with the objective of uniting a solid education in the field of visual arts production with a highly specialised curatorial program. The program aims at building the skills of artists and curators from constructing exhibition space, which is unique and shared, in which roles and attitudes of both are seen as open areas that need to be continually redefined. Through a wide spectrum of knowledge and strategies, of new technologies and languages, the program offers a series of theoretical lessons and laboratories, held throughout the two-year program with different European artistic institutions.

A series of interdisciplinary activities are developed through lectures, workshops, seminars and exhibitions aimed at producing new operative and educational models in the field of contemporary art. Different schemes for works production - from construction of an imaginary individual to social intervention - are experimented and compared to various exhibition models: the "archipelago exhibition" (according to Glissant's definition), a growing display, a nomadic exhibition up until it finds a place in a book, town or forum. Particular attention is dedicated to the transformation of the public and to the consequent growth of new figures within the art system.

Professional profiles

Artistic practice is realised in a field of relations with artistic protagonists, such as collectors, galleries, public institutions and critics. One of the objectives of the program is to provide students with a network of contacts allowing them to effectively promote their artistic work. In addition to the occasions offered by class lectures, the program is structured on a wide network of partnerships, allowing student to widen his contacts within the artistic scene, concretely experimenting its characterizing dynamics. The program partners act at different levels, participating in the scientific committee, actively operating in the realisation of projects, offering occasions for internship or individual exhibition projects for artistic practice. Besides the specific partners for the program there are also a number of institutional partners that collaborate with NABA on a permanent basis in research and cultural promotion activities. Particular attention is focused on creating the student's artistic portfolio, both providing useful presentation and graphic representation skills, as well as through an individual consulting path. A permanently active exhibition space on the NABA campus, NABA site, constitutes another important lever for promoting students' works.

Program

The program lasts two years and foresees attendance of a minimum of 15 courses, passing the corresponding exams and developing a final thesis. Upon completion of the MA Degree, students will receive 120 educational credits, as established by the Italian Ministry of University and Research.

The two-year program examines in depth a wide range of practices, specifically investigating artistic practice, topics and models of production, exhibition and communication, with an interdisciplinary approach. It alternates laboratory activities directly with artists and professionals of international relevance, with series of theoretical and critical classes.

The Visual Arts and Curatorial Studies project laboratories constitute the basis of the entire educational project. Within these laboratories several projects are carried out under the supervision of a team consisting of two artists and two curators. These projects follow a series of fixed typologies, in order to provide students with a wide range of experiences, and differ from one year to another as the result of collaborations with the network of external partners. Students are involved in at least four projects. The first one foresees the curatorship and realisation of a travelling exhibition thanks to collaboration with the project partners. The second implies the realisation of a printed or multimedia catalogue to support such exhibition. The third project consists of the design and realisation of a performance in a public place. The fourth includes designing a format for an exhibition space at NABA, aiming at the evaluation of emerging artists and at creating a connection with the urban context. In addition to these laboratories students attend design courses focusing on exhibition and display developments, computer graphics, photography and artistic anatomy. A series of theoretical lessons are designed for the analysis of critical and methodological issues. A series of meetings and conferences of interdisciplinary nature that are organised in collaboration with other active post-graduate courses in NABA allows the student to cope with a wide spectrum of artists and professionals operating in the field of visual arts.

1ST ACADEMIC YEAR

TRAINING ACTIVITIES	SCIENTIFIC-DISCIPLINARY AREA	CREDITS
BASIC	VISUAL ARTS I	10
	CURATORSHIP I	10
CHARACTERIZING	EXHIBITION DESIGN	8
	COMPUTER GRAPHICS I	8
	PHOTOGRAPHY	8
	HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY ART	6
	THEORY AND METHODOLOGY OF MASS MEDIA	6
INTEGRATING COURSES	MUSEOLOGY	4
TOTAL CREDITS		60

2ND ACADEMIC YEAR

TRAINING ACTIVITIES	SCIENTIFIC-DISCIPLINARY AREA	CREDITS
BASIC	VISUAL ARTS II	10
	CURATORSHIP II	10
CHARACTERIZING	TWO COURSES TO BE CHOSEN AMONG:	8+8
	COMPUTER GRAPHICS II	
	EXHIBITION DESIGN II	
	PHOTOGRAPHY II	
	ARTISTIC ANATOMY	
	PHENOMENOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY ART	6
VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY	6	
INTEGRATING COURSES	ECONOMY OF ART	4
TOTAL CREDITS		52
FINAL THESIS, PORTFOLIO, INTERNSHIP, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, STUDY ABROAD		8
TOTAL MA PROGRAM	112 + 8	120

Internship and professional training

Throughout the year students will acquire a number of methods and techniques in the extra-curricular Personal Training Courses, which will be useful to them in the working environment: designing professionalism, budgeting, presentation techniques, project management, team building, realizing a portfolio, represent the modules through which the tools aimed at facilitating the students' entrance in the job market will be acquired and developed.

The two-year MA Degree foresees a period of internship within artistic foundations, cultural associations, museums, galleries, magazines and specialized publishing companies. Another kind of internship may be foreseen, as an intensive workshop held at NABA, within the frame of project developed within NABA together with partner institutions or companies. During this period of internship students will be able to see the application of what they have learnt and establish professional connections with extremely important and strategic production and creative realities. Students may also propose an internship envisaging a "tailor-made" artistic experience to be developed in Italy or abroad, upon authorization of the director of studies, in view of an effective enrichment of their professional portfolio. Alternatively, it is possible or spend a study abroad period at one of NABA partner academies and universities, within the frame of international agreements (LLP-Erasmus and others).

Thesis and final exam

The course implies the development of an individual thesis that can be an artistic or curatorial project and which will be discussed in front of a commission. In order to be admitted to the exam the student must have acquired the necessary credits. The exam consists of a presentation of the portfolio, showing the projects developed by the students during his career, and of a discussion of the individual thesis, developed under the supervision of a faculty member.

Course Director

Marco Scotini. Art critic and independent curator. Graduated in aesthetics, he worked with C.L. Ragghianti and, from 1996 to 2003, took part on the scientific committee of the Fondazione Ragghianti, Lucca. Since 1996 he is member of Italian Association for Aesthetics Studies.

Director of NABA Visual Arts and Curatorial Studies MA Degree and of NABA Visual Arts Department, he is the curator of Archivio Gianni Colombo, Milan. He participated into workshops and seminars in important international institutions, such as MAMCO (Geneva), SAPS (Mexico D.F.), Manifesta Foundation (Saint Petersburg). He collaborates with Flash Art, Flash Art International, and his articles has been published on: Arte e Critica, Artelier, Documenta Magazine, Domus, Economia della Cultura, Espacio, Millepiani, Moscow Art Magazine, Springerin.

As a curator, he realized important collective and personal exhibitions with public institutions as well as private galleries. Among last exhibitions are: "Gianni Colombo", Rotonda della Besana, Milan 2006; "Der Prozess. Collective memory and social history", Prague Biennale 3, Prague, 2007; "Cities from below", Fondazione Teseco, Pisa 2006-2007; "Disobedience", Berlin-Prague-Saint Petersburg-Mexico City-Barcelona, 2005-2006; "Gianni Colombo", Neue Galerie, Graz 2008. Curates the "Disobedience archive" area within the "Forms of resistance" exhibition at Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, 2007. In 2008 "Disobedience" is being presented at: badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe; "Nottingham Contemporary" centre for contemporary art, Nottingham; "Riga Art Space" Riga city exhibition hall.

Teaching staff and Scientific Committee*

* For the complete list of lecturers and subjects please see the website www.master-naba.com.

Scientific Committee

Daniel Birnbaum, curator

Maurizio Bortolotti, curator

Alessandro Guerriero, artist designer

Jens Hoffman, artist and curator

Viktor Misiano, curator

Marjetica Potrc, artist

Marco Scotini, curator

Teaching staff

A12 group
Mario Airò
Simona Bodo
Isabella Bordoni
Maurizio Bortolotti
Ivan Bargna
Luca Cerizza
Chiara Figone
Francesco Garutti
Jens Hoffmann
Francesco Jodice
Giovanni Leghissa
Francesco Monaco
Viktor Misiano
Iolanda Pensa
Cloe Piccoli
Andrea Sala
Marco Scotini
Domenico Sedin
Nicola Setari
Bert Theis
Patrick Tuttofuoco
Urbanas
Giorgio Verzotti

Visiting professors

NABA regularly organizes meetings and lectures with artists and curators among the most interesting on the international artistic scene. Among NABA guests are: Atelier d'Architecture Autogerée (AAA), Marina Abramovic, Maja Bajevic, Carlos Basualdo, Marc Bijl, Will Bradley, Roger M. Buerger, Stefano Boeri, Catherine David, Jose Davila, Etcetera, Charles Esche, Marcelo Exposito, Luca Frei, Adelina Von Furstenberg, Flying City, Meschac Gaba, Regina José Galindo, Carlos Garaicoa, Deniz Gul, Hou Hanru, Durrija Kazi, Jannis Kounellis, Vasif Kortun, Maria Lind, Peter Lewis, Florian Matzner, Raimundas Malasauskas, Chus Martinez, Deimantas Narkevicius, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Maria Papadimitriou, Park Fiktion, Marjetica Potrc, Oliver Ressler, Radek Community, Tobias Rehberger, Gabi Scardi, Stalker, Pier Luigi Tazzi, Pelin Tan, Nasan Tur, Yorgos Tzirtzilakis, Anton Vidokle, Vangelis Vlahos, WHW.

Partners and International relations

The two-year MA Degree places importance on the international dimension of the educational training provided by the program, as a result of an analysis of the most innovative offers at a European level and thanks to the continuous debate arising from a cycle of conferences organized by the Academy in recent years, The Utopian Display, which has included the participation of curators of the most important international exhibition centres. The international level is ensured by the scientific committee of the project and by the realisation of an exhibition that will be travelling to different European countries, allowing students to acquire direct experience working internationally. Students can also spend a study abroad period in one of NABA partner academies and universities, within the LLP-Erasmus program as well as other extra-European exchange agreements.

Admission requirements

Candidates should have an academic diploma or a Bachelor degree in an artistic or humanities subject. Admission of students with a different degree or diploma can be taken into consideration if motivated by an artistic or curatorial interest, strongly connected to the topics of the two-year MA Degree. A commission will evaluate whether the degree corresponds to requirements and will identify possible credits through the evaluation of the candidate's profile.

All the post-graduate educational programs have restricted entry, for a maximum of 25 enrolled students.

Selection procedure

All admissions are based on an evaluation interview. In order to apply for the evaluation interview, candidates have to fill in the application form, to be required on the website www.master-naba.com ("Admissions" area) or via email, writing to infomaster@naba.it.

Together with the application form, candidates have to submit to NABA the following documents, creating the "application dossier":

- curriculum vitae/resume (max 2 typed pages)
- artistic and professional portfolio
- motivation letter (max 1 typed page)
- documentation regarding previous academic career:
 - study plan (academic transcript) of previous studies, translated into English/Italian, listing subjects and exams, with corresponding number of hours/credits and short description of each subject's program
 - copy of Bachelor Degree/Academic diploma (if available), translated into English/Italian
- documentation regarding further courses or seminars attended (if available)
- certificate attesting the knowledge of the Italian language, or letter of purpose stating the student's commitment to learn the corresponding language
- copy of passport/ID card.

Upon reception of the "application dossier", NABA will get in touch with the candidate, in order to answer possible doubts or questions and to communicate the exact date and time of the evaluation interview.

Before starting the interview, applicants will have to submit a copy of a valid identification document. Any educational credits or debts will be notified to the applicants together with the results of the selection procedure.

For those international applicants who cannot come in person to NABA for the interview, alternative distance evaluation methods will be agreed for every single case. Please contact us at infomaster@naba.it for further details.

Deadlines

Applications will be evaluated starting from April 1st, 2010, until all the available places will have been assigned. Deadlines vary depending on the selected program and on the candidate's citizenship, according to the following outline. Students interested in grants and scholarships opportunities and deadlines, please visit the website area "Fees and grants" on www.master-naba.com.

	ITALIAN AND EU CITIZENS	NON-EU CITIZENS
TWO-YEAR MASTER OF ARTS DEGREES – ADMISSIONS OPENING	APRIL 1ST, 2010	APRIL 1ST, 2010
TWO-YEAR MASTER OF ARTS DEGREES – ADMISSIONS DEADLINE	OCTOBER 31ST, 2010	SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2010
TWO-YEAR MASTER OF ARTS DEGREES – ENROLMENTS DEADLINE	NOVEMBER 30TH, 2010	OCTOBER 31ST, 2010

Fees and payment conditions

The total fee for MA Degree programs attendance may vary – according to the candidate's citizenship and to the awarding of scholarships – from 12.100 to 3.800 Euros per year.

The tuition fee payment is divided into various instalments and amounts, varying according to student's citizenship:

Italian and EU citizens

3.000 Euros at the moment of enrolment (1.200 enrolment fee + 1.800 didactics contribution tax)

3.000 Euros by January 31st, 2011 (tuition fee first instalment)

3.000 Euros by July 31st, 2011 (tuition fee second instalment)

Together with the enrolment it is also necessary to make the payment of 100 Euros for local community tax for academic studies.

Non-EU citizens

3.000 Euros at the moment of enrolment (1.200 enrolment fee + 1.800 didactics contribution tax)

9.000 Euros by January 31st, 2011 (tuition fee)

Together with the enrolment it is also necessary to make the payment of 100 Euros for local community tax for academic studies.

Special terms

Early Bird discount:

400 Euros discount, if the enrolment is done within September 30th, 2010.

Unique solution discount:

400 Euros discount, if the total amount is paid all together (including both tuition and enrolment fee) at the moment of the enrolment.

NABA & partners – grants and scholarships

Together with various public and private institutions, NABA awards every year a series of scholarships partially covering the tuition fee amount.

For the academic year 2010/2011 NABA offers a minimum of 24 scholarships – 3 for each postgraduate program – for talented students, covering the tuition fee up to the 50% of the total amount.

The Academy reserves the right to award further grants to talented students, with the study/work formula, where students commit themselves to work for the Academy, according to terms established on an individual basis.

Candidates may download the calls for scholarships on the "Fees and grants" area of the www.master-naba.com dedicated website, or require them via email writing to infomaster@naba.it.

Further agreements with external partners, for scholarships partially or totally covering the tuition fee amounts, will come throughout the year. We recommend interested students to regularly visit the "Fees and grants" area of the www.master-naba.com website. Moreover, sending an email to infomaster@naba.it it is possible to be inserted in a mailing list and receive updated information.

Local community financial aid (DSU)

Since the academic year 2007/2008, students enrolled to two-year MA Degrees may apply for DSU scholarships, awarded by the Lombardy (Milan) region on the basis of economic requisites (low family income).

The announcement specifying conditions and parameters for the academic year 2010/2011 will be available with- in summer 2010 on www.master-naba.com, or may be requested via email at dsu@naba.it.

Private bank loan

Italian and EU citizens may apply for private bank loans with special conditions, called "Prestito d'Onore", thanks to an agreement between NABA and one of the main Italian banks, Banca Popolare di Milano.

For further information please see the "Fees and grants" area on the www.master-naba.com website.

Summary

Fields of specialisation: visual culture, visual arts and performance, curatorial studies, exhibition design.

Professional profiles: artist, curator, editor of specialized magazines and books, journalist, exhibition designer.

Director: Marco Scotini.

Language: Italian.

Title: Master of Arts Degree (legally recognized by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research).

Credits: 120.

Duration: two years, from January to December of the following year.

Yearly schedule: 600 hours of class and 900 including individual studies, group studies, internship.

Internship or artistic/curatorial project: the internship can be taken at an external institution or by participating in an artistic or curatorial project developed within NABA together with partner institutions or companies.

Study abroad: it is possible to take a study abroad period in one of NABA partner universities and academies, within the frame of international agreements (LLP-Erasmus and others).

Evaluation: In addition to the final exams, students have to develop a final thesis and an artistic-professional portfolio.

NABA

NABA is an Academy of Fine Arts and Design, legally recognized within the Higher Education Fine Arts System (AFAM), a department of the Italian universities system ruled by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR), which includes academic institutions involved in the field of fine arts, music and performing arts. Founded in 1980, it was the first academy within the AFAM system to create experimental courses in the design area (fashion, graphic, industrial, interior), showing a permanent interest towards research and innovation. Strongly oriented towards experimentation, NABA aims at integrating education, research and production and at fostering a cross-disciplinary, intercultural and socially responsible approach to education and artistic production.

Nowadays NABA educational offer is structured in three major training areas - Visual Arts, Communication and Design - structured in six Departments: Painting and Visual Arts, Design, Fashion Design, Graphic Design and Art Direction, Media Design and Multimedia Arts, Theatre Design. All degrees issued by NABA are internationally recognised, allowing students to continue their studies in Italian and foreign academies and universities: the undergraduate three-year degrees are equivalent to the BA (Bachelor of Arts) Degree and the postgraduate two-year degrees to the MA (Master of Arts) Degree, while the one-year Master programs correspond to a first level Italian university master diploma. Together with other institutions, NABA promotes also a Master program in Landscape Design (in collaboration with Politecnico di Milano) and a Master program in Photography and Visual Design (in collaboration with FORMA Centro Internazionale di Fotografia). In addition to the academic programs, the Academy hosts in its premises Semester and Summer programs held in English in the areas of communication, fashion and design, organized in collaboration with Philadelphia University (US), Domus Academy (I), Central Saint Martins College of Arts and Design (UK).

Studying at NABA means meeting professionals and artists coming from various professional environments, taking part in several extra-curricular activities and working with students from all over the world. The multicultural environment of the Academy, with more than 20% of its more than 1000 students coming from abroad, is also strengthened by the wide network of international relations. In fact, in addition of being member of ELIA (European League of Institutes of the Arts) and part of the LLP-Erasmus project, NABA is twinned with more than forty European and international Universities and Academies, including, among others, Rhode Island School of Design (US), San Francisco State University (US), Pratt Institute (US) and Nagoya University of Arts (JP). Furthermore, NABA participates in the M-Node Planetary Collegium project, an innovative PhD Program in Arts and Technologies organised by Plymouth University (UK).

NABA educational offer

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

PAINTING AND VISUAL ARTS

GRAPHIC DESIGN AND ART DIRECTION
MEDIA DESIGN AND MULTIMEDIA ARTS

DESIGN
FASHION DESIGN
THEATRE DESIGN

TWO-YEAR MASTER OF ARTS DEGREES

VISUAL ARTS AND CURATORIAL STUDIES

COMMUNICATION DESIGN
FILM AND NEW MEDIA ^{NEW}

PRODUCT DESIGN ^{NEW}
TEXTILE AND NEW MATERIALS DESIGN

ONE-YEAR MASTER PROGRAMS

LANDSCAPE DESIGN *

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VISUAL DESIGN **
DIGITAL EXHIBIT AND SET DESIGN***

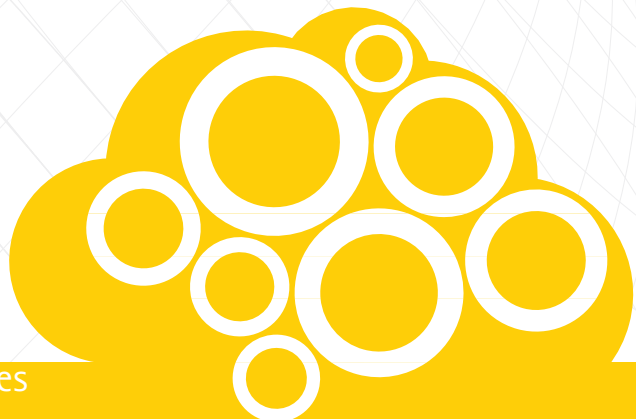
INTERIOR DESIGN ***

* In collaboration with Politecnico di Milano.

** In collaboration with FORMA Centro Internazionale di Fotografia.

*** In English language.

NABA
postgraduate studies



NABA is an Arts and Design Academy founded in 1980 and legally recognised by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR). It awards academic diplomas equivalent to undergraduate and postgraduate university degrees.

Info: www.master-naba.com

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