

Dear Friends:

I am happy to announce the schedule of courses available to students in Summer 2014 at my home and studio in Mornico Losana, in northern Italy.

Our beautiful area is called "Oltrepò Pavese", We are located about less of two hours south-east of Milan. The Village is surrounded by green hills, vineyards, excellent wineries...a very bucolic landscape.

After coming to Mornico, you will take back home more than a technical knowledge. You will contact the essence of my artwork and have a taste of the Italian spirit.

Our Valley is called "The Riesling Valley". We will visit the territory and taste the great wines that these hills offer us, their golden muscatel grapes among the best in the world. There are several beautiful things to see in the area including various summer village festivals, castles, antiques churches.

My studios are well equipped, with air conditioning and comfortable for students. Class prices include all materials and lunches during the days of class. The menu will vary: all Italian products from this area and very traditional food, so you will experience "a taste of Italy" each day.

Two news entry for this year:

For who would like to give a look in the world of Stained Glass, I'm happy to introduce you my friend **Lilia Siccardi**, who has more of 30 years of experience in this antique art that will teach a class for beginners and...

The opportunity to agree **Italian Cooking Lessons** on request with a grate professional Chef in his own kitchen....

You will find the description more later in this document.

I am excited I can say again "**Welcome to my world**"

**Miriam Di Fiore**

## Summer Classes Schedule 2014

Class Title	Date	Price	Class Size	Duration
“Giving a Shape” Shaping glass by Heat and gravity	MAY 25 to 30	900,00 Euro (22% Taxes included)	4 to 6	6 days
“ Landscapes and Depth in Fused Glass” Di Fiore’s Technique	July 18 to 24	900,00 Euro (22% Taxes included)	4 to 7	7 days
“Light Painting Technique”	August 1 al 6	760,00 Euro (22% Taxes included)	4 to 7	6 days
“Kiln Working Glass” Adventure (Beginners)	August 20 to 24	680,00 Euro (22% Taxes included)	4 to 8	5 days
“Stained Glass for Beginners” By Lilia Siccardi	August 27 to 29	440,00 Euro (22% Taxes included)	3 to 6	3 days
“No Limits” Advanced Fusing Techniques	September 1 to 6	800,00 Euro (22% Taxes included)	4 to 7	6 days

**10% Discount** for applying on two or more classes (on class price only) and to all the students “coming back” to Mornico!

**The price includes:**

- All materials that will be used during the course.
- The total hours of class, even if they happen to be more than what was planned...
- Lunch during working days, including spring and plain water, and good wine from the area.
- Tea and coffee, cookies and fruit during lessons.

**The price does not includes:**

- Breakfast
- Dinner
- Lunch on free days, or meals on days before or after the course.
- Transportation of any kind.
- Eventual medical visit or medicines
- Food or beverages except from those available at the studio and those provided for lunch.
- Anti mosquito creams or spray, or After Pick
- Tourist information or reservations, car rental or accommodation for eventual travelling in Italy on days before and after the course. We can put you in contact with a tourist agency on request.

**Italian Cooking Classes**

We can organize, on request, fantastic Italian Cooking Classes for our students before or after the glass class dates or for eventual friends or partners coming to Mornico with our students. Traditional plates, deserts or the secrets of Bread.....The classes will be run by professional Italian Chef in him private kitchen. Ask for prices and details writing to: [miriamdifiore@gmail.com](mailto:miriamdifiore@gmail.com)

# Course Description

## **“Giving the Shape”** Shaping glass by heat and gravity

**Teacher:** Miriam Di Fiore

**Date:** **May, 25 to 30** (Arriving on 24, Saturday. Leaving on 31, Saturday)

**Price:** 900 Euro (included Taxes, all materials and lunch)

**Requirements:** Basic fusing knowledge is necessary

**Language:** Italian, English and Spanish)

**Hours:** from 9:00 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 18:30

**Class size:** 4 to 6 students

### **Class Description:**

Students will explore methods for obtaining vases, bowls, containers and sculptural forms using just the power of the heat and the force of gravity, from simple and utilitarian pieces to the testing of forms all artistic or bizarre.

Will be used molds made of steel, refractory fiber, clay and brick supports for free-fall, the forming will be follow step by step during the piece is in the kiln to view and analyze the firing curve best suited for each type of form.

With the purpose of learning to encourage and control the movement of the glass to the desired shape with the best possible quality.

For each exercise, the focal point will be the “shape” and then the flat fused pieces for the experiment will be very simple but constructed according to the final form.

One day selected by the group of students, will be dedicated to visit and explore the territory, its beautiful hills and a visit to one of the excellent wineries.



Cup made by student

## Landscapes and Depth in Fused Glass: The Di Fiore's Technique process

**Teacher:** Miriam Di Fiore

**Date:** July 18 to 24 included. (Arriving on Thursday 17 - Leaving on Friday 25)

**Price:** 900 Euro (includes all class materials and lunch meals )

### **Requirements:**

Good experience in glass fusing with a good knowledge with frits and stringers (some experience in the "Light Painting" technique will be appreciated)

**Language:** English, Spanish, Italian

**Hours:** from 9:00 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 18:30

**Class size:** minimum 4 to max 7 students

### **Description:**

During the last 17 years I have dedicate my art works to translate faithfully the landscapes connected to my life, in fused glass by adding the sense of optical depth.

This works requires a very complex process and it's necessary being extremely attentive to details.

The first day, introducing the technique, we describe the process to construct and how I prepare the frits and the stringers that we would use for the realization of the image in order to obtain the best possible definition.

During the class, I will guide you step by step in the creation of a forest landscape in winter with the presence of water (The images are chosen by me for educational reason), you will learn how to "translate" the image **in** the glass **with** the glass, giving it even **optical depth**, in order to have a clear view of the principal process used to create my works.

We will try to get accomplish also a second project, with an image dedicated to Fall season, to can learn how to manage colors of fall and eventual troubles with several firings and reactivity.

The projects will be small but rich and intense images ( 18 x 13 cm) and may to be consider important "technical documents" to use to help you to develop your own Art in Glass Landscapes.

Will be used Bullseye glass. Will be made "stringers", you will learn how to work with the flames at low intensity for modeling the lines to be used in the pieces.

A day selected from the group will be dedicated to the visit our beautiful hills and woods to also talk about how I "see" and photograph the scenery when I like translate it with glass.

## “Light Painting” Techniques Class

**Teacher:** Miriam Di Fiore

**Date:** August 1 to 6 (arriving on July 31, leaving on August 7)

**Price:** 760,00 Euro (includes taxes, all necessary materials and lunch.)

**Requirements:** Basic knowledge and experience in glass fusing preferred.

**Language:** Italian, English and Spanish

**Hours:** From 9:00 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 18:30

**Class size:** 4 to 7 students

### **Description:**

The great artist Narcissus Quagliata, called with this name the technique that he created to translate in glass his fantastic drawings and water colours. Using frits, glass powder and glass stringers, you can create images, highly controlled, fascinating and unique, as if we were using the glass as a painter uses the pure colours.

During this class, we will learn how to use tested compatible glass frits, the particularity of each colour available, and the problems concerning the reactions when we mix colours, the correct firing schedules. Choosing at least three images of different types selected from a photography (a human face, a detail of a paint, classic and abstract, pictures of flowers and landscapes), we will translate them in fusing, using from one to four firings to obtain the highest technical and an esthetic quality and discover the endless possibilities. The goal is to increase the knowledge in the translation in fused glass of several different kinds of images.

The last day of the class, waiting for the kilns cold down, will be dedicated to explore our beautiful territory .



Student's works translating Leonardo

## **The Kiln-working Glass Adventure:**

A "Journey" for beginners with Miriam through Fused Glass Techniques

**Teacher:** Miriam Di Fiore

**Date:** August 20 to 24 (arriving on August 19, leaving on 25)

**Price:** 680,00 Euro (includes all materials and midday meals during the class time)

**Requirements:** Loving Glass!

**Language:** Italian, English and Spanish

**Hours:** From 9:00 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 19:00

**Class size:** 4 to 7 students

**Description:** The techniques are grouped under the term "fusing" are many but all are summarized in the expression "thermo-formed", it means that when we heat the glass to make it nearly so much fluid, unfolding before us a fascinating world where the glass will "transform " materializing our imagination into an infinity of possible objects.

From the small universe of glass Jewellery to the creation of panels to be inserted into doors and windows, from small decorative object to the fantastic design pieces, from the wall tiles to sculpture, everything is possible with the fusing.

During the course, students will learn all the basic procedures of the technique: You'll see the types of glass used, insulation materials, support and moulding, the kind of kilns and firing controllers, the firing schedules suitable for every kind of product. The use of instruments of quality control (polarized films)

We will do many and varied exercises: A project using common glass and metallic elements (copper, brass, gold liquid). A project using coloured glass sheets (fused mosaic). A tile with the technique of "reversal mosaic", a tile with the frits and stringers and with more technical complexity, a plate fused and thermoformed and a cup fused and slumped.

In short, we would do as much as possible in time to be together with the aim to give you all the tools of professional knowledge to start your personal journey into the glass fusing.



**Exemple of tack fused glass flowers**



**" Traditional Stained-Glass"**  
Introductory Class for beginners

**Teacher:** Lilia Siccardi

**Date:** August 27 to 29 (arrival on 26 August, leaving on 30 August )

**Price:** 440,00 Euro ( VAT included and all materials and lunch during class ) .

**Hours :** 9:00 to 13.00 and from 14.30 to 18.30

**Class size:** 3 to 6

The class will be held in **Italian language**

**Description:**

This course is dedicated to all the people who have the desire to explore the world and secrets of the traditional stained-glass windows .

For over a thousand years, the stained-glass windows accompany our life adding color and the magical charm on our windows , telling the history of the faith by the high ogives of our churches and filling with color and light architecture of the world.

There are many techniques and languages with which it expresses the stained-glass and in this course the artist will try transmitting the passion with which achieves more than 30 years.

Lilia Siccardi will guide you in the composition of a piece in a size such that it can be done in just 3 working days. Starting with a simple design

She will propose you will achieve the project ,the cardboard and the transparence , you will learn how to cut glass and how to compose and bind the piece with the profiles of lead and how to weld with the stain. And in the final stage, how to make it resistant and durable.



Little window (E. Tadino Design) made in the Lilia Siccardi Studio



## **“Without Limits”: Advanced Fusing Techniques**

**Teacher:** Miriam Di Fiore

**Date:** **September 1 to 6** (Arriving date August 31, leaving on September 7)

**Price:** **800 Euro** (includes taxes and all materials and midday meals )

**Requirements:** Basic knowledge and experience in glass fusing required.

**Language:** Italian, English and Spanish

**Hours:** From 9:00 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 18:30

**Class size:** 4 to 7 students

### **Class Description:**

Thinking in fusing “without limits”, during this very intensive class, the students will explore the ways to get special effects with glass fusing to create new and surprising results.

The “opening-kiln processes” which includes glass combings and the free-flowing oblique plane technique and creating spirals and marble effects during the firing process, and creating pre-fusion patterns will be included.

The resulting components could be used in fusing or used as inclusions in a flat piece.

We also will explore the process to get very thin but strong fine fused pieces (less than 2 millimetres ) using the glass powder and will introduce some interesting variations for the technique of "Frost and fuse", extraordinary process very simple to get small three-dimensional objects in glass without the use of mould but using silicone pattern, water and a freezer.

Basic cold working techniques will be demonstrated. (Hand and machines process to cold working).



## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Complete the **registration form** attached and send it there by e-mail to:

[miriamdifiore@gmail.com](mailto:miriamdifiore@gmail.com)

**Deposit:** How soon the class is confirmed, you have to send a deposit of **400 Euro (or the equivalent in Dollars)**. The deposit is necessary to secure your place in the classroom. The deposit is refundable in case of cancellation, less the amount of **50 Euro** deduction for expenses, up to 40 days before the date of the course.

For residents outside Europe, the rest of the total value of the course must be paid within **39 days before** the course, via international wire transfer. In case of cancellation within 30 days from the date of commencement of the course will be refunded 50% of the amount paid. After that date, the course is considered confirmed and there will be no refunds of money.

Regular invoice will be issued after payment.

### **Accommodation booking:**

Fill the form to select your accommodation. You do not need any deposit. The accommodation you will pay on arrival in Mornico, by cash.

Except for the housing, all payments will be completed through bank transferring o Western Union Services or similar, or by cash.

**Credit cards are not accepted**

Information on the bank for the transfer will be given upon confirmation of the course.

## HOW TO GET MORNICO LOSANA:

The students have to arrive on the day BEFORE the class and leave the day AFTER the end of the class as detailed in the descriptions of classes.

### Arriving by Airplane:

You can arrive in **Milano Malpensa Airport** or **Milano Linate Airport**.

#### **Very important:**

Do not buy tickets with departures before 10 am or that arrive after 10 pm,

Remember you have to be in the airport **3 hours before the flight** time and you will need at list **2 hours more** to get the airport from Mornico Losana **with the Taxi service** or **about 4 hours if by public transportation**.

You could have to leave from Mornico five hours before your flight.

**We will not provide our taxi service after 08:00 PM.** After that time, you have to contract a normal taxi driver to get the airport, in that case the trip could be very much expensive.

### **From Malpensa Airport:**

We can arrange transportation to and from the airport. The cost is **150 Euro** per trip. (No more of 3 persons by trip by car).

**The trip by car from Malpensa to Mornico takes around 2 hours**

It is also possible to get Mornico taking the airport shuttle and train:

The "Malpensa Shuttle bus", [www.malpensashuttle.it](http://www.malpensashuttle.it), Its park outside the gates of the airport arrivals section. It is very well marked inside and outside the airport. Its departs every 35 minutes. Takes about 50 minutes to reach the Milano Centrale train station, available from 5:20 to 22:30.

**Also you can take the train "Malpensa Express" to get Milano Centrale Station** ([www.malpensaexpress.it](http://www.malpensaexpress.it)) The train is well marked inside the airport and leave from the train station INSIDE the airport. The last stop is **Milano Centrale**.

The price is at moment **10 Euro**. For the time schedules, check the web site.

In Milano Centrale, you must take the train to Voghera .

Trains Milan -Voghera depart every hour, the trip takes about 35 minutes and costs from 6 to 10 euro, it depends the train.

**Before** taking the train, you have **to call us** in the way we can send somebody to pick up you at the Voghera train station.

If you use your mobile phone, you have to deal **0039-0383-892114**.

If you call us using an Italian telephone, you have to deal **0383-892114**

**It's very difficult** to find a public telephone in Italy. I suggest you bring your mobile with you, and **buy a SIM card in the Airport** before taking the train to Milan, just only for this calling. A **SIM Card have to be Vodaphone or TIM, and will cost 15 Euro with 5 euro included for calling.**

The transportation from or to Voghera-Mornico will be free for the day before and day after the class.

Any other car services for transportation in different days will be provider by a Taxy.

Arriving from Linate Airport:

**Linate airport is nearest. The trip by car is near 1 hour and half, to get to Mornico Losana if we don't get traffic.**

We can arrange transportation to and from the airport. The cost is **120 Euro** per trip.

Taking shuttle and Train:

The "**Linate Shuttle**" buses parked in the square opposite the Arrivals section. It is very well signposted. **Costs 3 Euro**. It is available between 5:40 am until 23:15 pm. The journey takes 35 minutes minimum, to reach the Milan Central Station, where you can take the train to **Voghera**. (read the explanation in the anterior page)

Arriving by **your car**:

I recommend coming by car, if you can, because the area is beautiful and you will feel more free. Specific information on driving directions will be provided on request..

**To rent a car:** The best is get it in the airport. **Rent the car by Internet before** traveling and pick up the car in the airport

If you would like to have some holidays before or after the course, we are near Pavia and around 1:30 hs far to Milano, Genova, Torino, Piacenza and with the train is possible to get "Cinque Terre" National Park in near two and half hours. By train is possible to be in Florence, Rome or Venice in around 4 hours. We can arrange a taxi service from and to the train station of Voghera City.

Check [www.trenitalia.com](http://www.trenitalia.com), clicking on "all trains"

## HOUSING IN MORNICO LOSANA

Mornico Losana is small, there are no Hotels. The accommodations directly in the village are very limited. These are the possibilities of accommodation that I can offer you:

### **The "House of Esther":**

This is a lovely house in the main square, about 100 meters from our house. The ground floor has a living room and a fully equipped kitchen and first floor has two bedrooms, a balcony and a bathroom with shower. Has the washing machine. Cleaning and change of sheets and towels will be provided once each five days. No air conditioning. Fan in each room.

The price is: **30 Euro** per night per person in single room.

**60 Euro** renting the house for own exclusive use (for one or two people)

### **Apartment in Miriam's House:**

We have three single rooms and one big double room available in a large apartment on the second floor (without elevator) of our main building.

The apartment has a kitchen complete with everything needed for cooking, a nice veranda and a panoramic terrace. A complete bathroom and a small toilette of service.

**The apartment** is very pleasant and comfortable, but it is not suitable for those who cannot climb stairs or who will come with heavy suitcase.

Cleaning and change of sheets and towels once each five days.

There is a washing machine available to students.

No air conditioning. Fan in each room

Price: **30 Euro** per night per person for a single room.

### **The house "Casa Spiaggi":**

This is a pleasant house, situated 600 meters from our place. Have two large bedrooms, a bathroom, a kitchen, a living room with fireplace and a nice big balcony.

There is a garden. Great view. The house has everything you need for sleeping and cooking and the washing machine.

Cleaning and change of sheets and towels will be provided once each five days.

It has no air conditioning but it is cool that is already shaded by a pair of big trees and there is a fan in each room.

This **house is not suitable for those who do not like the movement**, is necessary walk up a small hill about 100 meters to get the main street. The rest of the walk to get the studios is almost flat.

No others houses immediately near. For 50 meters it is dark in the night, so is necessary to use a flashlight to get to the house.

The price is: **30 Euro** per night per person in single room. Rent in exclusive using by **60 Euro** by night. (one or two or 3 people)

**For those who want a private bathroom, there are some B&B in the area:**

For the housing outside the Village we can organize (on payment) a transport service two times by day.

Some possibilities:

**B&B "Gli Acini", [www.antoniodellabianca.it](http://www.antoniodellabianca.it)**

Located in Pietra di Giorgi, near us ( 3 kilometres from our house),it is a nice place with three comfortable and new guest rooms, in a Winery with also the dinner service in the evening (very convenient). **35 Euro included breakfast.**

If you don't have the car, consider **10 Euro** by day for our service of transportation from and to the studios. Good information in their web site.

**Agriturismo "Corte Montini" [www.cortemontini.it](http://www.cortemontini.it)**

Situated in the village of Santa Gioletta, at the edge of the hills, the Agriturismo "Corte Montini" is a good quality. This is a comfortable place with single rooms with private bathroom and air conditioned, on the second floor (stairs).Has an excellent restaurant.

It is far about 20 minutes by car. The rooms prices are: 45 Euro included Breakfast.

Is possible to have a very good dinner for special price. Good information in their web site.

If you don't have the car, consider **15 Euro** by day for our service of transportation from and to the Studios.

### For who wish an unforgettable prestigious location

We have two fantastic places in the area

**B&B Villa Arabella [www.villa-arabella.it](http://www.villa-arabella.it)**

There is a beautiful house in Losana fraction (less than 2 kilometres from our house), with three elegant guest rooms, a garden like dream and a swimming pool. Excellent wines and grate dinning..

Arabella and Paul offer. really an special staying. You can request information and make a reservation by their web site, telling you are coming for my classes

**B&B Castello di Mornico (The Castle in Mornico) [www.castellodimornico.it](http://www.castellodimornico.it)**

In the magnificent Castle in the top of the hill, with an incredible garden and swimming pool, there is a romantic B&B available to the students for the classes in **August**, (normally they rent only for weddings and events) The place is a dream....

For information, visit their web site.

## The Food in Mornico Losana

Opportunities for evening meals:

The mid-day lunch is included in the tuition for the day's lesson.

We have lunch on the terrace with panoramic views.

We have only one mini-market in the village, open mornings from Tuesday to Sunday 9 to 12:30 with fresh bread and everything you can need except meat or fish. Once a week arrive in the square two vans with supplies such neighbourhoods market. There will be two free trips to the nearby big supermarket for shopping, if you are here without car and do not you find what you need in the country.

**For extra trips to the markets we ask 5 Euro** per person as contribution for transportation costs (the driver and fuel).

We use to stop at the supermarket when we pick up the students at the rail station in Voghera before to get to Mornico Losana.

Mornico has one Bar with good coffee and excellent cookies home made and two fine restaurants of excellent quality. Prices for a full dinner are around **20 to 35 Euros** per person.

We can organize culinary tours to summer festivals, or to test some special pizza restaurant or a good Trattoria and have a good Pizza dinner from 15 Euro.

Some times happen that we will eat together in my terrace, in that case the dinner will be prepared by me with the help of the students. The contribution for this kind of dinner will be **7 Euro**.