



Miriam Di Fiore

ART GLASS STUDIO

Fusing, Cooking & Sightseeing

## “Keys to the Kingdom”... beyond landscapes

### CLASS PROGRAM:

General contents analyzed during class:

- **The importance of the project.**
- **“Reading”** the image and translating it in glass.
- **“Miriam’s Light painting”** code: infinite color possibilities.
- **Viscosity & compatibility/reactivity** and multi-firing troubles.
- **Solving problems:** bubbles, breakages, devitrification, etc.
- **Fusing to create “special” glass bits** for unique special pieces.
- **Avoiding problems:** The “Delta T” and the perfect firing (Miriam’s firing schedules) and the importance of polarizing films in quality control, and... much more!

### MONDAY 6: Arriving date.

Picking you at the train station in Voghera city or at the airport.

We stop at the supermarket for food shopping; then, take you to your accommodation.

### THUESDAY 7: Day 1

9:00 am, welcome breakfast.

Studio time: 10:00 to 12:30 am/ 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm

Lunch in the patio.

**Group exercises:** We prepare some pre-fusion exercises (high temperature fusing sliding the glass on inclined planes, special frit combing, pulling stringers with the vitrigrph kiln).

**Individual exercise:** super thin full fused powder glass foils (all following Miriam’s ways)

Date:

July 7 to 19





## WEDNESDAY 8: Day 2

Studio time: 9:00 to 6:30 pm

Lunch in the patio.

We work on the exercises that are fusing in the kiln (combing and sliding glass). **Beginning of first exercise**

A flower image (the same for all students): (first layer, first firing). We learn how to read the image and decide the technical sequence. We learn how to prepare and sift the frits for a perfect using, making them dialogue and interact with glass 2mm thick, normal or iridescent. Learn how to shape the stringers on the soft flame to get graceful lines.

7:30 pm: “Pizza night” in our favorite pizzeria.

## THURSDAY 9: Day 3

Studio time: 8:30 to 5:30 pm Lunch in the patio.

We open the kilns, observe the results.

In addition to normal Bullseye glass, frits, stringers available in the studio, each student will have a part of the pre-fused glass bits we made and the thin glass available.

We begin the second exercise (natural or abstract, chosen by each student). We analyze the image and decide the technical sequence.

First layer, first firing.

**Landscape exercise:** analysis of the image, prepare the stringers we will need.

*\* 6:30 pm possible cooking lesson & dinner*

## FRIDAY 10: Day 4

Studio time: 9:00 to 6:30 pm Lunch in the patio.

**Flowers image exercise:** we continue working on it, second firing.

**Second image exercise:** second layer, second firing

**Landscape exercise:** first layer, first firing.

## SATURDAY 11: Day 5

Studio time: 9:00 to 6:30 pm Lunch in the patio.

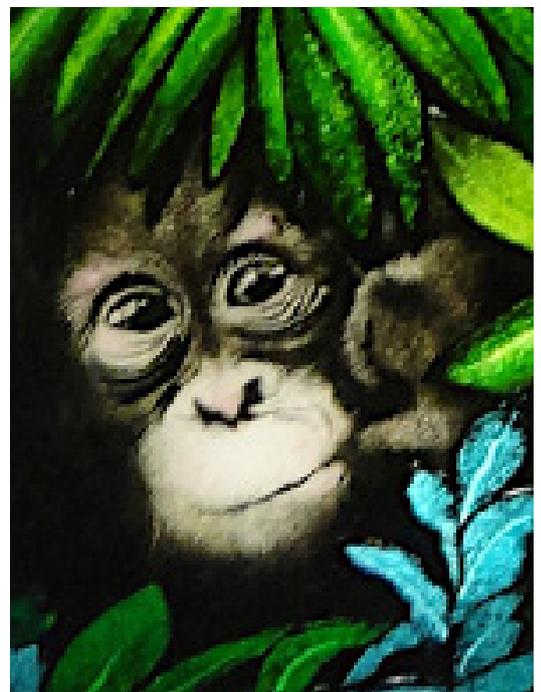
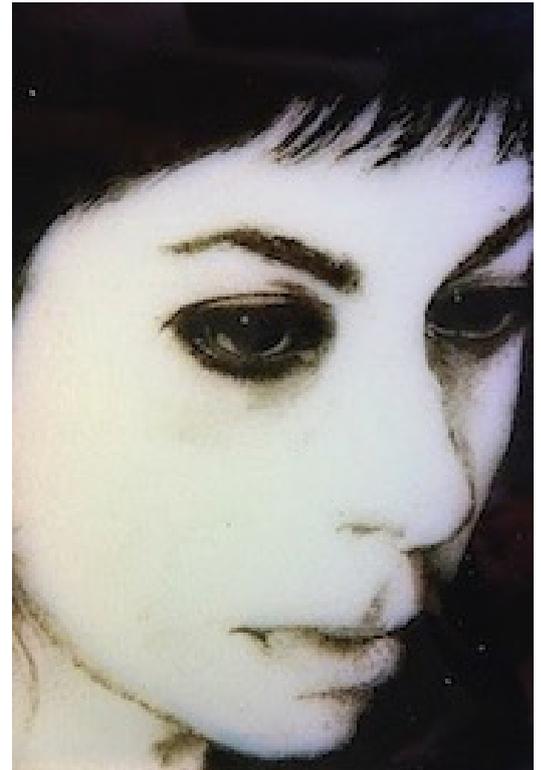
We continue working on the second image (final firing.)

**Landscape exercise:** second layer, second firing.

7:30 pm: Wine tasting with finger food “ dinner” in a very good winery in our village.

## SUNDAY 12: Day 6

Sightseeing: Visit of the street Casteggio market. Then, we continue the tour of the hills to reach the ancient Abbey of Sant’Alberto di Butrio, picnic



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## MONDAY 13: Day 7

Studio time: 8:30 to 5:30 pm Lunch in the patio

**Landscape exercise:** third layer, third firing

We will begin the third image exercise (natural or abstract, chosen by each student). Will analyze the image and decide the technical sequence. First layer, first firing.

*\*6:30 pm Possible cooking lesson & dinner*

## THUESDAY 14: Day 8

Studio time: 9:00 to 6:30 pm Lunch in the patio.

**Landscape exercise:** fourth layer, fourth firing

**Third image exercise,** second layer, second firing

## WEDNESDAY 15: Day 9

Sightseeing: the ancient City of Pavia with the Old University, very beautiful Romanesque churches and the Carthusian Monastery, the Ticino river environment.

Lunch in a traditional countryside restaurant.

## THURSDAY 16: Day 10

Studio time: 9:00 to 6:30 pm

Lunch in the patio.

We accomplish the Flower (final firing) Third image exercise, final firing

**Landscape exercise:** fifth layer, fifth firing

**Last exercise:** Realistic portrait using powder. First firing.

*\*6:30 pm Possible cooking lesson & dinner*

## FRIDAY 17: Day 11

Studio time: 8:30 to 5:30 pm Lunch in the patio.

**Last exercise:** Realistic portrait using powder. Second firing.

**Landscape exercise:** last firing.

## SATURDAY 18: Day 12

Sightseeing: a tour through the high hills, visiting the Castel of Zavattarello, then reaching Bobbio, a very beautiful medieval village, with its “devil’s bridge” on the very clean Trebbia river, where we can swim. Trebbia is one of the most clean and pure rivers in Italy.

Picnic lunch with local food and dinner in the hills on the way back home.

## SUNDAY 19: Day 13

Studio time: 9:00 to 6:30 pm Lunch in the patio.

Opening the kilns. Observation and criticism of the work done. Suggestions for cold working and final setting or for including the piece in future works. Conclusions. Checking class notes.

Packing.

7:30 pm Goodbye Dinner.



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[www.miriamdifiore.com](http://www.miriamdifiore.com)