

A BRIDGE BETWEEN DRAWING AND WRITING

with Monica Dengo ONLINE - June 4/5/6/7, 2021



All the images in this page are Monica Dengo's sketchbooks

Seeing comes before words.

The child looks and recognizes before it can speak.

Ways of Seeing, John Berger

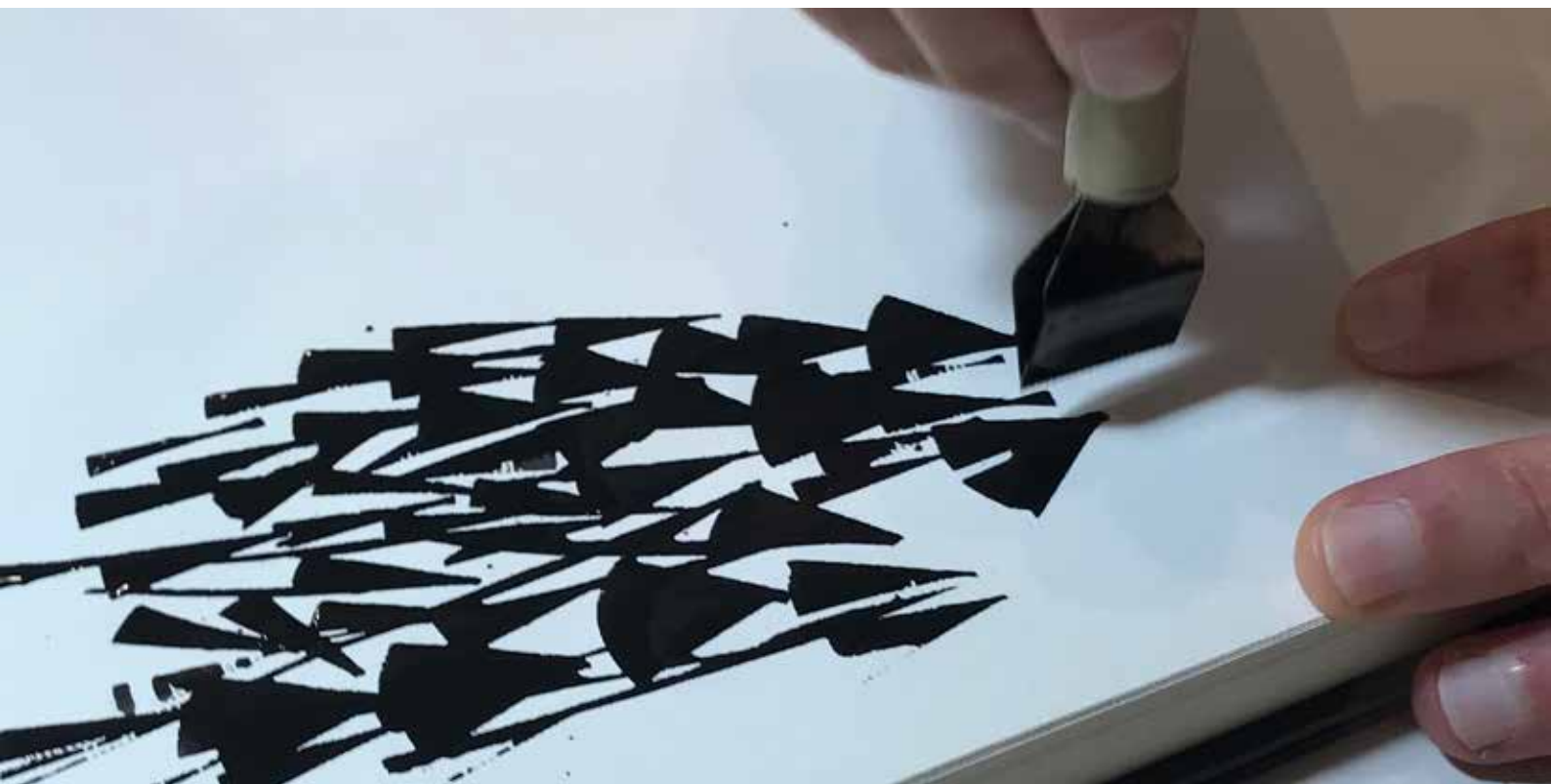
Drawing is a process of observation and expression which amplifies our ability to see and perceive the world. This course starts from the drawing of **a plant**. Drawing a plant also means discovering the relationship we have with it.

Writing is using a **code** according to precise rules shared by a community. A text is visually a series of symbols, regularly spaced, aligned and positioned hierarchically according to the rules of **legibility**.

We will **draw** looking at the plant and not the sheet of paper, looking to grasp the shapes of the shadows or the **rhythmic details** of the bark. Then we will try to bring the experience of writing closer to that of drawing. The letters will become **abstract shapes** and lines.

We will try to change our visual relationship with the **grid**, which is the basis of the **idea** we have of **writing**, and we will explore the limits of legibility.

This way of conceiving the text is akin to private **handwriting**, which sometimes doesn't follow the lines and is messed up, massed, **canceled**.



We will work on a structure of **multiple books**, to suggest the coexistence of many worlds and infinite ways of communicating content visually. We will use invented and found tools, searching for the one that best suits our approach. We will try to change our visual relationship with the grid, which is the basis of our **perception of writing**, and we will explore the limits of legibility.

The page rectangle will be what will ultimately restore structure to our work, bring it back within the limits of the **book form**. And here we will investigate the **composition**.

ONLINE meetings

Meetings will be on **Google Meet**.

Students will send assignment photos via **Slack** to the teacher who will respond individually, or share the screen with the whole class for critique.

Tutor

Monica Dengo

www.monicadengo.com - instagram: monica_dengo

Students

The course is open to everybody, maximum number 25.

Materials

- A4 (210x297mm) drawing pad (any pad that is suitable for ink drawing)
- 1 sheet of Canson MiTeint or Fabriano ElleErre, already cut to 210x580mm.
- Ink: Black sumi or Chinese ink, or other black ink for drawing.
- One watercolor in tube: you can choose any color, but not more than one.
- Two flat brushes, any kind, about 12mm width.
- Wooden stick or small branch (any found piece of branch)
- Thread (if you don't have bookbinding thread, any thread can do, even kitchen twine).
- Containers for ink, water and watercolor (I use jam jars)
- a rag or two
- Re-positionable tape
- Double tape
- smartphone for photos.

COST and PAYMENT

The cost is €150.00 (onehundredandfiftyeuros). It includes:

- A file with the course's aim, bibliography and a series of simple exercises to do in the days before the course begins.
- Three meetings with teacher's demonstrations.
- One final meeting for group critique on each student's work (there will be a maximum of 25 students).
- Slack comments, sent by the teacher to each student on their photos of work in progress, during the course.

Once the list of participants is complete, the teacher will send the payment info via email. Payment can be made only via Paypal.

Information and registration

ciao@monicadengo.com

DATES and TIMES

On May 31st you will receive a file with instructions for some simple exercises to do before Friday June 4th.

FIRST meeting Friday June 4th, 2021:

8:30am (Rome time zone) - I will send you an email with the link to Google Meet classroom.

9:00am (Rome time zone) - Lesson begins.

I will explain the course concept.

PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION: I will demonstrate the use of instruments for ink drawings. I will also illustrate the whole program. Students will then begin to work while we are connected.

I will remain connected with you until 11:00am (Rome time zone) and then continue to respond to your Slack messages and images.

SECOND meeting Saturday June 5th, 2021:

8:30am (Rome time zone) - I will send you an email with the link to Google Meet classroom.

9:00am (Rome time zone). Lesson begins.

PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION: I will show you how I take inspiration from drawings to begin writing letters and words. Students will then begin to work while we are connected.

I will remain connected with you until 11:00am (Rome time zone) and then continue to respond to your Slack messages and images.

THIRD meeting Sunday June 6th, 2021:

8:30am (Rome time zone) - I will send you an email with the link to Google Meet classroom.

9:00am (Rome time zone). Lesson begins.

PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION: When Drawing and Writing become one.

Students will then begin to work.

I will remain connected with you until 11:00am (Rome time zone) and then continue to respond to your Slack messages and images.

FOURTH meeting Monday June 7th, 2021

8:30am (Rome time zone) - I will send you an email with the link to Google Meet classroom.

9:00 (Rome time zone). Critique begins.

The meeting will end by 10:30 to 11am (Rome time zone).

Individual critiques:

All students can listen to the critique, works will be presented by one student at the time.
