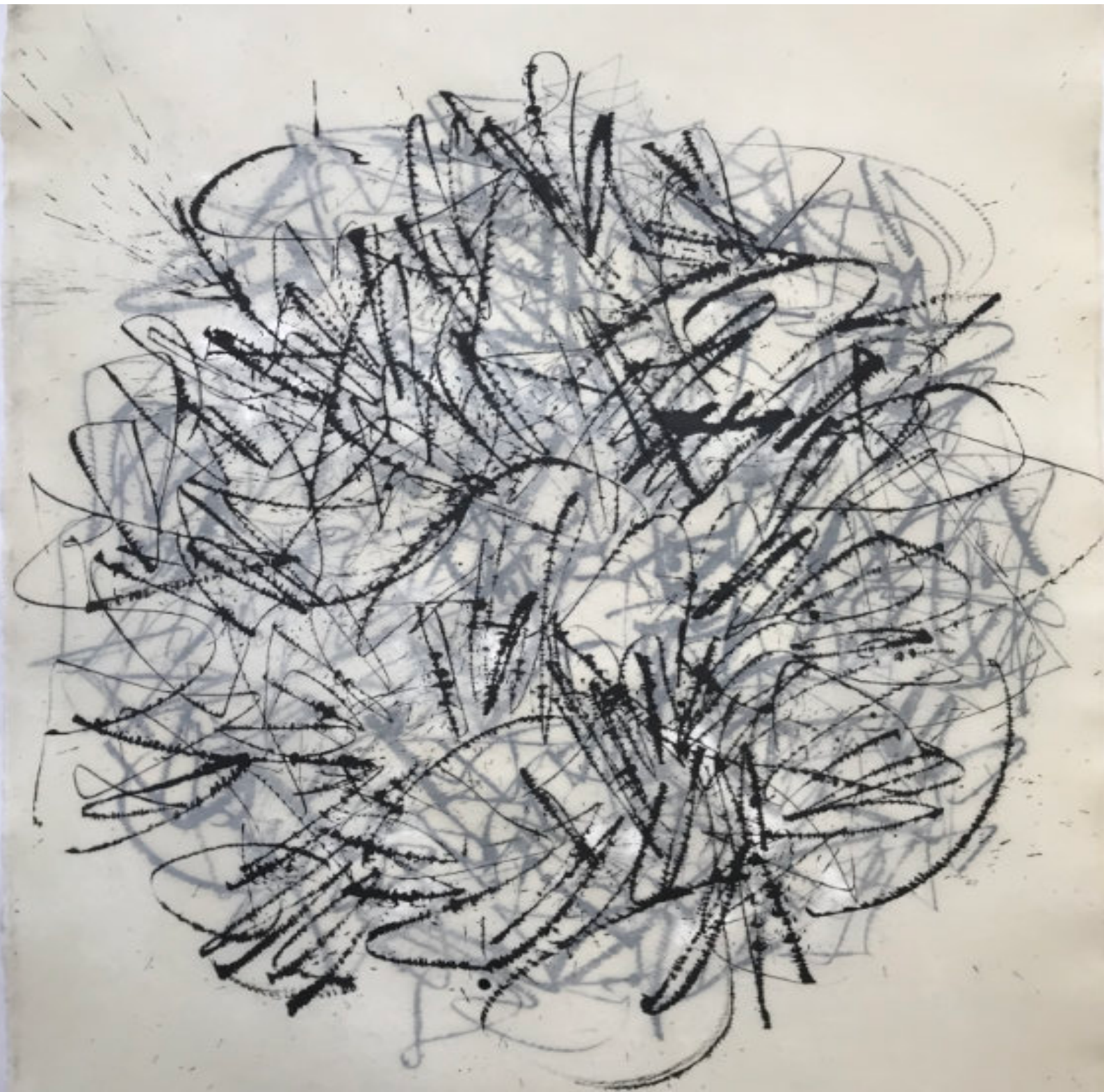


Marking

our relationship with the world

International Workshop in Monica's Studio, Arezzo, Italy
March 17-23, 2027

Monica Dengo





Writing is an act of order: letters, symbols, and marks that follow precise rules and linear sequences. It is a shared language that allows us to define the world, to map reality through symbolic and linear structures. To write is to construct meaning, to give form to thought.



But what happens when we let go of control? When the hand moves without a scheme, guided only by intuition, impulse, the unconscious? Making marks without rules is like walking through an unfamiliar forest: every step, every gesture opens onto unexpected forms, new possibilities.

Through the practice and teaching of abstract marks, scribbles, and illegible writings, I have discovered that the free gesture—experienced as a form of listening—transforms the way we look at the world. Faced with a plant, marks become branches, trunks, roots; a stone suggests the sky; a lichen turns into a forest; a sound becomes a thread in a spider's web, as fine as silk; a heartbeat takes the shape of a gesture.



We begin to perceive unforeseen connections. In this space, the wild and the familiar meet, and the mark becomes a bridge between ourselves and what surrounds us. In this workshop, we will move together through the stages that led me to gradually distance myself from formal calligraphy and to orient my practice toward the art of writing by hand and gestural mark-making in its many forms until intuiting a possible dialogue between gestural marks and plants.





During the workshop, we will observe written pages from different historical periods to understand their visual construction, and we will experiment with handwriting through repetition, invented words, and paradoxes. We will then step outside the linearity of writing to explore automatic gesture, free mark-making, and unstructured dialogue. Every trace, every scribble will be a step toward new forms of perception and expression. We will also explore Venetian gardens, and hidden corners of vegetal life.

All the works will then be gathered into book form: the pages will assume new configurations, and unexpected connections will emerge between word and mark, between letter and gesture, between ourselves and the world.



PROGRAM INFO

DATES:

Wednesday March 17 to Tuesday March 23, 2027

7 days of workshop, afternoon free on Saturday March 20.

TIME:

Each day the class will begin at 9:30 and end at 4:30 pm.

Students can stay and work in the classroom until 6:30pm.

Light lunch will be provided.

OTHER MATERIALS:

A minimum list of optional materials will be sent after subscription. Most materials will be available in classroom.

PAPER:

A list of materials will be sent after subscription.

Some papers will be available in class, other special papers will be for purchase in classroom.

FEE:

€ 1750 (one thousand seven hundred and fifty euros)

Deposit of € 400 is due by November 30, 2026, **deposit is non-refundable.**

Final payment is due by December 31, 2026.

LOCATION:

Monica Dengo's studio in Via Venti Settembre, 60, Arezzo

Maximum 6 students.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please contact Monica Dengo at ciao@monicadengo.com

