

Last year, I had the incredible opportunity to study abroad in Florence, Italy. Throughout the semester, I not only grew tremendously as a person, but as an artist. Alongside my exposure to new culture, cuisine, and classmates, I had the chance to explore serigraphy, installation, and projection. Each of my SACI courses were structured around engagement with contemporary Italian culture and were constantly enhanced through visiting artists, critiques, and visits to some of the most famous museums in the world.

With a last-minute decision to enroll in Serigraphy, I had no idea what to expect and hardly had any knowledge about the medium. However, I quickly relished in learning this entirely new process, from gathering inspiration to the final screen-printing stages. While I learned the basics, I was still encouraged to experiment with colors, overlapping, and print surfaces; and though I was given assignment prompts, it was clear that the overarching objective was to take inspiration from anything and everything within our abroad experience.



Killer Queen (Florence, Italy 2019)



La Donna (Florence, Italy 2019)

This objective persisted as well in my Digital Multi-Media course. Through digital photography, video, and sound, I was assigned to explore Florence, observe and interact with it, and express my understandings (or misunderstandings) in any narrative form of my choosing. Focusing particularly on installation as a way of incorporating both technology and space, the course culminated in an exhibition at a gallery space in Florence. I exhibited *Travel Log: Tapezeria Toscana*, a semi-abstract, four-dimensional collage of my abroad travels, projected onto the sketchbook that I worked in throughout my abroad studies. Profoundly inspired by Mika Rottenberg's *Sala delle Ciminiere* that I had the privilege of visiting on a class trip to the Bologna Contemporary Art Museum, I fused sound and video from trips to Italy, France, and Germany into a fragmented representation of the exceptional sensory overload of art, history, nature, and beauty that I was flooded with throughout the semester.



Stills from Travel Log: Tapezeria Toscana (Florence, Italy 2019)

Upon returning from an incredible, challenging, and eye-opening semester, inspiration of my travels continued to seep into my work. When assigned to design a deck of cards and their packaging as part of a Packaging Design course, I approached this project with the idea of postcards in mind. Working from my favorite photos and memories of the semester, I designed, illustrated, and collaged 6 postcards and the box they resided in. When I look at these cards, I am immediately taken back to the priceless experiences I was afforded abroad and I continue to be inspired by these influences in my artistic practice today.



*From left to right:
Lake Como,
Copenhagen,
London, Milan, Pisa,
and Amsterdam*

