

Italian Immersion: A Brunnenburg Update

By Bill Lide

When 15 students from St. Andrews came over to explore the Brunnenburg castle and surrounding country, they had no idea what to expect. A foreign country, with several foreign dialects, is hard for a newcomer to imagine. As expected, the first weeks were hard, in some respects, but the staff at the castle helped in many ways to make the transition as smooth as possible.

As we became more adjusted, things started to gell. To work around the castle became less arduous and the classes became more enjoyable.

As the second month swings into progress, we are learning more than we can express. The classes we are taking are interesting and are supported by a limitless number of resources in the surrounding culture.

Drawing class at Brunnenburg abounds with spontaneity, costume and calligraphic explosions. Space is the element the drawing class is presently concentrating on and exercises range from the construction of three dimensional space constructions to "universal fields."

Historical icons are in the making, with various techniques created by students to make their fragments look older. Get ready for a fantastic February exhibit in Vardell Gallery!

Italian art history at Brunnenburg revolves around preparing for the actual viewing of original master-

pieces. After a month's study of Early Christian and Byzantine art at the castle, St. Andrews students made a pilgrimage to Ravenna, the major center for Byzantine mosaics in the world.

The class continues to study Byzantine influences in Italian art history. In-depth studies of Trecento, Quattrocento and Cinquecento art is now under way before the class spends 6 days in Florence and Rome. Major artists under study are Burnelleschi, Donatello, Massacio, Michealangelo and Raphael.

Mary de Rachewiltz's class, The Pound Era, is an in-depth overview of Ezra Pound's contemporaries and his cantos. Princess de Rachewiltz is the daughter of Pound and she has an incredible understanding of her father's diverse, sometimes difficult, poetry. Poets that have been studied thus far include William Bulter Yeats, T. S. Eliot, Robinson Jeffers, Marian Moore, Hilda Doolittle and e.e. cummings. The class has also been translating Dante Alighieri's "La Divina Comedia" from Italian into English.

In the second half of the semester, the class will be studying the cantos in depth. Class projects have included poems by the students, interpretations of other poets' works and a thorough reading of Pound's "The ABC of Reading".

Several students are involved in Guided Independent Studies (GIS) while at Brunnenburg. Students are exploring a wide range of

topics ranging from politics, economics, drama and poetry. Carole Knox, who is completing a GIS in SAGE in Brunnenburg, has found that studying the economy in the Tirol engenders all aspects of Tirolian life.

"When I proposed to do a GIS in SAGE 401 last spring I had no idea how exciting and enlightening it would be," said Knox.

"I have discovered that the possibilities are absolutely endless."

"My proposal originally consisted of doing several case studies centering around the economics of the Tirol and Italy, but I have added several studies in the culture and traditions of the area."

"I am not only learning through books and lectures, but also through first hand observation and experience, I strongly suggest any seniors who would like to spend a semester in Brunnenburg to seriously consider doing a GIS in SAGE."

The Brunnenburg library received a welcome guest in Betty Holmes, a librarian whose usual home is De Tamble Library in Laurinburg. Betty has been a big help in starting the library in Brunnenburg and is now busy trying to stock it for future St. Andrews students.

The world of Brunnenburg is new and exciting to everyone present and we can only hope that we express our excitement through our correspondence, if not we will have to sit around, drink a couple of cases of beer and we will tell you all about it. Ciao for now!

Art Projects Unfolded In Italy Shakespeare Anthology To Be Performed

By Connie Bowes

"All Merely Players" an anthology of selected scenes from Shakespeare will be presented by the Highland Players Thursday through Saturday, November 10-12 at 8 p.m. in the Liberal Arts Auditorium.

Cheryl Alcini, Kevin Dove, Tami Gardner, Kirk Gilmer, Jenny Gleach, Linda Marshall, Melissa Morton, Kevin Pinder, David Vest, Steve Wichard and Duncan Wood will perform in scenes from the classics "As You Like It," "Henry IV, Part I," "Midsummer Night's Dream," "Aethello," "Romeo and Juliet," "The Taming of the Shrew," and "Twelfth Night."

"I chose cuttings that center around the idea of human folly," said director Robbie Rankin. "This throws us into the comedies and dark comedies of Shakespeare," said Rankin.

"I chose cuttings from Shakespeare because our actors need it and because I need it. My real love is the classics and even though our actors are very young in

forms of classical stage experience, I have been very pleased with our rehearsals," she said.

"Having each actor analyze his/her character(s) has helped greatly in the development of the characters they will portray."

"I chose comical scenes because it is difficult for young actors to pull off a Shakespeare tragedy. They are not old enough to have encountered some of life's experiences essential to portraying a Shakespeare tragedy correctly," said Rankin.

"We have enhanced our script with the addition of instrumental music, songs and Elizabethan dance for transitional material. Our set is very open and flexible. This type of staging demands that the actors and audience together create with their imagination the world of the play."

Tickets for "All Merely Players" may be purchased in front of the mural in the Liberal Arts building. Admission is \$3.00.

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