



BLACK CERAMICS

CLAY OF ETRURIA

BUCCHERO IS A TYPE OF FINE AND VERY LIGHT BLACK CERAMIC PRODUCED BY THE ETRUSCANS TO MAKE VASES.

21-22 JUNE 2025

INCLUDED: 14 TEACHING HOURS | MATERIALS NEEDED FOR THE COURSE | FIRING
| NR 2 BREAKFASTS

TEACHER: GABRIELE TOGNOLONI

 FAENZA ART
CERAMIC CENTER

INTRODUCTION

Bucchero is a type of fine and very light black ceramic produced by the Etruscans to make vases. The integral black monochrome is the most striking feature of this type of pottery and the colouring is achieved by a special firing process.

Bucchero was used in Etruria from the mid-7th century B.C. to the first half of the 5th century B.C.

THE PHASES OF WORK

Once the object has been moulded, it moves on to the drying phase and is then finished with sandpaper. Once this process has been completed, we move on to burnishing, which consists of polishing the surface of the object by means of the pressure exerted by a stick of 'boxwood'. (other materials are also fine).

If the artefact is to be embellished with decorations, the surface is engraved with a steel point and the fine engravings are decorated using gold or platinum applied with a brush.

Once the decoration phase is also finished, we move on to firing. The object is immersed in charcoal and fired at a temperature above 700°C. It is now the oxygen-free combustion that saturates the carbon monoxide so that the object permanently and indelibly takes on its raven black colour. The noble metals, on the other hand, will regain their natural colour following the evaporation of the colouring mixture.



PROGRAM

DAY 01

21/06 | 7 hours | 9.00-17.00

Course presentation and brief introduction with historical and artistic background via powerpoint;
Work on semi-finished dry artefacts;
Preparation of containers with charcoal and subsequent firing;
Preparation of a second artefact from fresh clay, entirely designed and forged by the participants.
The pieces should be small so that they dry quickly and are ready for the next day;

DAY 02

22/06 | 7 hours | 9.00-16.00

The artefacts created by the trainees, after drying in an oven at up to 140 degrees, will be ready to be worked, splinted, smoothed and finally, fired;
Closing of the course with the opening of the first bake;
Visit to the host company.

INFORMATION

The end of the lessons may be subject to changes due to the course programme.

The courses are held in via pana 34/1, 48018 Faenza RA

Languages: Italian, English and French