



W I S H
Y O U
W E R E
H E R E

Art Nouvea – Art Renouveau

Workshops

Mobility in Slovenia - TLA
Ljubljana, 17-23 January 2017



Workshops (Mobility in Slovenia)

Contents

Architecture.....	3
Literature.....	4
Frames.....	5
Jewellery.....	6
Graphic design.....	7
Drawing art nouveau motifs.....	8
Fabrication of everyday objects	9
Microscopy	10
Living art – drawing with bacteria.....	13

Architecture

The aim of this workshop is to make students aware of elements of Art Nouveau architecture and to implement these elements in new structures, e.g. pavilions, with different materials.

Students are given photos of different Art Nouveau buildings in Ljubljana to study various Art Nouveau elements and used them as inspiration for their own creations. They are asked to design a pavilion (or any other structure) using different materials: thick cardboard, wire and thin foil, white modelling clay and wooden sticks.

Max Fabiani | Bamberg's house (1907)



Max Fabiani | Hribar's house (1907)



Friderich Sigmundt | Urbanč's house (1903)



Josip Vancaš | Grand hotel Union (1908)



Photos of buildings and different materials for models



Working with clay



Final objects

Literature

The aim of this workshop is to get to know literary works (e.g. poetry) from the Fin de Siecle period from different nations, discuss them, find common characteristics, translate them into English and their mother tongue. Literary works and their translations are compiled into a booklet with a cover created by students and presented on a literary reading.



Booklets of poetry



The literary reading

Frames

The aim of this workshop is to make students aware of elements of Art Nouveau and to implement these elements in frames with Art Nouveau style. Those frames are used for poems from literature workshop – but they can be used also for pictures, photos etc.

For these workshop we need: mass carton frame of different sizes, corrugated cardboard of different colours, scissors and glue. First we cut cardboard in 1 or 1,5 cm wide strips. We shape strips in different forms (inspired of Art Nouveau motifs) and stick them on mass carton.



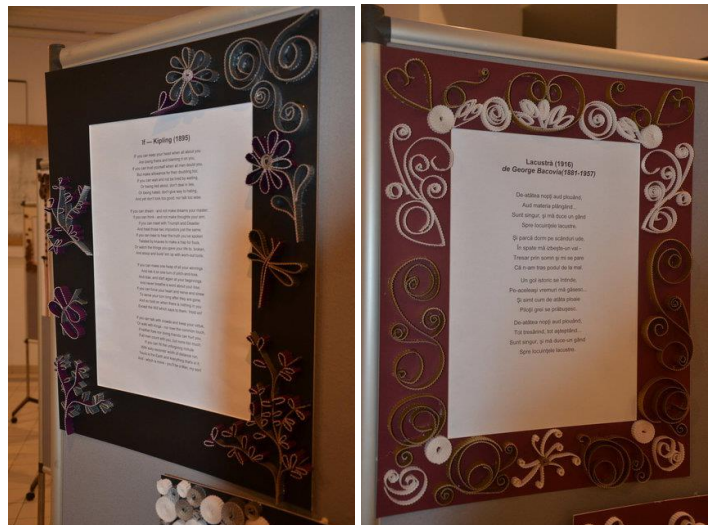
Preparing materials



Making frames



Final frame



Frames wit poems

Jewellery

The aim of this workshop is to make students aware of elements of Art Nouveau and to implement these elements in pieces of jewellery using modern materials, e.g. aluminium, wires of different sizes and colours and pearls.

Students work with tools enabling them to create wanted forms.



Creating different forms



Final products

Graphic design

The aim of this workshop was to recreate Art Nouveau motifs with modern technologies (graphic design). Students explore Art Nouveau motifs and implement them while creating their own designs using computers. The designs can be printed on t-shirts or cups or any other objects.

Students are asked to observe and collect interesting details and patterns from the secession era in city (during their city walk) - using photography and sketching, but they are also provided with printed materials (books and exhibition brochures concerning the era).

On the workshop each student pick one motif and transform it into a graphic pattern, using a computer.

We learn the basics of computer-aided graphic design, employing an open-source graphic design software Inkscape. Students construct the pattern, try out different color combinations (all in the "spirit" of secession era) and finally prepare their artwork for digital printing (we provide digital printing on mugs or t-shirts etc.).



Final objects: cups with Art Nouveau motifs

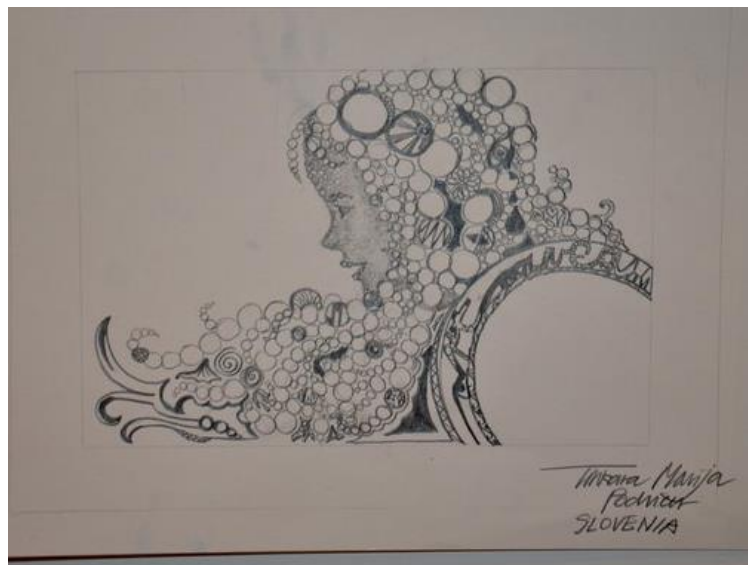
Drawing art nouveau motifs

The aim of this workshop is to learn the Art Nouveau style and manner and use it in your own creations.

Students study and discuss the style and manner first by analysing numerous drawings, pictures and posters from Art Nouveau period. Then they pick a modern picture, drawing or poster, copy it with expressive lines and then filling blank spaces with Art Nouveau ornaments. Black ink or felt pens are used for lines, water colours or coloured pencils for ornaments.



Presentation



Drawings

Fabrication of everyday objects

The aim of this workshop is to make students aware of elements of Art Nouveau and to implement these elements in pieces of everyday objects (for examples wallets, pencil cases, covers for mobile or glasses ...) using mock leather; we also need glue, scissors, marker pens, hole puncher, balls of thread of different colours and sewing needle.

First we cut out forms for different objects; we punch holes into mock leather – where we stick two sides together. Then we needle leather and after that decorate them: draw motifs with markers or stick on different little shapes from leather.



Cutting, sticking, drawing ...



Different objects: wallets, purses, pencil cases, covers for mobile ...

Microscopy

Because art is created by people, it always carries information about these people and the time they lived and created in. In their works, artists reflect the spirit of the time, be it on purpose or unknowingly.

The end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century brought about some drastic changes in the scientific world, that affected the whole of Europe. The most revolutionary was most certainly Charles Darwin's »theory of evolution«, which changed our understanding of life and caused many disputes in our society. Even after more than a hundred years, the dust has not settled on the debate concerning evolution. Apart from Darwin's contributions, we should also mention the discovery of radioactivity and the atom structure, great improvements in the field of microscopy, which lead to the discovery of microorganisms, and the emancipation of women in science (largely owing to Marie Curie).

In this workshop we are going to learn more about the effect the improvement of microscopy and microscopic techniques had on the artistic production in the beginning of the previous century.

Due to more advanced microscopes, scientists suddenly came in contact with the tiny, but at the same time incomprehensively vast, world of microorganisms. They researched and described the new found micro-world, and wrote about it in scientific papers. These papers sparked great interest in science among the general public. They were also a very welcome source of inspiration for the new generation of artists, who were no longer content with the prevailing academic style of the 19th century. Some artists became so invested in the new scientific discoveries that they even explored the micro-world on their own. In their creative minds, the forms observed under the microscope acquired new meanings and significance, which manifested itself in the form of a new style – Art Nouveau.

The popularity of the new style was very widespread. Decorative ornaments and motifs, inspired by the micro-world, could be found everywhere, from jewellery to furniture, from paintings to architecture. Architects modelled whole buildings on structural principles observed in plants and cells, and strived for harmony with nature on all levels.

The scientific world and the art world went hand in hand. Under the influence of the cultural movement of the age, many scientists often used very artistic means to convey their knowledge. They wished to show everyone how diverse and beautiful nature is, and how humans are only a tiny piece in the great, wondrous mosaic of life.

One of the most recognized biologists, not only of his time but also in general, was Ernst Heinrich Philipp August Haeckel. A very bright and open-minded man, he was not only active as an evolutionary and developmental zoologist, but also as a naturalist, philosopher, physician, professor and artist. He discovered, described and named thousands of new species, constructed a “tree of life”, a genealogical tree relating all life forms, and coined many terms used in biology today, like *anthropogeny* and *ecology*.

Haeckel is also the author of many works that portray the grandeur and diversity of life in a very artistic way. One book, *Kunstformen der Natur*, published in 1904, is especially marvellous in that respect. It reveals the beauty of natural forms, the art that is nature itself. The book is composed of a 100 full-page illustrations of different animals, from microscopic to more complex species, arranged in geometric, often symmetrical patterns and drawn anatomically correct and in great detail. The whole book can be found online.

In this workshop, you will become like the artists of the Art Nouveau. Your job will be not only to observe and copy what you see under the microscope, but to recognise different forms and motifs, use them to capture the essence of nature and convey your message about its beauty and its importance for the fast developing world of today.

MATERIALS

a microscope

various specimens on microscope slides

a protective lab coat

white paper

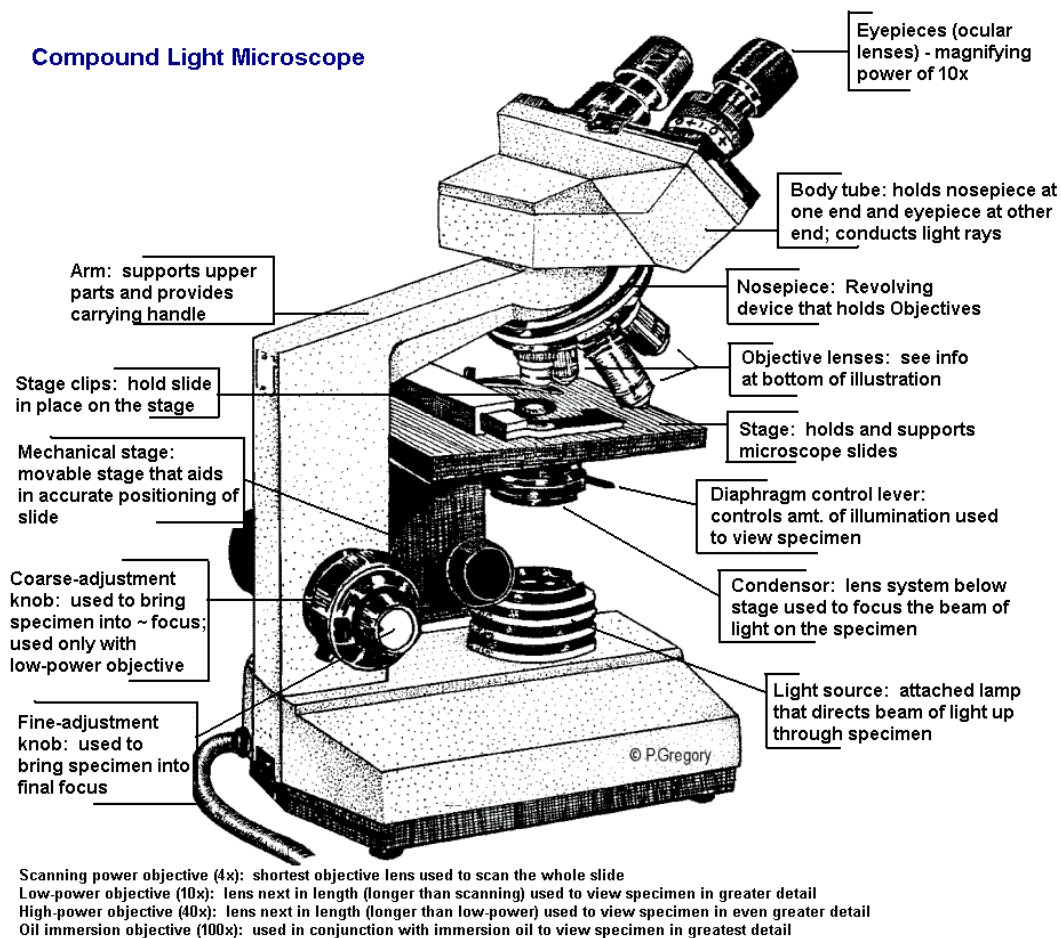
an HB pencil

METHODOLOGY

A microscope has been placed on the desk in front of you. Please, be very careful and wait for instructions before you handle it. You can consult the picture below to learn about the different parts of a microscope.

For your sketches, you can choose from a selection of different microscope slides with specimens or ask the supervisors to help you prepare a slide with a specimen of your interest.

Compound Light Microscope



Scheme and description of microscope parts



Introductions



Microscoping

Living art – drawing with bacteria

Art is not something static but it develops all the time. Many artists actually found their inspiration in nature and they still do! When Secession came in early 20-century nature really blossomed in every art piece that was created than. The reason for this rebirth can also be found in the ongoing scientific and technical progress and also fact that society went a step further to nature and also back at the same time when Enlightenment came in front again in renewed form!

However we believe that from then on these era still exist and now that science allows us to express with totally new materials for creating art works we can also put our point in totally new dimensions. For examples we can use living cells as our material for creating paintings that are actually alive!

There we would like to highlight a few things that are important in understanding the point of using this kind of material. Firstly bacteria, fungi and all other cells are really small. Therefore we cannot see them without magnification, unless there are a big amount of them. That allows us to create paintings that actually reveals to us in certain time of cultivating and nurturing of these little creatures. Secondly, these cells are alive and they grow and reproduce, so the painting changes its shape and image all the time. With this in mind, we just enable biological processes that develop painting all the time. And thirdly we can raise awareness of importance and diversity of bacteria, viruses, fungi, other tiny creatures and all natural processes that are going on constantly in nature and from whom we are very much dependent and even more determined!

A few examples of living art: (source: <http://www.demilked.com>)



1. Material:

- LB agar plates (basis)
- Different applicators of bacteria and other “paintings”
- Bunsen burner
- Different bacterial cultures
- Antibiotic (eraser)
- Food dies
- Protective gloves (latex or nitrile for those allergic on latex)
- Protective lab coat
- White basis for making sketch

2. Proceeding:

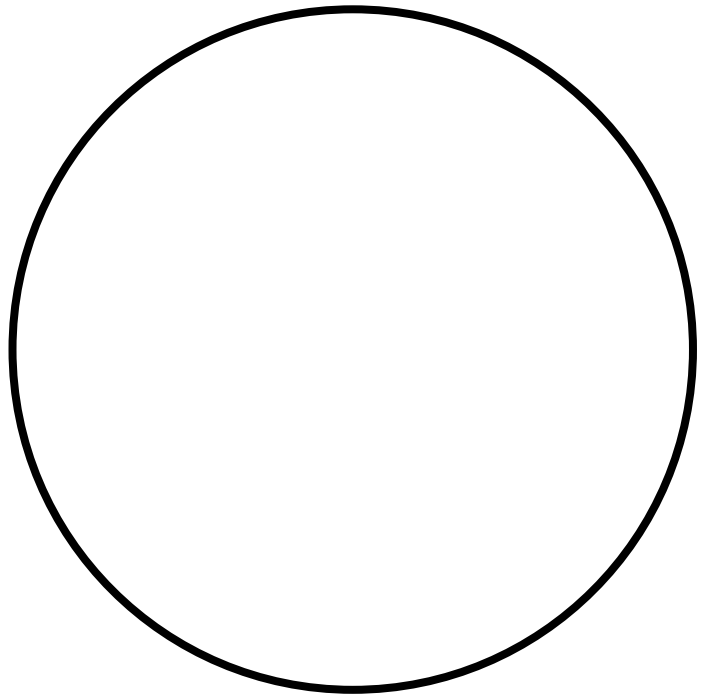
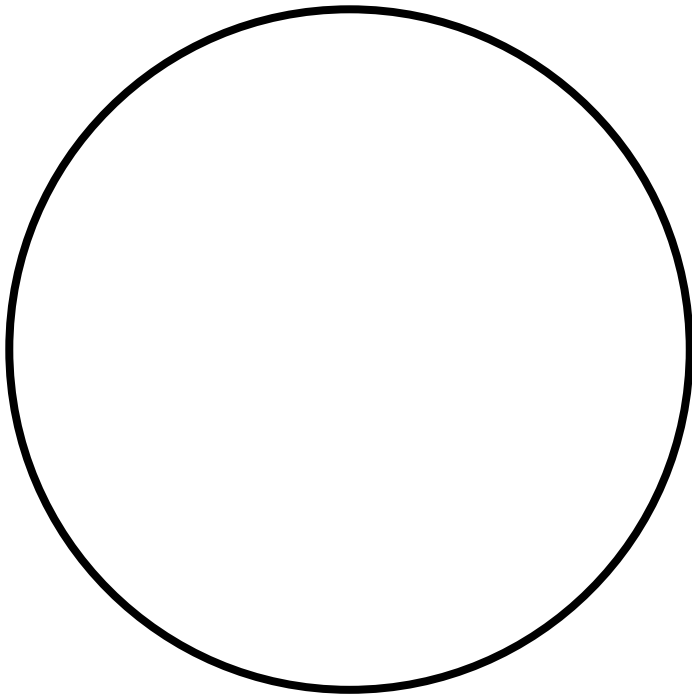
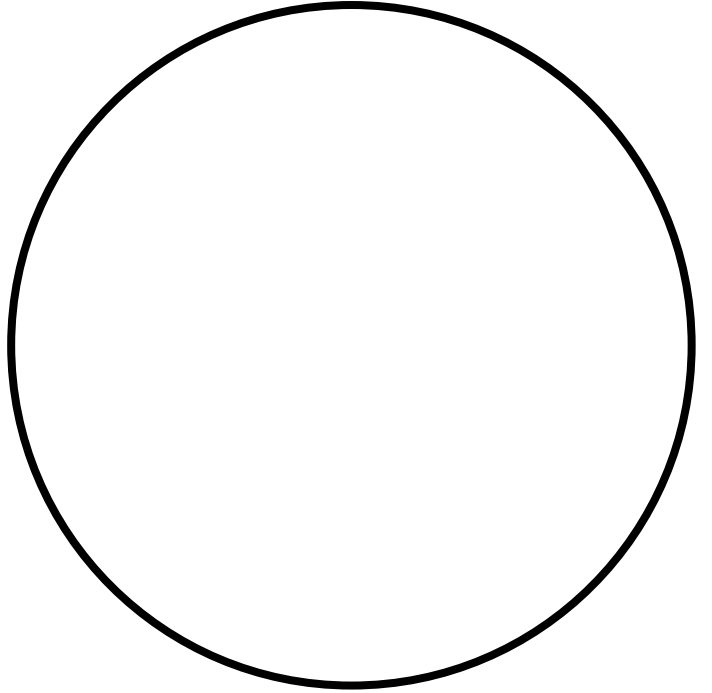
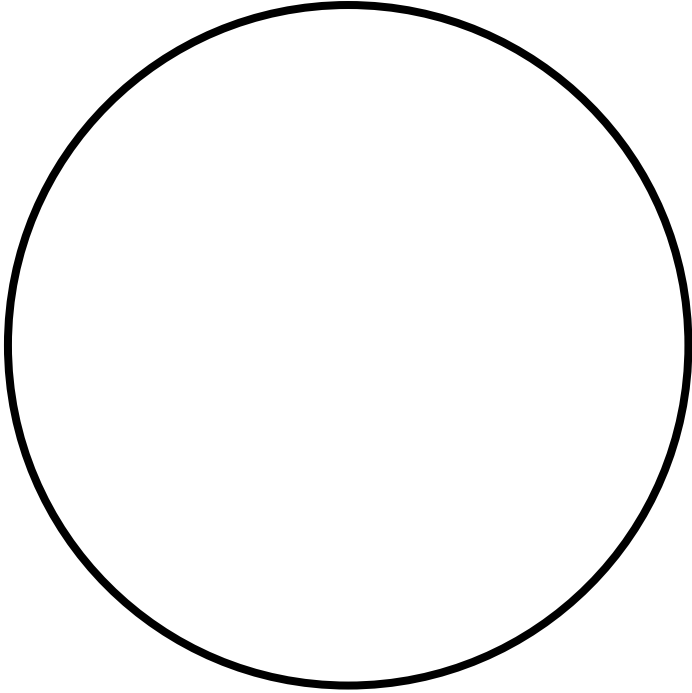
Bacteria are all over us and that is the reason why we must be extra careful and precise so that only desired “color” is at the place we want on LB agar plate. If we are careful enough or

burner is turned off other bacteria can come on our basis and we will have unwanted contaminations (stains on painting). Bacteria from environment can also be harmful for our health so please strictly follow the instructions and use protective materials all the time.

After you are aware of the instructions that will be given before workshop you can make some sketch. When you put protective gloves and lab coat on, the Bunsen burner can be light on. Than you can start painting and create your artwork.



Bacteria pictures



Places for sketches