



ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION TO THE VITTORE BRANCA INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ITALIAN CULTURE IN THE PERIOD JUNE 2010 – MAY 2011

What is the Vittore Branca Center?

Named after Vittore Branca, a world-renowned Italianist and historic Secretary General of Giorgio Cini Foundation, the International Center for the Study of Italian Culture is a new international resource for humanities studies and also the principal means of implementing a strategy to open up and make good use of the great store of art and intellectual treasures housed in the Giorgio Cini Foundation on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore in Venice.

The Vittore Branca Center also aims to provide a place of study and meeting for young researchers and expert scholars interested in furthering their knowledge in a field of Italian culture (especially the culture of the Veneto) – the visual arts, history, literature, music, drama – from an interdisciplinary point of view.

The Vittore Branca Center has been designed to create a new international, interdisciplinary academic community. The residential facilities on the Island provide scholars and researchers with the opportunity to work and stay at length in Venice at economically reasonable conditions in a setting conducive to reflection and intellectual exchanges.

Being a resident is an essential requisite for attending the Vittore Branca Center: only through the physical and emotional involvement of prolonged immersion in the context of San Giorgio Maggiore will it be possible to take full advantage of the countless opportunities offered. Moreover, only in this way will young researchers and expert scholars be able to enjoy the mutual benefits of working side by side.

Who can apply for admission?

Two main categories of researchers are eligible to attend the Vittore Branca Center:

- a) Postgraduate students (studying for a master's degree, doctorate or specialization) and Ph.D. graduates who wish to pursue research in a field of Italian culture (and its relations with other cultures): art (especially Veneto art), history (especially the history of Venetian state and society), literature, philosophy, music, drama. Students are expected to stay permanently in the Vittore Branca Center residence for a period in keeping with the aims of their research project (usually six months).
- b) Expert scholars – university lecturers, senior researchers, heads of research centers, writers or artists – wishing to study specific aspects of the Italian (and especially Veneto) cultural heritage in greater depth and who intend to stay permanently in the Vittore Branca Center residence for a period in keeping with the aims of their research project (usually around one month).

Facilities

The Vittore Branca International Center for the Study of Italian Culture offers the following facilities:

- a) The residence. Situated in the grounds of the Island, the residence can accommodate around 90 scholars in single and double rooms, also equipped for self-catering, with an Internet connection and shared laundry services. To encourage social life and exchanges of ideas, the residence has common spaces for use by all guests, such as the common room, music room and gym.
- b) Access to the Giorgio Cini Foundation's libraries and archives, specialized in the areas of art history, Venetian history, literature, music, dance and theatre, and to the literary, art, drama and music bequests housed in the Foundation. These collections document the activities of leading figures in Italian culture (to mention only a few: Sibilla Aleramo, Eleonora Duse, Giuseppe Fiocco, Rodolfo Pallucchini, Arrigo Boito, Alfredo Casella, Gian Francesco Malipiero, Aurel Milloss, Ottorino Respighi, Nino Rota, Diego Valeri and Antonio Vivaldi).
- c) Access to all the cultural events (courses, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, concerts, etc.) organized by the Giorgio Cini Foundation. Thus, for example, musicologists can attend seminars of historical studies, while art historians can sit in on seminars on early music: both have the opportunity to explore the broader cultural background to their own work. One of the major initiatives is the Vittore Branca Course on Italian Culture, specifically intended for residents at the Center. The course deals with the history of Italian civilization, exploring all the variety and complexity of its cultural and artistic expressions.
- d) Auxiliary services, such as:
 - a work station with access to Internet connection, printer, scanner, telephone-fax;
 - an international newspaper library;
 - film and music clubs on the residence premises;
 - advice and information about libraries and archives of the main Venetian institutions.

Young researchers at the Vittore Branca Center can also benefit from the presence of a tutor who will assist them in becoming familiar with the general set-up on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore and its documentary and artistic heritage. Tutors will also advise researchers on cultural events at the Giorgio Cini Foundation and in the city and will suggest which directors and collaborators in the Foundation's Institutes and Research Centers can help them with their research projects.

The individual daily rate for the period from June 2010 to May 2011 has been fixed at 30.00 euros for bed & continental breakfast and use of the above facilities. The cost of meals can be restrained by making use of the self-catering facilities in the residence and taking advantage of the specially agreed prices between the Giorgio Cini Foundation and eating facilities on and around the Island.

Admission: requirements and how to apply

Access to the Vittore Branca Center and all its facilities requires prior admission. Applications for admission must be drafted according to the appropriate form which can be downloaded from www.cini.it/centrobranca and, as of 30 September 2009, sent 60 days before the desired period of stay (for postgraduate students and Ph.D. graduates, however, the deadline is 15 October 2010) to:

Fondazione Giorgio Cini onlus
Segreteria del Centro Internazionale di Studi della Civiltà Italiana “Vittore Branca”
Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore – 30124 Venice (Italy)

Applications must be accompanied by:

- for postgraduate students, a description of their research projects in the form of an abstract (around 100 words) and a longer summary (around 1,500 words), including a reference to the relevance of the project to the specific field, the status of ongoing or completed research on the topic, the desired period of stay (initial and final dates) and a *curriculum vitae* of approximately 5 pages;
- for senior researchers, a description of their research project in an abstract of around 300 words and a *curriculum vitae* of approximately 5 pages, including a list of major publications;
- statement accepting the Vittore Branca Center Regulations.

Selection

Applications for admissions will be examined by a Panel, appointed by the Giorgio Cini Foundation, and selected, with no right to appeal, also on the basis of the quality of the proposed project and its relevance to the Foundation's cultural programs.

The results of the selection will be communicated within 30 days of receipt of the application.

Venice, 30 July 2009

Pasquale Gagliardi
Secretary General



SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ATTENDING THE VITTORE BRANCA INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ITALIAN CULTURE IN THE PERIOD JUNE 2010 – MAY 2011

FINAL DATE FOR APPLICATIONS 15 OCTOBER 2010

For the period from June 2010 to May 2011, twelve scholarships are available for students wishing to attend the Vittore Branca Center. Application for scholarships can be made by postgraduate students (studying for a master's degree, doctorate or specialisation) and Ph.D. graduates who are willing to pursue interdisciplinary academic projects in a field of Italian culture and its relations with other cultures in areas such as art (especially Veneto art), history (especially the history of Venetian state and society), literature, philosophy, music, drama, with reference to topics listed on the site www.cini.it/centrobranca. Candidates may also be awarded scholarships for research projects on other topics than those indicated but dealing with specific aspects of the historical, artistic and documentary heritage housed in the Giorgio Cini Foundation.

The overall scholarship amounts to 12,500.00 euros, awarded as specified in point 3 below.

The scholarship commits the recipient to attending the Vittore Branca Center for six consecutive months in the period from June 2010 to May 2011.

1. How to apply for a scholarship

As of 30 September 2009, scholarship candidates can fill in the appropriate form, downloadable at www.cini.it/centrobranca, and send it, complete with the required documentation and the Vittore Branca Center admission application form, by registered post or courier to:

Fondazione Giorgio Cini onlus
Segreteria del Centro Internazionale di Studi della Civiltà Italiana "Vittore Branca"
Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore – 30124 Venice (Italy)

Applications must arrive 60 days before the beginning of the desired period of stay (i.e. six consecutive months in the period from June 2010 to May 2011) and in any case before 15 October 2010, together with the following documentation:

- degree certificate(s) with marks for individual exams, or an equivalent or superior qualification;
- a copy of a degree dissertation or Ph.D. thesis and copies of any other academic works (electronic format also accepted);
- *curriculum vitae*, including language skills, and authorization to handle private data according to Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003;
- the research program the candidate intends to pursue, specifying aims, schedule, materials and documents to be consulted at the Giorgio Cini Foundation;
- three reference letters from professors and scholars who supervise or have supervised the candidate;
- list of other institutions to which the candidate has applied or intends to apply for a scholarship with similar starting dates.

Each application will be examined individually by a Panel, appointed by the Giorgio Cini Foundation. Applications will only be taken into consideration if all the required conditions are fully met. Documentation will be returned only on request and at the candidate's expense.

Candidates considered to be suitable on the grounds of their qualifications, which they must possess at the application date, may be invited for an interview with the Panel or asked to supply further information. The scholarships will be assigned by the Panel, with no right to appeal, on the basis of qualifications, proposed research project and possible interview or supplementary information. The results of the evaluation will be communicated within 30 days of receipt of each individual application or of a possible interview or receipt of supplementary information.

2. Obligations for scholarship holders

For the scholarship to be awarded, holders are expected to:

- stay in the Vittore Branca Center residence for the established six-month period (between June 2010 and May 2011). Trips for research, interviews, conferences (either as a speaker or auditor) or other commitments must not take up more than 30 days during the semester of the scholarship; anyone infringing this regulation will lose their scholarship and the right to attend the Vittore Branca Center;
 - take part in the cultural activities (courses and seminars, conferences, exhibitions, concerts, etc.) organised by the Giorgio Cini Foundation during the scholarship period;
 - present their research project to the community of scholars and researchers attending the Vittore Branca Center during the scholarship period;
 - submit to their tutor/supervisor a written report on the status of their researches every two months;
 - mention the scholarship, using the exact wording, in their *curriculum vitae* and in any publications associated with their research at the Vittore Branca Center.
- Attendance at the Vittore Branca Course on Italian Culture in the Giorgio Cini Foundation is compulsory for scholarship holders.

3. Payment method

The scholarship will be awarded as follows: accommodation and continental breakfast will be provided directly by the Giorgio Cini Foundation for a total of 5,400.00 euros; the remaining 7,100.00 euros – intended to help cover general expenses, travel and main meals – will be paid in two equal installments at the end of two three-month periods and only by bank or postal order.

Venice, 30 July 2009

Pasquale Gagliardi
Secretary General