

THE ART OF NATURAL PLASTERS

Basecoat Plasters and Decorative Finishes
in raw earth and COCCIOPESTO


conducted by Isabella Breda
with Federico García Martínez



ATELIER
aperto

into
nature

15-20
SEPTEMBER
2025
SARDINIA



ATELIER APERTO is an opportunity aimed at those who already have basic knowledge of raw earth as a material and who wish to deepen their experience by exploring topics related to earth-based plasters, decorative executions, and the use of lime and cocchiopesto.

It is an invitation for those who have contacted me about internship opportunities — a way to share and create a working group dedicated to making something both functional and beautiful, free from the strict rules that other types of construction sites usually require.

An opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences from our different worlds, to get to know each other, and perhaps collaborate in the future.

The context that will host us is a place I have seen grow and transform, as I have contributed to the making of some of its parts, such as the interior plasters of a house.

As the work progressed, I had the chance to immerse myself in the transformations of this landscape and nourish the inner voice that always leads me to seek dialogue with nature in the many aspects of life, observing and feeling more closely how the elements of nature reveal themselves, learning to recognize plants whose names I did not know, all accompanied by the sunlight of the changing seasons.

These elements, combined with the type of project and setting, the fact that we will be outdoors and in nature, make up a formula that, in my opinion, fosters discovery, research and creativity, drawing richness from the simplicity that surrounds us.



where

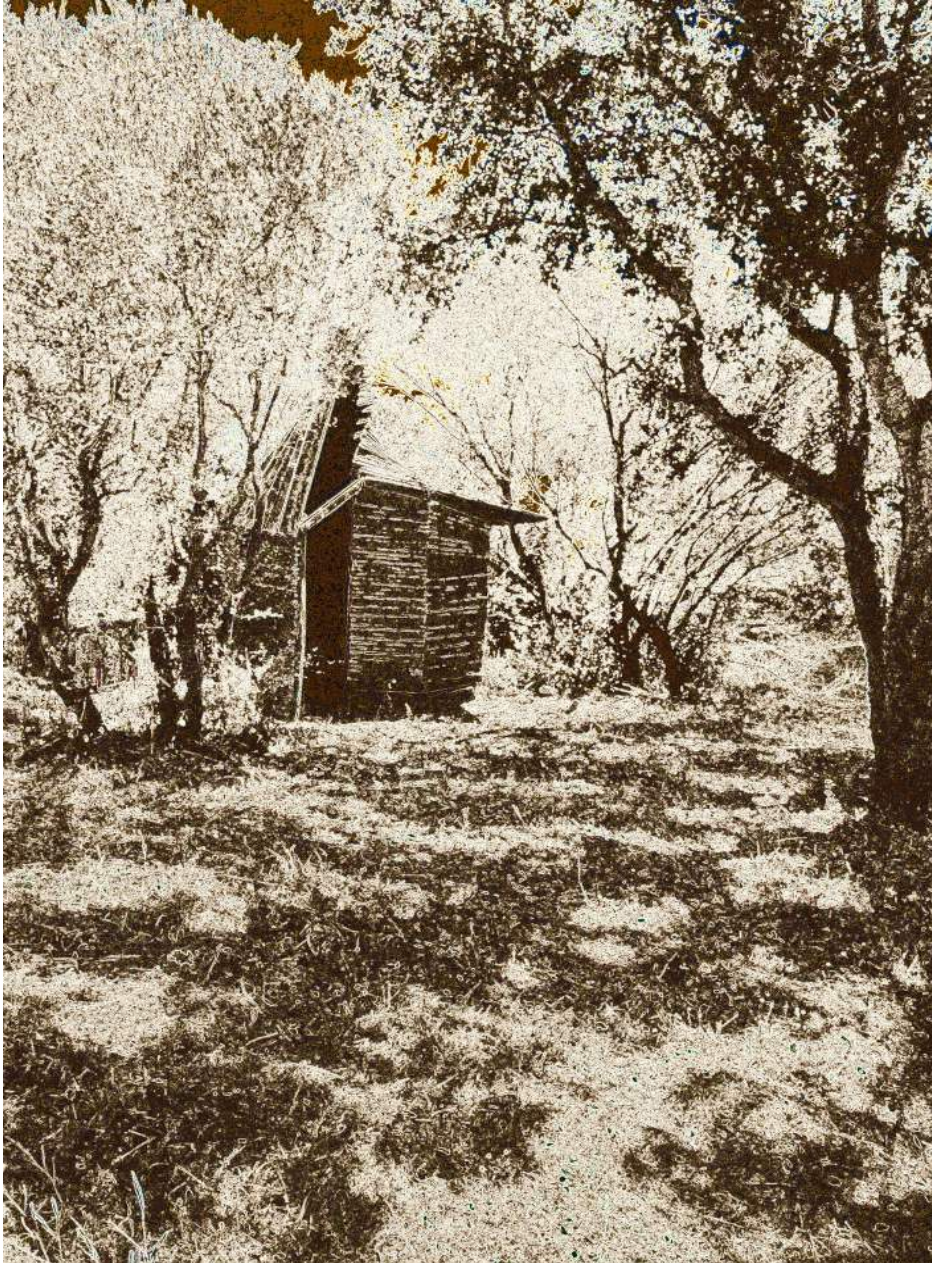
Glamping Bioloco – <https://bioloco.com/>

Bioloco is located on the southeastern coast of Sardinia, 40 minutes from Cagliari.

It's a place where you can stay in spacious tents completely immersed in nature, surrounded by centuries-old olive groves. The site produces olive oil, essential oils, medicinal herbs, fruit, and honey.

More information is available on the website.





PROJECT

to give new value to an existing structure used as a shower by renovating and restoring some of its parts, made of reeds and raw earth, and enriching selected areas through decorative interventions of the earthen plasters.





Program

Diagnosis of the existing structure
Selection, cleaning, and
integration of elements to be
reused

Landscape study and sourcing of
local materials: soils, fibers,
plants, etc.

Earth analysis and development of
the plaster stratigraphy

Testing to obtain suitable mixtures
according to the required
layering, using earth, sand, and
fibers

Chromatic study and creation of a
color palette starting from the
natural tones of the earth;
selection of ingredients to
formulate the plaster mixtures

Selection and study of the
decorative technique; creation
of samples

Design of the composition and
exploration of forms and
motifs to be applied to
specific areas of the structure

Experimentation with mixtures
stabilized using prickly pear
mucilage (*Opuntia ficus-
indica*) as a natural binder

Preparation of the stratified lime
and cocciopesto finish for the
interior of the shower

Application of the different
plaster layers and execution
of decorative elements

Creation of a visual journal or
carnet with sketches, notes,
and observations

The program will follow clear objectives but is intended to remain flexible, allowing space to evaluate each intervention during the process, and to integrate possible technical, aesthetic, or conceptual improvements along the way.

ATELIER apERTO





COORDINATION

The technical and operational coordination of the work will be carried out by architect-artist **Isabella Breda**, with the support of engineer-architect **Federico García Martínez**.

SCHEDULE AND DATES

One-week workshop: Monday, September 15 to Saturday, September 20, 2025

Atelier hours: Monday – Friday :

7:45 am – 12:45 pm / 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Saturday hours : 7:45 am – 12:45 pm

(Schedule may vary depending on the progress of the work and weather conditions.)

In the evenings, there will be opportunities to integrate and introduce complementary activities such as small ateliers, presentations, films, yoga, dance, readings, sea baths, etc. I'm open to sharing your skills and welcoming your proposals.

LANGUAGE

The working language will be decided based on the participants' backgrounds, choosing the most common among Italian, English, and French.



COST

1. Atelier Participation

Contribution for participation, materials, and tools:
520 €

2. Accommodation

For this occasion, Bioloco offers the possibility to stay in tents set up on site and to use shared facilities (bathrooms, showers, kitchen) at a reduced rate of 30 euros per night.

For organizational reasons, we kindly ask you to arrive on Sunday the 14th.

7 nights = total of 210 €

3. Meals

For meals, I suggest we take turns cooking and cleaning up. We'll source local products (shared grocery expenses, with the costs to be defined) based on a vegetarian diet including dried fruits, fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables, and grains such as white and brown rice, chickpeas, farro, barley, etc. Once the group is formed, we'll create a detailed list together.

REGISTRATION, TERM, CONDITIONS

MAXIMUM 10 PARTICIPANTS

To apply, please send a letter of motivation including a brief description of your background and training, as well as your basic knowledge of the material and plaster techniques.

To confirm your registration, we kindly ask for a bank transfer of €520, corresponding to the atelier participation fee, to be made by August 20, 2025 to:

ISABELLA BREDA

IBAN : IT93 0058 5661 9201 0357 1270 132

BIC : BPAAIT2B103

Please send proof of payment to the email addresses of both coordinators. Only full payment of the atelier fee guarantees your spot.

Accommodation costs and shared food expenses will be settled upon arrival.

In all communications, please include both coordinators in CC and specify in the subject line:

“Atelier Aperto – Sardegna”

Contacts

Isabella

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Federico

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+33 6 44 76 01 11

Cancellation Policy

If a participant is unable to attend the atelier due to unavoidable circumstances, and withdrawal is communicated at least 15 days before the start date, 80% of the fee will be refunded.

After that date, no refunds can be made due to organizational and management costs.