



**ANNOUNCEMENT OF A RESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP
FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDYING AT THE VITTORE BRANCA
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ITALIAN CULTURE**

PERIOD OF RESIDENCE: SEPTEMBER 2016 – SEPTEMBER 2017

Application deadline: 30 June 2016

ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES

The Fondazione Giorgio Cini, thanks to a generous contribution by Avv. Favaretto Rubelli, has created **one 6 month residential scholarship** to enable a **PhD student** or a **post-doctorate scholar** younger than 35 to join the Vittore Branca International Center for the Study of Italian Culture for a **research on 17th and 18th century-Venice art of weaving**.

The scholarship is for the completion of a study on the art of weaving in Venice, especially in the 17th and 18th centuries, and preferably focused on the process, from the silkworm to dyeing and cloth production and marketing. Research projects on the following subjects will also be considered: the labour force, production areas in Venice, users of luxury textiles, supply and demand of furnishings, changes in taste, and stylistic and technical innovations.

ALESSANDRO FAVARETTO RUBELLI

Born in Venice in 1931, Alessandro Favaretto Rubelli comes from a family which on his mother's side had traditionally worked in the Venetian textile industry since the 17th century.

In 1889 his grandfather, Lorenzo Rubelli, acquired a centuries-old company already producing textiles and passementerie for civil and ecclesiastical furnishings. Some of his other forebears, moreover, were involved in the dyeing business, again in Venice.

Having graduated in law from the University of Padua, Alessandro Favaretto Rubelli joined the family company in 1955 and soon became managing director and subsequently chairman, a position he still holds today as he continues to develop the company aided by his children.

The most important companies acquired by Rubelli include Lisio, Florence, Bises Novità, Rome, Dominique Kieffer, Paris and, in 2005, Donghia Inc., New York, with its twelve showrooms in major American cities.



In 2000 the President of the Italian Republic awarded Alessandro Favaretto Rubelli the honorary title of Cavaliere del Lavoro.

Rubelli has been involved in many cultural activities. They include regular collaboration with the Guggenheim Collection, the Fondazione Querini Stampalia and the Fondazione Giorgio Cini; the restoration of the doge's apartments and other rooms in the Palazzo Ducale; the restoration of the textiles in the Teatro La Fenice, Venice; participation in the restoration of textiles in the Teatro La Scala, Milan, the Teatro San Carlo, Naples, the Albertina Museum, Vienna and in other theatres; and the organisation of exhibitions in Italy and abroad on the relations between textiles and the visual arts.

TYPE OF SCHOLARSHIP

The six-month residential scholarship is divided as follows:

- a gross sum¹ of **6,200 euros** as a contribution to general expenses, travel and board, paid in two equal installments at the end of each three-month period by bank or postal order only;
- **Accommodation free of charge** (equivalent to a conventional cost of 6,300 euros) for **six consecutive months** in the Vittore Branca Center Residence on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore and free use of the Vittore Branca Center facilities.

WHAT THE VITTORE BRANCA CENTER HAS TO OFFER

The Vittore Branca International Center for the Study of Italian Culture offers the opportunity for **interdisciplinary exchanges with fellow scholars** attending the Center as well as with the academic community at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini.

Facilities and benefits include:

- a) **The Libraries and Photo Library** in the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, specialized in art history, Venetian history, literature, music, dance, drama and early printed books. The libraries are equipped with wi-fi. Vittore Branca Center scholars can enjoy extended opening hours on weekdays, advice by specialists and the possibility of borrowing books.

¹ Article 50, clause 1, letter c) of the *Testo Unico delle Imposte sui Redditi* includes among incomes considered to be similar to those of employed labor "sums paid by anyone in the form of a scholarship, check, prize or subsidy for the purposes of study or professional training, if the beneficiary is not bound by relations of regular employment to the provider of funds" (tax law in force as of 31.07.2010). The net sum paid will thus vary according to the overall tax situation of the recipient of the payment.



- b) **Cultural events** (seminars, conferences, exhibitions, concerts, etc.) organized by the Fondazione Giorgio Cini. Residents thus have the opportunity to explore the broader background to their own work.
- c) **The Residence** - situated in the grounds of the Island, the Residence can accommodate around 90 scholars in self-catering mini-apartments with a telephone, cable connection to Internet (residents need to bring their own ethernet cable) and shared laundry services. Kitchen facilities enable residents to economize on food expenses. The Residence also has reception, surveillance and cleaning services plus a laundromat and food dispensers. To encourage social life and exchanges of ideas, there are a number of shared spaces for use by all guests: the living room, music room, fitness area and terrace.
- d) **Tutors** to assist scholarship holders in becoming familiar with the island and its documentary and artistic heritage as well as offering guidance about the cultural offering of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini and the city of Venice in general.
- e) **Other services**, such as:
- a work station with wi-fi in the Nuova Manica Lunga, the Fondazione's main documentary center;
 - an international newspaper library, available in the Residence living room;
 - social initiatives specifically aimed at residents;
 - guidance on the Venetian heritage and on how to use libraries and archives in the city of Venice.



OBLIGATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

To receive payment and to continue enjoying the benefits of the scholarship at the Vittore Branca Center, scholarship holders are required to:

- **stay in the Vittore Branca Center Residence for six consecutive months** in the chosen period (September 2016 – September 2017). Trips for research purposes, attending conferences or work commitments related to the research project at the Vittore Branca Center must be documented in writing in advance and will not be added to the days of absence for personal reasons. Days of absence for personal reasons must not add up to more than 30 working days. Absences are counted from Monday to Saturday; Sundays are excluded.
- **present their research project to the academic and professional community** at the Fondazione and to scholars and researchers at the Vittore Branca Center during the scholarship period;
- **report regularly to their academic tutor** on research work in progress and submit a three-monthly written report of 10 pages on the status of their research project;
- **mention the scholarship**, using the exact wording, in their curriculum vitae and in any publications associated with their research at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini Institute of Art History.

HOW TO APPLY AND SELECTION

Candidates shall send their **scholarship application in hard copy**, complete with the required documents (see below), by registered post or courier to:

Fondazione Giorgio Cini onlus
Secretariat - Vittore Branca Center
Island of San Giorgio Maggiore
30124 Venice
Italy

Applications must be sent by June 30, 2016.



Applications shall include the following documents:

- **application form** – downloadable from: www.cini.it/en/vittore-branca-center - printed document;
- **degree certificate(s)** with marks for individual exams, or an equivalent or superior qualification – printed documents;
- **a copy of a degree dissertation** (for PhD students) or doctorate thesis (for post-doctorate researchers) and copies of any other relevant academic works – stored on CD ROM or DVD;
- **curriculum vitae**, including knowledge of languages, and authorization to handle private data according to Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003 – printed documents;
- **description of the research topic** (around 1,500 words) proposed by the candidate, specifying aims, time scale, and materials and documents to be consulted at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini – printed document;
- **three reference letters** from professors and scholars who supervise or have supervised the candidate (N.B. the letters must be originals printed on headed notepaper of the relevant university or institution).

Candidates considered to be suitable on the grounds of the documents presented will be invited for an interview in Italian or English by telephone or video-link with one or more directors of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini and may be asked to provide supplementary information.

The scholarships will be awarded by the Fondazione Giorgio Cini with no right of appeal. Both positive and negative **results of the assessment** of the scholarship applications will be communicated by **the end of July 2016**.

The Fondazione Giorgio Cini will not return any of the documents received. Any candidates wishing to have their documents returned shall arrange a courier at their own expense.

Pasquale Gagliardi
Secretary General

Venice, 22 April 2016