

Orenzio Santi

moderator

Orenzio Santi Giuseppe was born on August 2, 1957 in Lisbon, the son of Italian parents, both artists and art restorers. Since he was young he had a multicultural and multilingual education and contact with the technical and artistic activities developed by their parents.

In 1975, he is back to Portugal after completing his secondary education in France and is interested in the construction of looms starting the recovering of traditional Portuguese looms acquired by people who frequented the textile studio of his mother Gisella Santi. In addition he initiates a manual weaving activity: develops small collections of fabrics, participates in textile exhibitions and starts projecting looms and accessories. Among these looms some would equip the schools of the country.

From 1979 to 1988 Orenzio Santi is a workshop and textile design teacher at the High School Antonio Arroio, in Lisbon, where, in collaboration with equipment department, builds looms for the textile workshops in the school.

He founds PORTEAR - Textile Equipment Manual Workshop, developing projects of construction of tapestry and weaving looms, spinning wheels and textiles accessories, in order to connect tradition and innovation, improve the technical capacity of textile machinery and increase the work quality of handmade textiles and textile art. He contributes and participates in technical support -building looms and structures - for development of projects in the workshop of his mother. He is invited to develop diverse courses related to weaving co-funded by Institute of Employment and Vocational Training and teach in textile field in several professional training schools. In 2009 he returns to Antonio Arroio High School where he teaches textile technology in the Artistic Production Course.