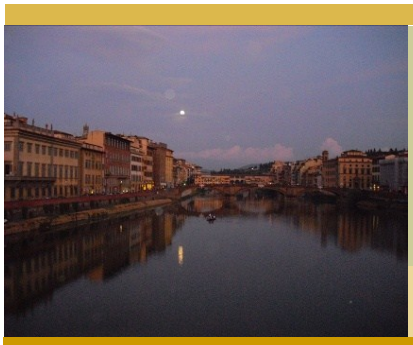


Dog Days

December 2012

Beyond the Yalla Dog Ltd

Inside this issue:

* Paper Marbling
* Tours of the Anglo - American Gardens of Florence and England April ,May & October
* Painting workshops October 2012
* Cookery classes—London and Florence
* 2013 plans and contact details
* The Art of Writing 2013

A Good Year—with friends old and new in Florence and London



A Tuscan Christmas comes to Stockwell—cooked with Passion

Lisa Banchieri has come over to London twice in 2012—in early September for a few late summer lessons and the first week in December to show us how to make a real Florentine Christmas Eve dinner and a full Tuscan Christmas lunch—Christmas Eve being a Religious Festival Day , fish has to be on the menu—so we had a delicious Sea Bream al Isolana—after Crostini Toscani, Ravioli made with freshly made Red and Green pasta—and followed up with a chocolate cake filled with molten chocolate! Lunch was Aubergine Crostone, Asparagus lasagne, roasted chickens stuffed with a fresh mix of sage, Tuscan sausage and mortadella , and an apricot pie—feeling hungry yet?

Lisa has promised to return to London in Spring 2013



Our visit to Gertrude Jeykll's Munstead Wood and Upton Grey wasn't exactly bathed in Tuscan sunshine but we had English winter rays to to cheer us despite the cold





Anglo- American Gardens of Florence extended to various old Italian Gardens in Lucca and Siena and even in the UK this year—Dr Katie Campbell (shown above) proved herself equally knowledgeable about gardens owned by Gertrude Jeykll ,Napoleon's sister and part of a grand design by Pope Pius I

Ever popular – Katie doesn't only talk about garden design but the social history and sometimes peculiar passions of the owners—Un-missable .

Next visits begin in May 2013

We also held monthly cookery lessons in Da Pinocchio Restaurant in Florence—so thanks also to Paulo for letting us use his facilities and his team for bearing with our strange requests!

Paper Marbling –favourite quote "the highlight of my holiday"



I have to thank ex-colleague and friend Simon Hollowood for suggesting that Florentine Paper marbling might be a good activity to add to our list . it is such a simple and enjoyable way to take home an unique souvenir of Florence—and learn something new in the process. What could be nicer than to give a care fully thought out present ,wrapped with Italian style and flare, in paper that you have made yourself?—if you can bear to part with it that is!

Anything goes in paper marbling and these two sisters shown with Riccardo in these two pictures certainly made striking and original designs



L'Ultima Cena

This year has been my year for study—many of my Blogs have been about the various Last Suppers on display in Florence—I even have those that I have seen in chronological order in http://www.beyondtheyalladog.com/2012/06/chronology-of-last-suppers/





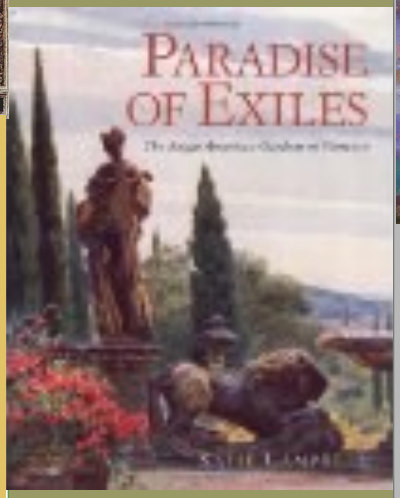
Plans for 2013

May

Paradise of Exiles - Anglo-American gardens of Florence

Garden tours with author

Katie Campbell



April

Watercolour portrait workshop with UK portrait painter

Glynis Barnes Mellish



Victor and Susan have kindly offered to let us use their wonderful home at Casa Guidi for a second time—we hope to have learnt to paint a good picture of him by the end this course

If the weather is good we may also do a day in the City –from Piazale Michelangelo

9-15 June

The Art of Writing

A writers retreat in the lovely mountains of Casentino - also known as the "Toscana Nascosta" - Hidden Tuscany

If you need help to focus on your writing join our writers workshop led by local Author

Lisa Clifford



John Hawkwood –one of the most despicable boys ever to come out of Essex –and yet he is lauded as a hero on the walls of Florence's Duomo—one of my challenges this year has been to find out why? And Blog about him !

I must thank Frances Stoner Saunders for inspiration and fascinating information

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