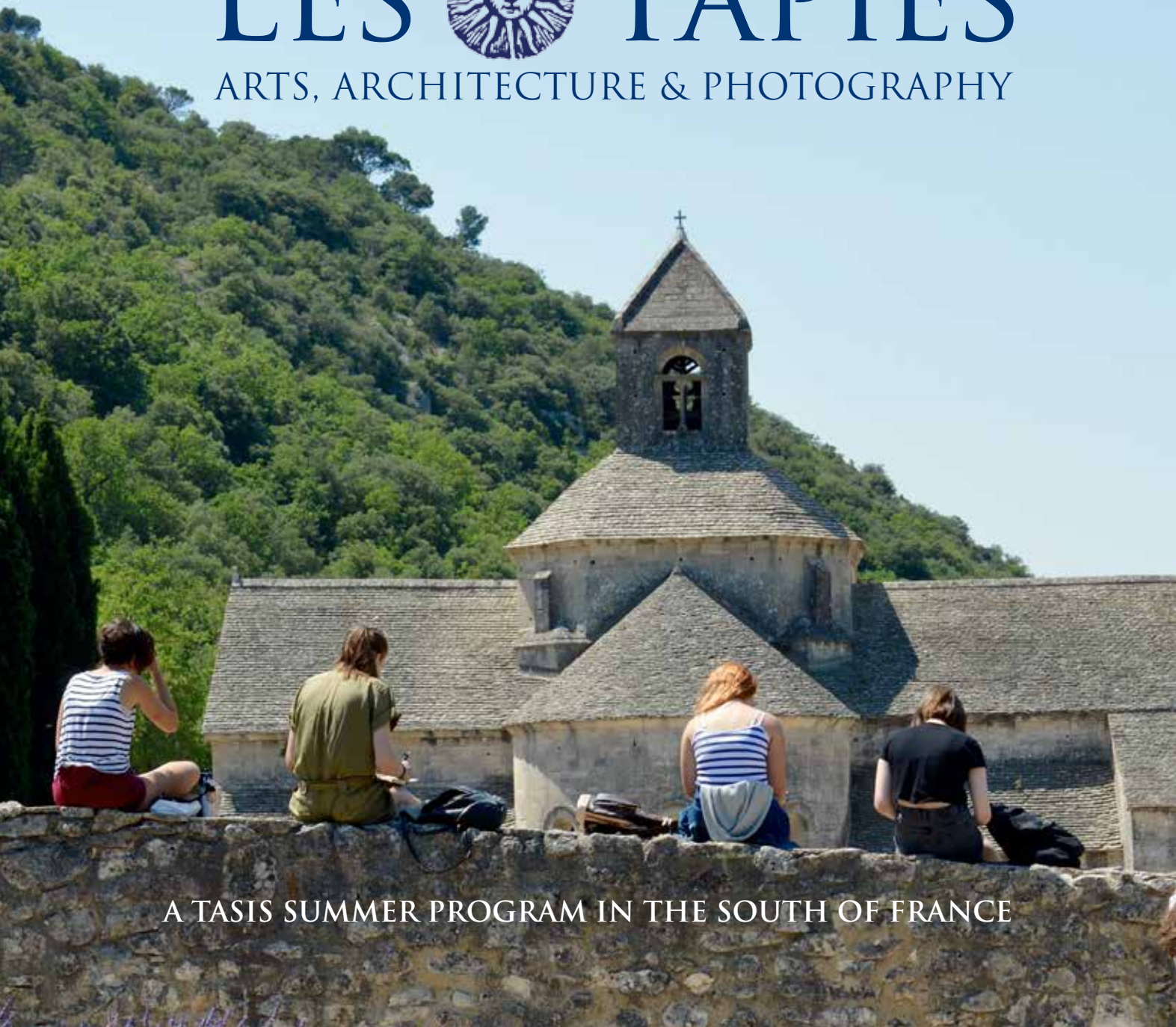


LES TAPIES

ARTS, ARCHITECTURE & PHOTOGRAPHY



A TASIS SUMMER PROGRAM IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

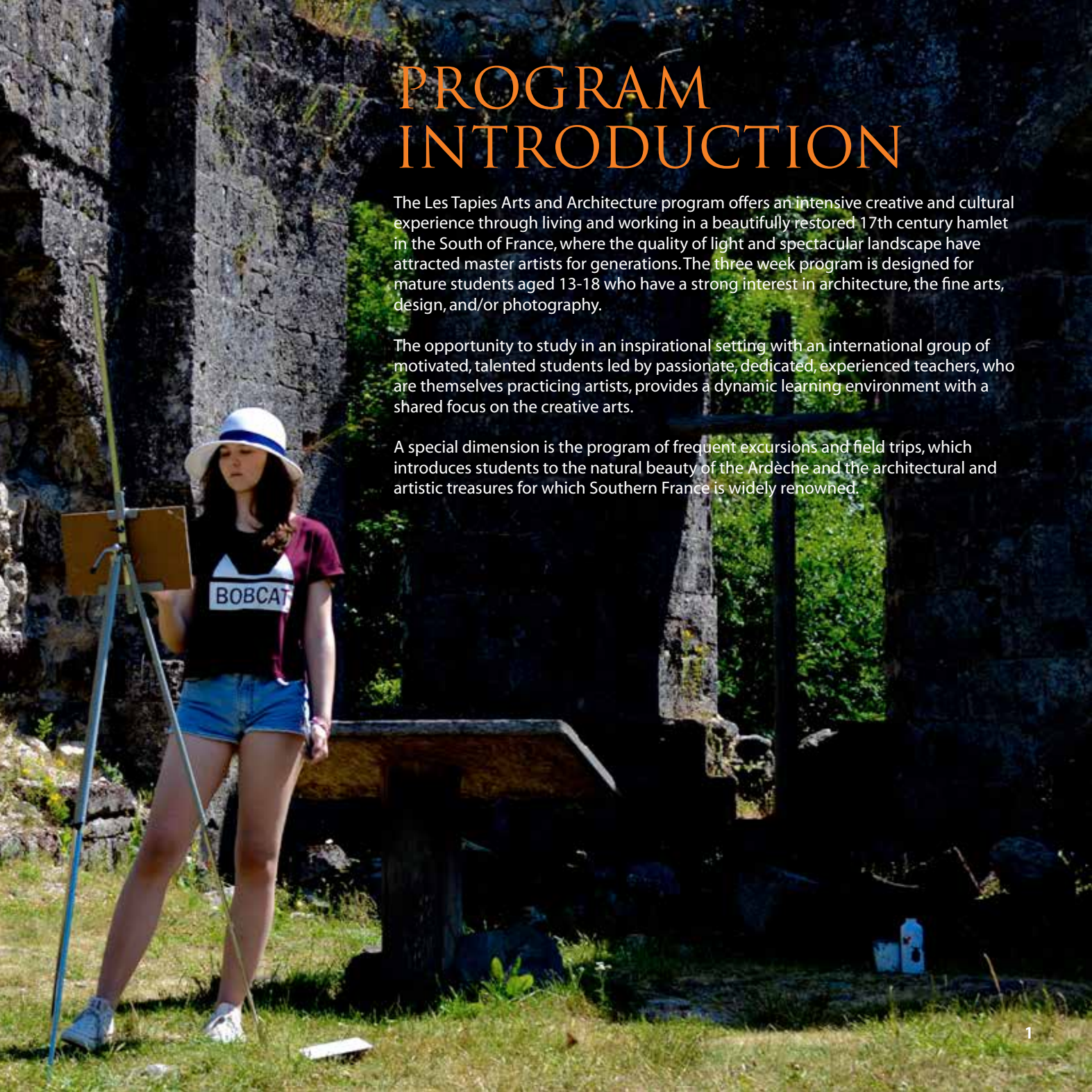


PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

The Les Tapies Arts and Architecture program offers an intensive creative and cultural experience through living and working in a beautifully restored 17th century hamlet in the South of France, where the quality of light and spectacular landscape have attracted master artists for generations. The three week program is designed for mature students aged 13-18 who have a strong interest in architecture, the fine arts, design, and/or photography.

The opportunity to study in an inspirational setting with an international group of motivated, talented students led by passionate, dedicated, experienced teachers, who are themselves practicing artists, provides a dynamic learning environment with a shared focus on the creative arts.

A special dimension is the program of frequent excursions and field trips, which introduces students to the natural beauty of the Ardèche and the architectural and artistic treasures for which Southern France is widely renowned.



MAJOR COURSES

Architecture

A major goal of the Architecture course is to introduce students to the design process and to develop skills which enable them to convert creative ideas into functional buildings which integrate sensitively with the environment. Through architectural drawings, watercolors, models, and oral presentations, students learn to communicate their designs to a prospective client. The opportunity to draw on existing sites with real buildings rather than conceptual ones is a significant strength of the course.

The restoration project requires students to document and redesign an existing building for conversion into a family country residence. New build projects in the past have included designing a holiday home, an art gallery, an artist's studio, and a community center to integrate harmoniously with the existing buildings in the hamlet. Students gain a real-life, hands-on design experience which involves all aspects of the architectural process of a professional studio.



Electives

Students choose an elective from such options as Drawing/Painting, Photography, and Design & Build, which involves restoration and landscaping projects in the hamlet while developing building skills and expertise. Students also maintain a journal to record their observations, and exhibitions at the end of the program provide an ideal opportunity to display student work and develop presentation skills.

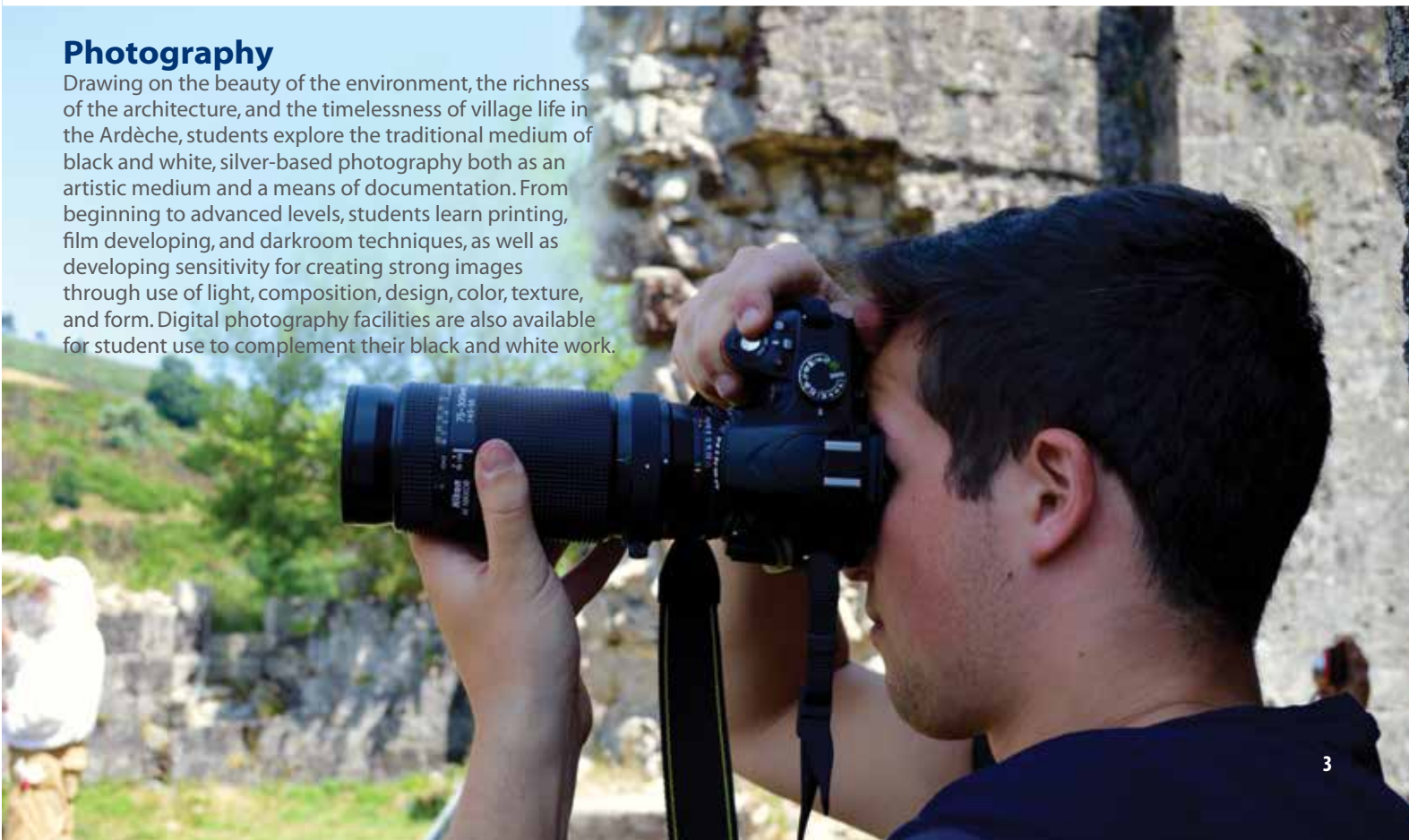


Drawing, Painting & Printmaking

The primary emphasis in this course is on-site work in drawing, painting, and printmaking. Students work, as often as possible, outside in the landscape from direct observation, exploring traditional and contemporary approaches to plein air drawing and painting in watercolor, gouache, and oil. Working directly on zinc, copper, and plexiglass plates, students have the opportunity to make drypoint prints and color monotypes on a portable etching press. In addition to the hamlet of Les Tapiés itself, the architecturally stunning village of nearby St. Pierreville and other nearby hillside villages become an important motif for student studies.

Photography

Drawing on the beauty of the environment, the richness of the architecture, and the timelessness of village life in the Ardèche, students explore the traditional medium of black and white, silver-based photography both as an artistic medium and a means of documentation. From beginning to advanced levels, students learn printing, film developing, and darkroom techniques, as well as developing sensitivity for creating strong images through use of light, composition, design, color, texture, and form. Digital photography facilities are also available for student use to complement their black and white work.



DAILY SCHEDULE*

8.00 — 9.00	Breakfast
9.00 — 1.00	Major Course
1.00 — 2.00	Lunch
2.00 — 3.00	Free Time/Open Studios
3.00 — 6.00	Electives (3 days per week, alternating with major courses)
6.00 — 7.30	Work on Journal/Free Time/Open Studios
7.30 — 8.30	Dinner
8.30 — 10.30	Presentations, Films, etc.
10.30 — 11.30	Free Time
11.30	Lights Out

**Typical Monday to Friday class day. Saturdays are normally full-day excursions. Sundays are free days for visits to St. Pierreville market, mountain hikes, swimming in the Eyrieux river, and other recreational activities. Schedule is subject to change.*

FACULTY



Fernando Gonzalez earned a B.A. in Visual Studies from Harvard University and studied architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. He taught photography, art, and architecture at Phillips Academy and at The American School in Switzerland (TASIS), where he served as Chairman of the Art Department. He has been Administrative Director of the TASIS Schools and Summer Programs in Europe and has directed summer programs and led student trips throughout Europe for the past 40 years. He has overseen TASIS campus development projects in England, Switzerland, France, and Greece, and in 2002 co-founded the TASIS School in Puerto Rico. His love of vernacular architecture has led to his restoration of Les Tapiés over the past 40 years.

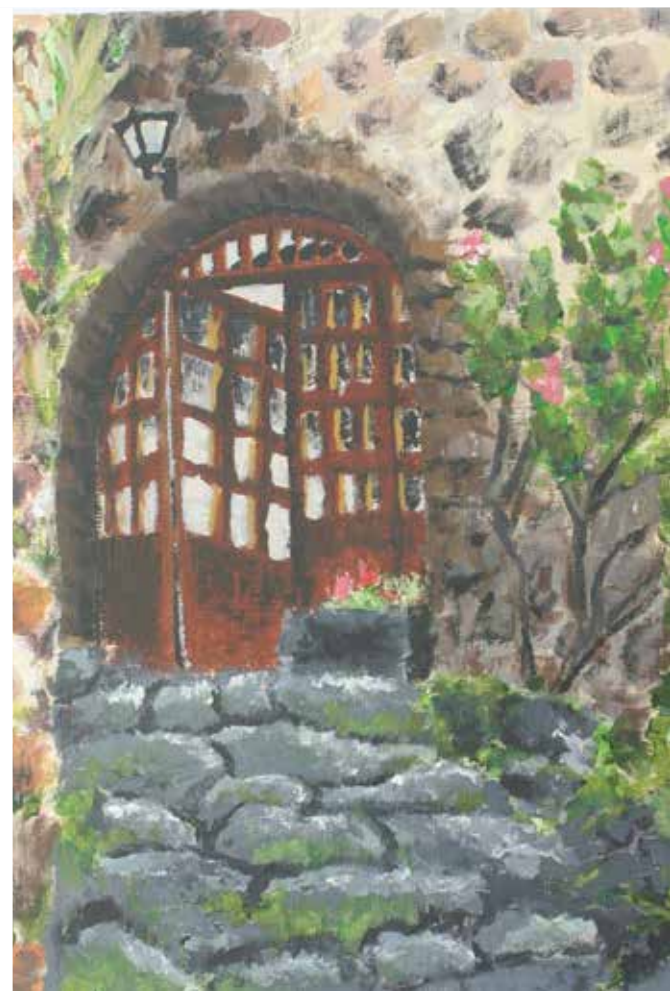


John Smalley holds M.A. and M.F.A. degrees from the University of Iowa. As Head of Visual Arts at TASIS The American School in England since 1987, he has led an innovative program aimed at integrating studio art and art history. A practicing draftsman, painter, and printmaker with an international exhibition record, he brings in-depth knowledge of figure drawing, perspective, architecture, and landscape painting to the program. Mr. Smalley has inspired many TASIS graduates to pursue post-secondary degrees in studio art and art history. He is the Director of the Fleming Gallery and oversees the successful guest artist program at TASIS England.

Guest Artists: The program also benefits from a series of visiting artists, architects, and artisans, who share their expertise and passion in the creative arts. By living and working with professional artists, students gain a unique perspective, which greatly enhances their creative experience.

STUDENT GALLERY





EXCURSIONS/ACTIVITIES/ COMMUNITY LIFE

The ideal location of Les Tapiés just north of Provence provides extensive opportunities to draw on the cultural riches of such historic cities as Avignon, Aix-en-Provence, and the Roman aqueduct at Pont du Gard. During frequent excursions, students explore such nearby medieval villages as Beauchastel, Chalencon, and St. Pierreville, which are also ideal subjects for painting, drawing, and photography. Visits to the local Chestnut Museum, open air markets, the art museum at Pont d'Aleirac and the Wool Mill, hikes in the mountains, kayaking and swimming in the crystal clear Eyrieux River, all provide relaxing breaks from the intense studio work, as well as opportunities to discover the beauty of the Ardèche countryside.

Students are directly involved in creating a special quality of life at Les Tapiés. The diverse international backgrounds and talents of the students and faculty, as well as the opportunity to participate in an intimate community life with a shared creative focus, add an important dimension to the program.



THE FACILITIES

Nestled in the mountains of the Massif Central in Southern France, Les Tapies is a picturesque 17th-century hamlet which has been carefully restored to retain its original character and which serves as an ideal base for a creative arts program. The six stone buildings form a tight, harmonious unit which blends into the landscape and provides spectacular views of the Rhône Valley and the French Alps in the distance.

The facilities include a modelmaking and sculpture workshop, an art studio for drawing, painting, and printmaking, an architecture studio, a photography studio, an exhibition gallery, a community center, a spacious dining room and lounge, and residential accommodation for up to 35 students and staff. Outdoor terraces provide extensions to the living spaces and ideal settings for barbecues and informal dining. The hamlet also has a games room for pool, table soccer, ping pong, darts, and board games. The swimming pool is popular for water sports and for cooling off from the hot Ardèche sun.

Location: Les Tapies, Tauzuc, St. Pierreville 07190, Ardèche, France
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WHAT STUDENTS SAY

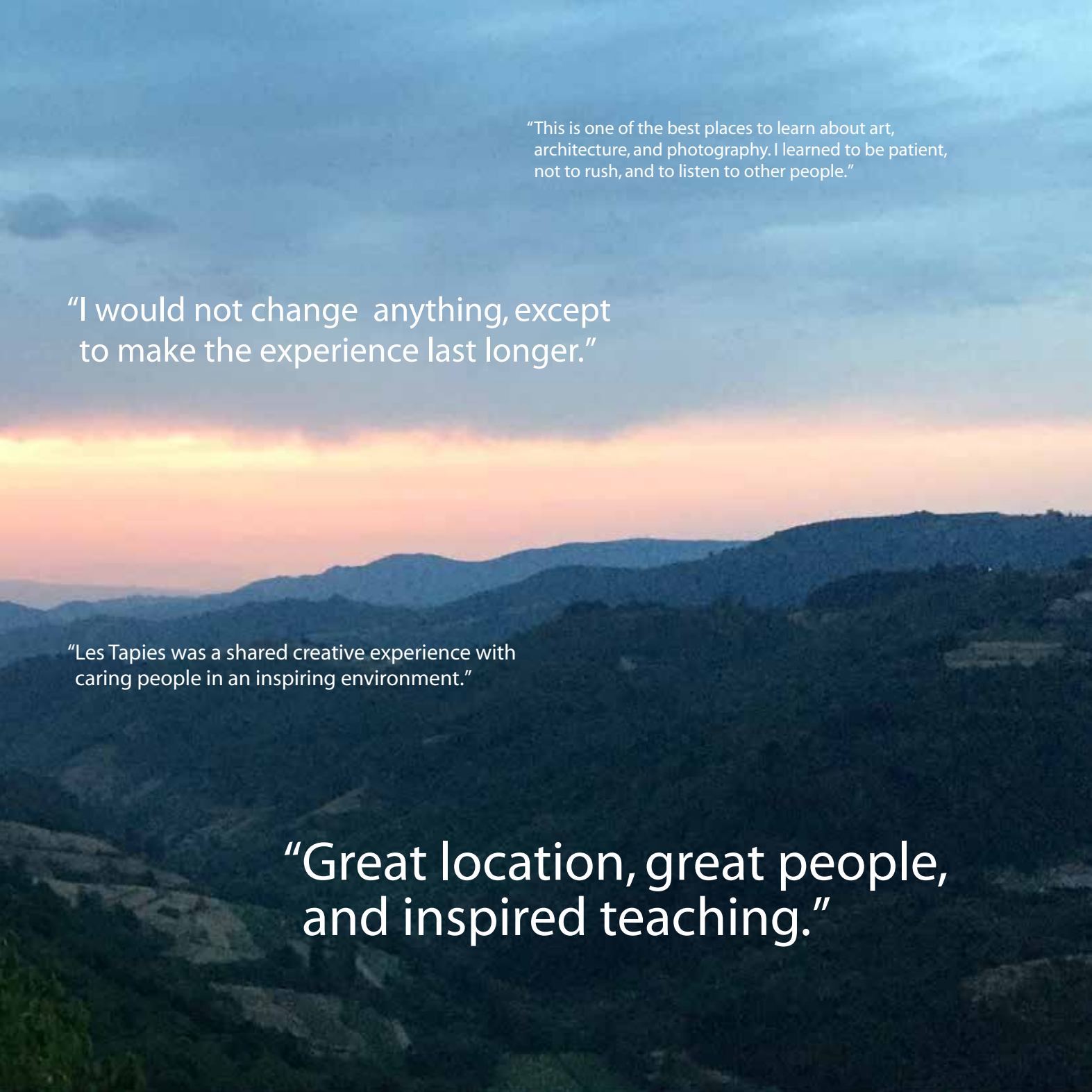
“For artists, Les Tapies is heaven on earth.”

“An intimate, beautiful, and isolated setting, enthusiastic teachers, a diverse, friendly group of students, and a fantastic opportunity to focus on what you love.”

“The architecture course is serious and gives a good feel for what architecture in the real world would be like – demanding but rewarding in the end.”

“The tranquillity of this space is incredible. The peacefulness of the hamlet has worked its way into me – it’s a good feeling. I don’t want to leave.”

“A great way to focus intensely on art while relaxing, making new friends, and gaining a new perspective on life.”



"This is one of the best places to learn about art, architecture, and photography. I learned to be patient, not to rush, and to listen to other people."

"I would not change anything, except to make the experience last longer."

"Les Tapies was a shared creative experience with caring people in an inspiring environment."

"Great location, great people, and inspired teaching."

ADMISSIONS

Previous art, photography, or architecture experience is not required, but only motivated students aged 13-18 with sufficient maturity to benefit from the program are encouraged to apply. Given the family style nature of the program, students are expected to share in the daily community tasks such as keeping rooms neat and assisting with meals. The enclosed application form must be completed and returned with a 1000 non-refundable deposit which reserves a place in the program. A teacher recommendation, preferably from an art teacher, must accompany the application.

Founded in 1956, The American School in Switzerland (TASIS) now has programs in England, France, Puerto Rico, and Switzerland, and is renowned for offering quality American education throughout Europe. All TASIS programs are fully owned by the TASIS Foundation, a not-for-profit educational foundation based in Delémont, Switzerland.







TASIS SUMMER PROGRAMS

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