

Florentine Stamp Collaboration

Filippo Romagnoli is a third-generation wood carver, and the master corzetti carver at Romagnoli Pasta Tools. The family's original workshop opened in 1918 in Florence, Italy, and in 1933 they moved their operations to Tavarnelle (Chiatishire), where they've remained to this day. Filippo's family has carved everything from desks to tables, headboards to consoles, and of course, many, many pasta tools. Through it all, Florence has remained the center of Filippo's life, work, and inspiration.

Joann Condino is a first generation Italian-American. Her mother was an amazing cook, and Joann fell in love with the shapes, colors, and textures of her pasta—they have influenced her art since childhood. Joann has traditionally used old Indian woodblocks for her printing, and was using one to mimic the design of her pizzelle cookie iron. There is a long Italian tradition of carved wood fiber blocks, but Joann had been unable to locate any—and wanted to print with blocks inspired by the beauty and history of Florence. She became aware of Filippo and his beautiful corzetti stamps through a friend, and the impetus for an international collaboration was born.

Through their communications, Joann and Filippo shared their practices and techniques, personal histories, and determined the size and designs needed for Joann's stamps. In the end they settled on four designs: the Florentine lily, rose, marble intarsia design and the symbol of Lorenzo de Medici . Filippo's stamps are handmade in the Florentine countryside with beech wood from the Casentino Forest National Park in Tuscany. The intarsia design is based on the ancient Florentine marble intarsia designed by Leon Battista Alberti around 1450 in Florence. The ergonomic handle design of the stamps was inspired by old designs made by Filippo's grandfather, who made them for the "Arte dell Seta Lisio" company in Florence.

The collaboration between the two artists resulted in these beautifully stamped linens, part of a series entitled: *"Memories of My Italian Mother's Kitchen."*

If you are interested in learning more about Filippo's work, or in purchasing one of his stamps, please visit his website: <http://romagnolipastatools.com>, or his Etsy shop, Florentine Touch: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/FlorentineTouch>

Wood blocked linen tea towels, table runners and napkins available. Visit us at Three Pines Studio in Cross Village, MI or <http://www.threepinesstudio.com/>

