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**IRON
NOTES**

IronNotes Newsletter #1 – Forging Connections Across Europe

Welcome to the first edition of the IronNotes newsletter. It will keep you updated on key project developments, upcoming events, and international collaboration in the field of metal art.



Metal Art Today – International Perspectives in Lappeenranta

On June 17–18, 2025, the IronNotes project brought together artists, designers, engineers, and cultural experts from across Europe to explore the future of metal art, sustainable practices, and emerging technologies, in Lappeenranta, Finland.

► [Read more](#)



Iron, Memory, and Meaning – IronNotes Exhibition at Gallery Pihatto

As part of the IronNotes event, the exhibition Memory and Remembering took place at Gallery Pihatto in Lappeenranta on June 17-18, 2025. The show featured works by fine arts students from LAB University of Applied Sciences, as well from students from Estonian Academy of Arts and invited international guest artists. Over two days, the exhibition welcomed around 200 visitors!

► [Read more](#)

Sustainable Art in Practice – Measuring the Carbon Footprint of Art



At the Metal Art Today seminar, sustainability expert Saara Korpela introduced Turku Ecological Guide for Public Art and an innovative tool for environmentally responsible artistic work: the Green Art Carbon Calculator. Developed in Finland, this online tool is designed to help artists, curators, and producers understand and reduce the climate impact of their creative processes.

► [Read more](#)



Next Up: The European Biennial of Blacksmithing Art in Stia, 4–7 September 2025

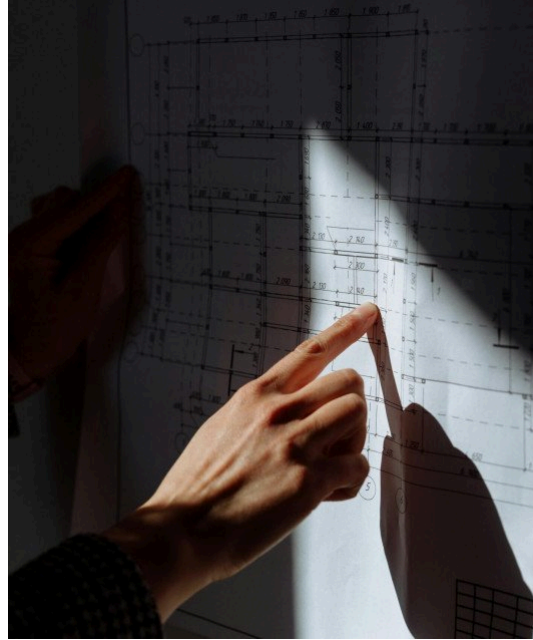
Held every two years since 1976 in the heart of Tuscany, the Biennale Arte Fabbrile is Europe's longest-running international event dedicated to the art of wrought iron. This year Biennale welcomes IronNotes project to be part of its official programme as the organizer Associazione Autonoma per la Biennale d'Arte Fabbrile is one of the project partners. From September 4-7, 2025, the medieval town of Stia will host master blacksmiths, sculptors, designers, and artists from across 48+ countries in a spectacular celebration of tradition, creativity, and craftsmanship.

► [Read more](#)

11th International Design and Drawing Competition — in cooperation with IronNotes

For this year's edition, the theme is "S.T.I.A academy forging school gate" to be placed at the

entrance to the external green area of the school training iron & arts in Pratovecchio Stia. Participants are required to develop a design line from which they can then move on to the executive and finally production line.



In designing the gate, it is necessary to draw inspiration from the tradition of artistic forged iron processing, with particular attention to functionality and harmonious insertion into the architectural context. The proposal must enhance manual forging techniques, highlighting original decorative elements and structural solutions suitable for the intended use.

The main difference between the present and the past is that the competition no longer takes place in person during the days of the event, as happened in previous editions, but is held entirely online. This year, the deadline for submitting projects is August 22, 2025.

[Read more about the competition](#)

Official Guidelines

Next Up: Grave Marker – Forging Future Remembrance

October 9–12, 2025 | HDK-Valand, Campus Steneby (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)



The third IronNotes event will be organized in the October in Sweden. The theme of the event is Grave Marker – Forging Future Remembrance! As part of the event, there will also be a Call for Papers for a competition. The competition invites innovative concepts for grave markers crafted by

blacksmiths, emphasizing their unique qualities while addressing contemporary challenges. This event contributes to revitalizing craft heritage, fostering regional collaboration, and reimagining the expressive power of ironwork, all as part of a broader IronNotes project.

► [Read more](#)

Call for Proposals: IronNotes – Grave Marker – Forging Future Remembrance



Grave Marker – Forging Future Remembrance, Deadline December 1st 2025. We invite all metal makers to participate in this call for proposals. This includes blacksmiths, fabricators, casters, artists, designers, students, and trainees.

[Read more](#)

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Iron Notes - At the Borders of Iron

At the Borders of Iron (IronNotes) is a series of events and a network that gather professionals, makers, students and broader audiences around the common theme of metal. With a strong background in metalworks and blacksmithing this network brings together artists, creators, designers, producers and educators from five different countries with different kinds of events to broaden the view of the use of metal in the society today Estonia, Finland, Italy, Norway, Sweden.

[LAB University of Applied Sciences, The Institute of Design and Fine Arts](#) | Finland

[Me-talli Oy \(Metallipro\)](#) | Finland

[Gothenburg University Metal Art](#) | Sweden

[Association Biennale Arte FabbriLe, Stia](#) | Italy

[Estonian Academy of Arts \(EKA\)](#) | Estonia

[Oslo National Academy of the Arts \(KHiO\), Metal and Art Jewellery](#) | Norway



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