THE PLACE OF WONDERS
FOUNDATION

Experience available

Monday to Friday:
9.00 am – 5.30 pm

Experience duration:
One hour

One week's notice of booking required.

THE ART OF FEATHERS WITH MAZZANTI PIUME

In Florence, Mazzanti Piume is a family-run atelier that, since 1935, has worked with feathers as a form of expression, moving across different fields without ever losing its identity. For three generations, it has preserved a body of knowledge shaped over time, built on precise gestures, inherited tools, and a deep understanding of the material.

Feathers have accompanied humankind since ancient times. In early cultures, they were used as ornament, as a mark of distinction, as an element capable of expressing belonging and value. Their lightness and their ability to move with the body have, over time, made them a privileged material for decorative expression. In Florence, in the 1930s, this language found a distinct form in hat embellishments, where silk flowers and feathers defined both structure and character.

It is within this context that Natalina Mazzanti founded the atelier, transforming feathers and silk flowers into ornaments for fashion.

Alongside her, her husband Lelio developed and crafted machinery specifically designed for working with feathers, tools that are still used today in certain stages of the process, such as the making of ostrich feather boas.After her passing, their son Maurizio continued the activity, preserving both continuity and discipline. It is here that Duccio Mazzanti grew up, learning the craft through daily practice.

Over the decades, the feather became the focus of an ongoing exploration. The atelier developed a distinctive ability to transform this material into a wide range of forms, adapting it to contexts that extend from fashion to design and art. Collaborations with haute couture houses stem not only from this expertise, but also from the strong visual impact of the creations, capable of building presence and movement while retaining a sense of lightness.