The primary objective of the Study Leave period last year was to initiate a new body of studio-based research into an ongoing analysis of pictorial space. Following a major survey of artistic output over the last twenty years in early 2009, Zika undertook a major review of that work and potential sites for new field trip study in Europe. The research employs a radical fusion of surface and form, drawing upon various decorative systems within architectural interiors – particularly where the synthesis of architecture, sculpture, painting and applied art are combined in a united scenography. So the field trips concentrated on Baroque, Rococo, Art Nouveau and Islamic sites in Vienna, Budapest, Berlin, St Petersburg, Granada, Cordoba, Valencia and Rome.

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