

Course Information Sheet for: Experimental Landscape Painting (for beginners)

What is this course about?

The course will explore experimental approaches to landscape painting using mixed media approaches, inspired by the environment of Epping Forest.

What will the course involve?

Media and Techniques:

Media to include acrylics and various dry media.

Approaches to include, use of acrylic paint (watercolour and impasto approaches) and other dry media and collage (with variety of papers: tissue, wrapping paper) with paint and drawing to create layered images. Encourage both figurative and semi-abstract/abstract approaches. Techniques could also include, graffito, wet-in-wet, pointillism, spattering, glazing, etc.

Other possible media: oil pastels and marker pens. Various papers to be available,

This course would require an open-mind, a willingness to experiment and not be constrained by traditional techniques!

Programme for the weekend:

Friday evening – Session 1

Introduction to Painting methods and styles. Talk supported by PowerPoint – selected historical and contemporary examples (including some of my recent work). Describe a range of techniques, materials and possibilities. A brief demonstration/experimentation with one selected technique / media.

Saturday – Session 2

AM: Demonstration/Experimentation with range of media and selected technique – producing a series of A5 landscape images using photos or pre-existing sketches in first instance, encouraging spontaneity and experimentation. Begin to initiate a visual 'library' of images.

Late morning (weather permitting – a foray into the forest or gardens with small sketch books (or small pieces of paper, e.g. khadi) and selected media to make some colour responses to the landscape. If wet, continue to work from sketches or photos (perhaps taken locally).

PM. Work up small compositions from responses created in the morning. Possible further work – ‘plein air’ paintings, in the garden or forest nearby. Demonstrate/extend range of techniques and encourage more ‘risk-taking’. An evaluation of the day at the end of the afternoon. Further independent work, after dinner if desired.

Sunday – Session 3

Working with paint, drawing and collage, using ‘obliteration’ techniques, further extending possibilities from images produced on the previous day.

End of morning – review/discussion of work and evaluation

After lunch - depart

What experience do I need to get onto this course?

No qualification or experience is needed, just an interest to learn and willingness to experiment.

What will I have achieved by the end of the course?

A practical knowledge of innovative techniques for responding to the landscape, using a variety of different media.

What options are open to me if I successfully complete the course?

You may join further creative courses to further develop your skills at Debden House or you may enrol on courses in the borough.

What's included in the weekend residential?

- All tuition.
- Arrival 4-6pm, Dinner is served at 7pm.
- All meals from Friday Dinner to Sunday lunch. Vegetarian options are available. If you have any special dietary needs please inform us at the time of booking.
- Morning and afternoon refreshments throughout the course.
- Two nights shared occupancy accommodation. Single rooms may be available at a surcharge, please enquire when booking.
- Access to wifi.
- Free parking subject to availability.
- Use of the beautiful grounds at Debden House.
- Enrolment form to be completed on arrival, you will need your National Insurance number for this form.
- Sunday – return of bedroom keys after morning tea break, departure after lunch.

Length of the course:

It is a weekend residential course, Friday evening to Sunday afternoon.

Course fee:

Please apply to Debden House for details. You may be entitled to a concession if you are a Newham resident. Proof of resident status must be produced at the time of enrolment.

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