

**COURSE: ABSTRACT PAINTING & WABI SABI**

**TUTOR: HELEN TURNER**

**DATES: 22-24 OCTOBER 2019**



## **ABOUT THIS COURSE**

The aim of this course is to enjoy the materials and allow the painting to evolve as you work. We will be experimenting with careful layering of paint and repetitive brush strokes, with varying rhythms, to create densely constructed forms which shift and change through the process. We will be looking at artists who use multiple processes pouring oil and inks on linen.

The work will be created using paints, pigments, inks, oil paint and dyes onto saturate surfaces, as well as using bending, wrinkling and folding. Out of this repetitive, engaging and meditative approach, the work just makes itself. This is very much an Eastern philosophy connecting the inner self to the outside world. We will be looking at wabi sabi which is a concept of Japanese aesthetics; the celebration of the beauty of the handmade process and nature, the imperfections, incompleteness and ever changing qualities. We will look at Korean artists of the Dansaekhuwa movement and also western contemporary artists who have this approach at the centre of their practise. There will be demonstrations throughout the course , students will be led by the tutor and encouraged to let the work lead them .

## **TIMETABLE**

The course starts promptly at **9.30am** so please make sure that you arrive no later than 9.15 to find your space and have a cup of coffee. On day one Helen will welcome you and introduce the course. Each day will end with a review of the work and finish promptly at 4.30 pm.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

### **What you need to bring:**

Inks

Fabric dyes, or food dyes or both

Oil paint / acrylic paint, 1 tube or any tubes that you have Metallic paints (optional )

Pastels

Pigments to include Prussian Blue – this is a beautiful colour and works well

Graphite powder (optional )

Decorating house paint ( optional )

Plaster ( studio will supply )

Mediums for mixing with paint, eg linseed oil, acrylic mediums, zest, any varnishes.

Face mask for using with dusty materials

Masking tape

Rubber or thin plastic gloves, Overalls

Brushes all sizes.  
Linen and or calico or any fabric  
Stretched canvases .  
Sketch books, paper of any kind .  
A bucket

NB: you don't have to bring all materials, the studio will supply plaster, pigments and fixative (there will be a small cover charge). The more materials you bring the more experimenting you can do.

### **What the studio supplies:**

In the studio, we have stocks of paper and primed canvas that students can buy as required. Easels, boards and palettes will be ready for you to use. There are pots for water, solvent and mediums. We have acrylics, oils and mediums for students to use if you run out or want to try them. There is spare drawing equipment to borrow.

Please be advised that NO WHITE SPIRIT OR TURPENTINE IS ALLOWED IN THE STUDIO. Shellsol T is a solvent which is an alternative to white spirit to clean your brushes with and thin the oil paint. You can buy this directly from [A P Fitzpatrick](#) online. Please be aware that LUKAS MEDIUM 3 contains a lot of turpentine. A lot of artists use this, and while it's okay in private studios, it is not safe in larger quantities and particularly without adequate ventilation. Some of our students who like to use Lukas 3, now use a mix of Shellsol T and Linseed oil in group sessions instead. Liquin with oils is really good if you need to speed up drying time.

### **THE SEAWHITE SHOP:**

The shop is open Monday – Friday from 9 am - 4.45 pm and 9am – 12 noon on Saturdays. All the products they sell are amazing value, at warehouse prices and so you might want to stock up with sketchbooks and materials while you are on the course. If you prefer to order before the course, you can preview their stock by visiting [www.artesaver.co.uk](http://www.artesaver.co.uk). Items can be pre-ordered and packed ready for you to collect by calling 01403 712270, quoting the codes obtained from the website, however, if you physically go into the shop to buy your supplies, the prices are slightly cheaper, so always worth a visit.

### **REFRESHMENTS AND LUNCH:**

Tea, coffee, herbal teas and biscuits are available throughout the day. There will be tea breaks but feel free to help yourself whenever you need a drink. Bring a pack lunch. There is a fridge and also a microwave. If you need to buy some lunch there is a bakery/sandwich shop in the middle of Partridge Green that sells sandwiches, salads and hot food.

### **STUDIO DRESS CODE:**

In the studio make sure you wear clothes that do not matter. The space and equipment is in constant use and we cannot guarantee that it will be paint free from the previous groups. As the weather gets colder make sure that you wear plenty of layers to keep warm in the studio. It is a big space and difficult to heat at a constant temperature all day. Emily recommends wearing a [Thermal Boiler suit](#). They keep you really warm and clean!!

### **STUDIO ADDRESS:**

Seawhite of Brighton

Avalon Court

Star Road Trading Estate

Partridge Green

RH13 8RY

### **GETTING TO THE STUDIO:**

We have a map on our website. <http://www.emilyballatseawhite.co.uk/contact-emily-ball.html>

The studio building is the 1st large warehouse on your right after the Seawhite Showroom/Shop. Turn into the entrance and keep driving to the end past the skips and palettes on your right. There is a small car park behind the warehouse, just for the studio, and you will then find the studio up a flight of stairs.