

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

LW6542 SILK PAINTING – EXPRESSIVE COLOUR AND WAX RESIST

Tutor: MANDY SOUTHAN

Dates: LONG WEEKEND FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER – MONDAY 31 OCTOBER

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Colour is a powerful medium for self-expression and silk painting with steam-fix dyes gives you the opportunity to work with the purest colours available to painters. You gain confidence in applying colours freely using wet-on-wet and wet-on-dry methods and develop control of colour mixing both in the palette and on the silk by working with six basic hues, creating vibrant and subtle tones through blending and overpainting. You also learn how to mix and use complementary colours effectively in your work.

Wax is the most expressive form of resist used in silk painting. It is melted in a wax pot and painted, stamped, flicked or sprinkled onto the silk using a variety of brushes and mark-making implements such as feathers, sticks and sponges. The hot wax is very fluid, so can be applied with finely pointed brushes using Japanese-style brush-painting techniques or using traditional Indonesian tjantings for line drawing. By applying successive layers of wax combined with multiple washes of colour, you explore expressive possibilities for paintings and textile designs. Sequential dye and wax application, built up in stages, produces paintings without obvious resist lines and so extends possibilities for creative work with a less graphic quality.

During the course you can paint pictures or scarves, wallhangings or textile projects of your own choosing. Tuition is both group and one-to-one, with demonstrations and discussion to help you develop ideas. A spontaneous approach is encouraged, free from meticulous tracing and copying. This course is a good introduction to silk painting for those of you with little or no experience and an opportunity for those of you with more experience to work freely and explore new approaches, perhaps in a more abstract way.

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

For those who have taken a related course or have some existing skills, and for more experienced practitioners who want to expand skills. The focus is on working towards independent practise.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Mandy Southan is a textile artist and author of several books including *Shibori – Designs and Techniques*. She has a special interest in Japanese resist techniques and is an expert colourist. She is president of The Guild of Silk Painters.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Friday 28 October

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
6.45pm	Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner
7.00pm	Dinner
8.00pm – 9.00pm	First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course. Introduction to the course. Induction; Aims and expectations. Materials and equipment needed. Discussion – looking at examples of painted silks using wax resist.

Other days: Saturday 29 October – Sunday 30 October

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working – workshops are available until 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored.

Departure day: Monday 31 October

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.00pm	Classes finish
3.30pm	Tea then departure

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Bring inspirational source material, see below.

MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

For any materials you need to purchase from the shop, we suggest you do so during the first morning of your course, after having discussed with your tutor.

Materials included in the course fee:

Included in the course fee are steaming paper, dyes and pigments/silk painting media shared amongst the group (large work in size and quantity may be charged extra).

Available from the Shop:

Silk (various types) by the metre and scarves
Round synthetic watercolour brushes size 10–12
Chinese natural hair brushes for wax
Palettes
Cartridge paper
Autofade markers
3B pencils
Masking tape
Sellotape
3 point silk pins
Stenter pins (for pinning up scarves with pre-rolled edges)
1" foam brushes
1mm plastic droppers

Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:

Your own silk painting equipment, brushes, silk etc.

Silk painting frame – if you prefer to use your own. A selection of sizes is available to borrow in the workshop.

Please bring continued:

Mark-making implements to try out, such as corks, feathers, natural sponges, sticks etc.

Inspirational source material – photos, cuttings, sketches etc. for design ideas

Apron

Rubber gloves (thin ones are available in the workshop)

2 jam jars

Scissors

Old newspapers (at least 1 month so the ink is dry) for ironing out your wax

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Students may work unsupervised on agreed projects once they have satisfied the tutor as to their competence. There may be restrictions on the equipment available to students in the tutor's absence. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.