

SUMMER SCHOOL SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SS7163 THE WONDERS OF WARM GLASS

Tutor: ALEX POWELL

Dates: 6 DAYS SATURDAY 12 AUGUST – FRIDAY 18 AUGUST

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

If you are a beginner, this six day course is a comprehensive introduction to the wonders of warm glass – fusing and slumping for texture and form. For those that have worked with fused glass before, it is also an excellent opportunity to consolidate skills and learn new techniques across an extended course.

The teaching will centre around new techniques each day, with a selection of small samples being made by you to facilitate learning. You will also aim to make a number of small finished pieces which will be developed within a structured timetable of tutor-led projects across the week.

By the end of the course you will have designed and made a number of glass pieces including a panel or bowl, a handkerchief vase, a drop-out bowl or vase, a glass weaving, and a set of textural tiles as well as many sample pieces in which you may have experimented with techniques and tested out ideas.

Over the duration of the six days, you become acquainted with the glass kiln, understanding what happens to glass in the kiln during a firing cycle, learning about glass compatibility and how to load and unload a kiln.

Firstly the fundamental skill of glass cutting is taught which will cover many types of cutting: cutting straight lines, gentle curves, deep curves, circles and strips as well as cutting accurately to a pattern. The associated glass finishing skills using tools such as the grozing pliers, diamond pads and the glass grinder are covered though the emphasis will always be on accurate cutting to try and eliminate the need for these processes.

Secondly you master the kiln processes of fusing, to melt together layers of coloured glass, and slumping so that gravity is used to create a texture in the surface of the glass. You are introduced to more advanced slumping processes to induce three-dimensional form in the glass. You learn how to fuse or slump at different levels inside the kiln to achieve different effects in glass. A large selection of materials is provided including glass sheet, powdered glass frits, stringers and noodles, metal inclusions such as copper sheet, mesh and wire. Handouts cover kiln processes, chart the firing cycle and explain how to attain different levels of fusing in a kiln.

Thirdly you will be introduced to certain areas of coldworking glass. You will have the opportunity to cut a three-dimensional glass piece on a circular saw. You will also have a brief introduction on how to embellish glass with simple engraving, using electric tools.

Sat pm:	Introduction to fusing / basic strip cutting / frit work / firing
Sun:	Basic cutting techniques / handkerchief vase and drop out vase / further fusing techniques
Mon:	Further cutting techniques / bowl or panel / weave fusing
Tues:	(After swap over session) Textural slumping / further fusing techniques
Wed am:	Development session
Thurs:	Glass sawing / Introduction to engraving
Fri:	Coldworking / technical information / display and group evaluation

Books on kiln-formed glass are available for reference, and images in books and laptop slideshows are shown in order to inspire you. At every stage of the course, demonstrations of specific techniques are made by the tutor to teach practical skills, and your skills are assessed individually against certain criteria to ensure learning is happening throughout the course.

Handouts are given to you to keep which relate to the timing of the course, the health and safety issues pertaining to the workshop, cutting shapes from glass, levels of fusing, the behaviour of glass in the kiln, the firing program and the individual techniques that are covered.

You are prompted to evaluate each other's work as it comes out of the kiln and also encouraged to create an atmosphere of mutual support through the sharing of ideas and knowledge. At the end of the course, there is also a group critique of the work produced and students are invited to talk about their experience of making their panel and of the course in general.

TIMETABLE: Please see the attached sheet.

The first session: **Attendance is an essential part of the course.**

Evening working – you can work later into the evening if you wish.

The summer school offers students programmed evening activities, which include talks by each of the tutors teaching this week; an optional trip to an evening performance at Chichester Festival Theatre; chances to view tutors' work; and a party on the last evening.

LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

A subject focused course that is delivered to suit any level of experience from beginner to advanced practitioner. A structured start is followed by guided independent practice.

Is there anything a potential student needs to be able to do to succeed in the above?

It is essential that you are able to stand for long periods of time as this course will involve being on your feet for much of the working time.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Alex Powell (artist name Alex R) studied History of Art at the Courtauld Institute and Glass at Central Saint Martins. She takes commissions for architectural pieces and sells through exhibitions.

MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm. On the first and last days (ie Saturday and Friday) of your Summer School week the shop will be open until 4.30pm.

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

Included in the course fee: all materials required for specific projects set by the tutor, including glass sheets, glass products and inclusions, kiln paper and plaster, and firing costs and is in addition to any items you may purchase individually.

Available from the Shop:

Sketch books

A selection of drawing materials, e.g. pencils, pens, charcoal, Conté, crayons etc.

Scissors

Paint brushes

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

The glass used for fusing is Spectrum System 96 fusible glass and the tutor will bring a comprehensive stock of this glass. However you may have your own stock of Spectrum System 96 glass from previous projects that you wish to use and you are welcome to bring this.

Please bring continued:

Apron
Enclosed toe footwear (essential)
Digital camera, if you have one
Pencils, ruler, sketchbook

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.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUMMER SCHOOL WEEKS – a creative and social highlight of the year.

Summer School courses are a little different to our courses at other times of the year with the extended week allowing time for you to experience a broader range of creative insights that go beyond the course you sign up for.

Special Summer School features:

- Short inspirational talks by tutors and displays of their work.
- A swap-over session to another course of your choice.
- An optional evening at the Chichester Festival Theatre (pre-booked at a group rate, via a form we send you in May).
- A special party with dinner, entertainment and music.
- Workshop displays of students' work and informal end-of-course group reviews.
- Enjoy the festival atmosphere of the Chilli Fiesta and add a little 'spice' to your stay over the weekend 11–13 August, which includes chilli produce and cookery demonstrations with live music from midday until 11pm on two stages on the front lawn.

NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS are expected to attend evening sessions (which may last up to 10 pm) and their fees therefore include coffee, lunch and dinner daily.

RESIDENT STUDENTS: students to arrive by 12 noon (bedrooms may not be available until 1pm). Residents staying on for more than one Summer School week will have the additional dinner, bed and breakfast between the Summer School courses provided free of charge.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2017: STUDENTS' TIMETABLE (Please see Summer School Notice Board during your stay for updates/amendments to this timetable.)

	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.00-9.00 BREAKFAST							
9.15 am	STUDENT ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION Please arrive by 12 noon (Bedrooms may not be available until 1pm)	TEACHING SESSIONS CONTINUE	TEACHING SESSIONS CONTINUE	9.00 SWAP OVER WORKSHOPS	TEACHING SESSIONS CONTINUE	TEACHING SESSIONS CONTINUE	FINAL TEACHING SESSION
10.30-11am COFFEE							
	12.15 RECEPTION AND DIRECTOR'S WELCOME SPEECH Steward's Bar			RETURN TO MAIN COURSE			11.00 INDIVIDUAL GROUP REVIEWS
12.30 LUNCH		1.30-2.00 VISIT TO THE SCULPTURE COURTYARD	1.30-2.00 SHORT TOUR OF THE HOUSE		1.30-2.00 TAPESTRY STUDIO OPEN		
2pm	FIRST TEACHING SESSION (introduction to courses)				2.00 DIRECTOR'S EXCURSION & MINI-BUS TO CHICHESTER		1.30-2.30 STUDENT DISPLAYS OPEN
3.30-4 pm TEA					NB: NO AFTERNOON TEACHING SESSIONS		3 pm SUMMER SCHOOL ENDS
4-5 pm	TEACHING SESSIONS CONTINUE				Any unsupervised working in workshops this afternoon at the tutor's discretion.		
5-7 pm	6.30 OPENING OF TUTORS' EXHIBITION Foyer & Steward's Bar		5.30-7.00 TUTORS' 'SHOWCASE' Courtyard 5.30-6.30 YOGA Oak Hall	6.15 EARLY COLD SUPPER for theatre- goers ONLY		6.30 DRINKS IN THE BAR	
7 pm DINNER				(supper for non- theatre-goers as usual)		7.30 DINNER PARTY	
No formal teaching. Studios & workshops open until 10pm with evening working at tutor's discretion	8.15-9.30 TUTORS' SLIDE PRESENTATIONS: The Old Library	8.15-9.30 TUTORS' SLIDE PRESENTATIONS: The Old Library	8.15 EDWARD JAMES VIDEO (optional) Old Library	6.50 CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE VISIT (optional) minibus departs from Main Entrance		MUSIC AND (optional!) GAMES Steward's Bar	