

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

3D693I SILK PAINTING SCARVES FOR BEGINNERS

Tutor: ISABELLA WHITWORTH

Dates: 3 DAYS MONDAY 24 APRIL – THURSDAY 27 APRIL

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

We all love pattern: it represents order and structure. Pattern is an excellent entry point to the development of personal, original design on textiles. Working with vibrant steam-fixed dyes on hemmed silk scarf blanks, you can expect to create several scarves and small samples on the course.

Wax resist, some shibori techniques such as folding, clamping and tying, and direct application of dyes can be explored. Trial samples are encouraged on small frames to explore tools, materials and techniques. Wax will be applied using brushes and traditional tjantings, stamps, home-made tools and found objects. You will also be encouraged to use different silk weights and weaves.

The tutor will outline the chemistry of dye processes and short talks will illustrate relevant aspects of dyeing silk. The practicalities of removing wax and steaming silks will be demonstrated. Although you will work towards making scarves during the course, all skills are transferable to fabric lengths.

You will receive guidance on how to source and develop patterns or themes, how to develop designs, and how to transfer sketches to scarves and fabric. If you are not confident about drawing, planning and creating design you are especially welcome on this course, which will give you strategies for making designs on silk.

LEVEL: BEGINNERS

Starting points. For those with little or no experience who want to go back to basics and would like a structured introduction to a subject.

The course is also suitable for you if you are starting out in the medium of wax resist on silk and have a little experience but are wanting to broaden your knowledge of developing design through pattern.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Isabella Whitworth trained as an illustrator before being inspired to create resist dyed and painted textiles after travelling in Indonesia. She teaches and exhibits regularly and has been researching the history of natural dyes. She is a member of the Devon Guild of Craftsmen.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Monday 24 April

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.

Other days: Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 April

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch

Other days continued: Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 April

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: Thursday 27 April

(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

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:

The use of pins, tapes, dyes, wax and general accessories supplied for use of the group.

Additional Charge:

You can purchase hemmed scarf blanks for final projects from the tutor, or the college shop. Scarf blanks of various types and weights are available, as is silk on the roll. Alternatively, you are welcome to bring your own scarf blanks, preferably oblong in shape.

Work that is completed late on in the course can be steamed by the tutor in her studio. She will return it to students by post for the cost of postage and packing, payable direct to her.

In addition please bring, if you have them:

If you have already done some silk-painting or wax-resist work you are warmly invited to bring samples or images.

You can also bring favourite brushes, tjantings etc. and oblong silk scarf blanks to paint.

A NOTE ABOUT FRAMES: West Dean supplies oblong frames for students which will take scarves (or fabric) up to a maximum 45 cm wide and 2 metres long. Smaller scarves can also be stretched on these frames. You are welcome to bring your own scarves but, if you wish to work to a larger size than mentioned above, or a different proportion to the frames, you should first contact the tutor to discuss requirements and check this is viable. While every effort will be made to accommodate such requests, allocation of space for all students needs to be considered. Email Isabella Whitworth: imswit@gmail.com

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.