

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

5D6915 STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION IN PAINTING

Tutor: MAXINE RELTON

Dates: 5 DAYS SUNDAY 16 APRIL – FRIDAY 21 APRIL

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Developing our intuitive sense of design and composition is a creative process; encouraging, exploring and understanding that process is the purpose of this course.

What makes a painting or other artwork look “right” – convincing and complete? Are there basic principles that can shape our creative thinking and if so, how can we avoid the predictable and succeed in finding a personal voice of our own?

We will look at the work of some established artists, past and present, to compare underlying structures and discuss strengths and weaknesses. We will try different formats for ourselves and will give time to sharing and reviewing our discoveries as we go along.

Establishing a strong framework before beginning a new work can liberate the imagination and get ideas flowing. To this end, Maxine guides an imaginative series of practical studies, looking at the rich choices we have available to us to form such a framework: line, shape, colour, tone, texture, rhythm, space, etc. You work in the medium of your choice but are encouraged to try different techniques, materials, sensibilities and approaches to discover more effective ways of communicating your ideas, harnessing exciting new powers of expression, dramatic emphasis and balance.

Maxine brings samples of her own work to share the thought process behind them and demonstrates different approaches throughout the course.

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:

Maxine Relton trained at Camberwell and the Slade School of Art and works across painting, print, drawing, collage, text and photography. She runs a gallery of her own work and is an elected Academician of the Royal West of England Academy.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Sunday 16 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. We look at linear rhythms and patterns and play with visual possibilities to warm up our creative spirit for the morning

Other days: Monday 17 to Thursday 20 April

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes

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Other days continued: Monday 17 to Thursday 20 April

3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working – on some days, an optional project is offered for the evening. This will be something that non-residential students are welcome to do at home. The studio is open until 10pm.

Departure day: Friday 21 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

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Maxine likes to have a chat with students personally on the telephone when planning her course. This gives her the opportunity to find out about any special interests or focus areas you have, to tell you a bit more about the course and to answer any questions you might have about it. **Your email and phone number will therefore be passed to her unless you prefer not to be contacted, in which case please let the Bookings Office know.**

You are invited to bring some examples of your own work to review with the tutor in this new context and if possible some examples of work by other artists you find particularly inspiring.

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.

Additional Charge: On this course the tutor will supply some tools, materials and papers for any students wishing to try unfamiliar techniques and processes in the projects proposed – a nominal charge to cover any such use may be requested, in which case please pay the tutor directly by cash or cheque.

Materials required for this course and available from the College craft shop:

Drawing and painting materials of all kinds, including paint-mixing palettes
Pencils, pens, rubbers
Small general-purpose notebooks
Sketchbooks of all kinds
Craft knives and scissors
Set squares
Paper glue sticks
Assorted drawing and watercolour papers

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

Painting apron or overall
Some colour magazines for cutting up

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.