

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S5D07357 BYZANTINE ICON PAINTING

Tutor: PETER MURPHY

Dates: 5 DAYS SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER – FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course will introduce you to techniques of egg tempera icon painting and the plan is to complete a small Byzantine style icon.

Techniques covered include basic principles of design; water gilding; correct mixing of egg yolk and pigment; the various ways of applying egg tempera eg. petit lac (puddling), and dry brush modelling.

To allow us to go into some depth we will work from a small range of reproductions of traditional Byzantine icons which you can trace and transfer onto the gessoed panel provided. This means in the class we can concentrate on gilding and painting. Demonstrations are given at each stage of the process throughout the week, giving ample one-to-one tuition between demonstrations.

- Day 1: Briefly describe process; discuss principles of design; transfer images to gesso board; water gild halo/background.
- Day 2: Build up first modelling layers.
- Day 3: More of above.
- Day 4: Begin to model faces.
- Day 5: Complete face; paint background, halo, and lettering.

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 practise.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Peter Murphy trained with iconographer Guillem Ramos-Poqui in London and is a member of The British Association of Iconographers. He has been commissioned by a number of churches in the UK, notably Tewkesbury Abbey and Hereford Cathedral.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Sunday 8 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.**
A slide talk, with discussion after, outlining the spiritual reasons for the particular style found in the icon tradition.

Other days: Monday 9 to Thursday 12 October

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

Other days continued: Monday 9 to Thursday 12 October

3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working – the studio is open until 10pm – students may work untutored if they wish.

Departure day: Friday 13 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:

Please bring the materials and equipment as described 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:

The course fee includes the cost of: providing gessoed boards, gold leaf, the pigments and eggs. *If the price of gold varies significantly between course publication and course start, students will either receive a refund or be asked to pay a little more to cover any additional costs.*

Available from the Shop:

Quality sable brushes, preferably kolinsky hair sizes: 0, 1, 2 and 6 (bring others as well if you have them)

A larger soft brush about size 10 which can be artificial hair or a sable/artificial mix; though not as good, it will be a great deal cheaper than pure sable

A cheap artificial hair brush about size 3 for mixing pigment and egg

A compass

An artist's palette knife or equivalent for picking up powder pigment

A ceramic paint-mixing palette. By far the most useful is the rectangular one, 19 x 10 cm, with five dimples and five rectangular troughs. (Plastic palettes, being light, annoyingly move around when you are mixing paint in them.)

2 small containers suitable for accurately dropping out water and egg. Any of the following will do: small plastic bottles with nozzles; pipettes along with 2 small bottles for the egg and water; eye droppers with their bottles.

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

Lots of scrap paper for unloading unwanted paint from brushes

A notebook for notes

Large glass jar for water for washing brushes

Cloth for cleaning brushes

Pencil and paper for drawing

Suppliers:

L. Cornelissen and Son Ltd., 105 Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3RY, ph. 02076361045

AP Fitzpatrick, 142 Cambridge Heath Road, Bethnal Green, London E1 5QJ, ph. 02077900884

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor will instruct 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.

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