

SUMMER SCHOOL SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SSS08056 ABSTRACT PAINTING – FINDING YOUR VOICE

Tutor: ROBERT SOSNER

Dates: 6 DAYS SATURDAY 11 AUGUST – FRIDAY 17 AUGUST

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Gain an in-depth insight in to the various forms of picture construction and expressive possibilities in abstract art whilst you find your own voice within this exciting format. Learn to analyse pictorial elements including form and narrative, composition, spatial relationships, colour, line and layering, and how they can be expressed and selected to create different outcomes in your painting.

Subjects include:

- Form and narrative – what is abstract form and how does it determine the direction and narrative of a painting.
- Composition – less is more – is this the way for me?
- Colour vs shape – is my painting colour focussed or shape focussed.
- Spatial relationships – what is space in abstract art – how is it defined and how can it be controlled within the confines of the picture rectangle.

The use of colour, line, layering and surface texture will be explored throughout.

The first part of the week will include exercises that encourage you to experiment with technical possibilities to achieve directed outcomes. The second half you will develop your own choice of direction and outcomes based on the knowledge gained. Several themes will be suggested to support your choice.

Art historical and contextual examples will be used throughout and we will look at the work of Mondrian, Matisse, Miro, Diebenkorn, Motherwell, Elsworth Kelly, Tapies, Sandra Blow, Gillian Ayres, Chris Martin.

Your tutor will support you with demonstrations, group and one to one direction, and there will be opportunity for group discussions.

By the end of the course you will have gained an understanding of how analysis and choice determines direction. You will have produced paintings on canvas that enable you to express your particular interest in abstract art and your work will have your personal expressive stamp on it.

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 on this course?

Students should come with an open mind and a desire to experiment and express themselves freely.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Robert is a painter who trained at Chelsea School of Art and Middlesex University. He has received bursaries from the Pollock Krasner Foundation in New York and the Spanish Government. He has worked on numerous site-specific commissions with architects and produced a series of projected paintings for an Operatic production at the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith. Recently he had a solo show in Brighton, curated by John Marchant Gallery.

GENERAL TIMETABLE:

Please note: a detailed timetable covering all additional events and activities planned for your summer school week will be given to you on arrival.

Arrival day: Saturday 11 August

By 12.00 noon	Arrival and registration for summer school students (Please note: some bedrooms may not be available until 1pm)
12.15pm	Director's Welcome in the Stewards Bar, followed by lunch
2.00pm – 5.00pm	First teaching session
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm–9.15pm	Tutors' talks in the Old Library

Other days: Sunday 12 to Thursday 16 August

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes (except Wednesday afternoon which is untutored and free for excursions to Chichester, from 2–5pm)
3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm–10.00pm	Evening working or additional timetabled summer school events Workshops are available up to 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been agreed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored.

Departure day: Friday 17 August

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am	Final teaching session
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Individual group reviews
12.45pm	Lunch
1.30pm–2.30pm	Displays of Summer School students' work in studios
3.00pm	Summer School ends
3.30pm	Tea then departure

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

No preparation required.

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.

Materials included in the course fee:

The cost of providing some fixative shared amongst the group.

Available from the Shop:

Acrylic paints	Scissors	Stretchers
Acrylic primer	PVA glue	Canvas – cotton duck
Palette	Graphite pencil	Stretched canvas
Brushes	Charcoal	Board clips
Paper		

Please bring any of the materials on page 2, if you have them, and in addition:
Water pots (plastic pots are available in the College)

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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE VISUAL ART & CRAFT SUMMER SCHOOL

Attending an intensive Summer School course allows you to experience a range of creative activities alongside your course. Special Summer School features:

- 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 free afternoon on Wednesday to explore Chichester or other cultural highlights on offer in the locality.
- A special party with dinner, entertainment and music.
- Workshop displays of students' work and informal end-of-course group reviews.
- If your stay includes the weekend of 10–12 August, enjoy West Dean's Chilli Fiesta in the gardens in your free time and add a little 'spice' to your stay with all things chilli and live music from midday until 11pm on the front lawn.

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

RESIDENT STUDENTS: 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.

SOSISSI