

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

### S4D08263 SLOW TEXTILES – NATURAL DYEING, PIECING AND HAND-STITCHING

Tutor: CLAIRE WELLESLEY-SMITH

Dates: 4 DAYS MONDAY 15 OCTOBER – FRIDAY 19 OCTOBER

## ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This site-specific workshop will use the landscape and gardens around West Dean as inspiration. Using found marks to inspire simple mordant prints, local plants collected to make dyes, piecing and hand stitch we will explore ideas that evoke a quality or sense of place informed by this unique location. This workshop is suitable for all levels of experience and will include time spent both inside and outside the studio and is inspired by contemporary concerns about sustainability and creative textiles.

You can expect to explore process in a relaxed supportive environment. Claire will encourage you to develop your own work through observation and experimentation.

During the course you can expect to:

- Learn simple natural dyeing techniques which could be used at home.
- Make connections between cloth, seasons and colour.
- Begin to understand the pleasure of slow stitching and making a real connection with a piece of work.

## 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.

## ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Claire Wellesley-Smith is an artist and author. She has an MA in Visual Arts and specialises in slow textile processes including the use of natural dyes and hand stitch. She has many years' experience of teaching adults textile-based processes as part of long-term projects. Her book, *Slow Stitch: Mindful and Contemplative Textile Art* was published by Batsford.

## TIMETABLE:

### Arrival day: Monday 15 October

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
5.30pm	Workshops available for dropping off equipment and materials
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 – <b>attendance is an essential part of the course.</b>

### Other days: Tuesday 16 to Thursday 18 October

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue

**Other days continued: Tuesday 16 to Thursday 18 October**

5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working: workshops are available up to 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored.

**Departure day: Friday 19 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, please vacate workshop by 3.30pm
3.30pm	Tea then departure

**REQUIRED PREPARATION:**

Please bring with you a textile that you are happy to share a story about with the group. This could be something that you have made or a family textile (it will not be included in the work you make during the course).

**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 a pack of essential materials supplied by the tutor for the course including dyestuffs, fabrics that are pre-mordanted and ready to dye, naturally dyed threads and wool grounds for stitching.

**Available from the Shop:**

Basic sewing supplies e.g. needles, embroidery scissors  
Sketchbooks

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

Small pieces of fabric that hold special meaning for you to incorporate with your stitching  
Simple sewing kit including scissors  
A notebook/sketchbook  
A camera for recording your processes

**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.