

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SWE08283 MILLINERY – MAKE A FELT CLOCHE HAT

Tutor: VICTORIA BROWN

Dates: WEEKEND FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER – SUNDAY 28 OCTOBER

### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Over the weekend you will learn how to make a hat from start to finish using professional black wool felt and traditional and not so traditional millinery skills and tools. A cloche is a classic hat that can be made from one felt hood (the basic unshaped felt that all hats start from). It is a versatile and very easy to wear shape that lends itself to be embellished and reinvented in many different ways. You will design the hat with preliminary sketches, samples and fabric swatches, this will probably be developed as you work and are inspired by the material and the process of making the hat. You will be making a hat that reflects your style and it will be wearable. To achieve this we will look at how to design and make a form that will be visually balanced from all angles. The hats will be embellished with ribbons and felt to make an individual statement.

You will be working with wool-felt hoods. You will learn:

- How to measure your head and prepare the hat block and stiffen the felt hood.
- How to improvise and make your own hat blocks.
- Block felt using steam and irons.
- Cut and finish the crown and brim.
- Stich in the headband inside the hat.
- Trim and decorate the hat with ribbon or felt.

Each stage will be demonstrated and individual tuition and discussion will ensure that everyone is able to acquire and develop the skills and confidence they need. Time will be spent experimenting and making samples and developing ideas and modifying designs.

By the end of the course everyone will have a wearable hat that they have made and trimmed, that reflects their own design.

### LEVEL: BEGINNERS/INTERMEDIATE

For those with little or no experience and for those who have taken a related course. Suited to those who would like a structured introduction to a subject, with further building of skills to work towards independent practice.

Students need to have some basic sewing skills.

### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Victoria is a tutor with 30 years experience teaching millinery, feltmaking and Fine Art. She trained at Goldsmiths College, London College of Fashion and RCA. She has designed hats for Jean Muir, exhibited her work from Philadelphia to Kirgizstan, has work in the V&A fashion collection and written two books.

In her millinery work, Victoria originally made one-off handrolled felt hats exhibited globally. The V&A brought a hat for their collection and the Worshipful Company Of Feltmakers commissioned a hat to present to HM The Queen. Victoria also designed and made millinery for Jean Muir for many years, with hats for ambassadors' wives and mothers of the bride inbetween.

## TIMETABLE:

### Arrival day: Friday 26 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> 1 <sup>st</sup> evening. I shall give a brief demonstration and overview of how a hat is made and what will be covered over the weekend. We will share some design ideas and look at the equipment and blocks. students can start to experiment with ribbons and trims for hats.

### Other days: Saturday 27 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
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: Sunday 28 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:

Some ideas and research for hats that you would like to make. Bring a sketchbook or notepad.

## 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 cost of the two black wool felt hoods and petersham ribbon, millinery wire, and ribbon for you cloche, and in addition red/black sewing thread, millinery needles and thumb tacks.

### Available from the tutor:

Extra felt hoods (£12 each ) will be available for you to buy and extra ribbon and petersham ribbon and millinery wire, if you want to make more, or use more than the allocated amount in the course fee.

**Please bring any of the items on page 2, if you have them, and in addition:**

A comfortable thimble that fits snugly on your index finger

Sewing kit and embroidery/fabric scissors

Quality machine sewing thread, if you have some

Reading glasses, if worn.

**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.

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