

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

### SLW08398: CARVING LARGE-SCALE SCULPTURES IN POLYSTYRENE

Tutor: JOHN BLAKELEY

Dates: LONG WEEKEND FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER – MONDAY 10 DECEMBER

#### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This is an opportunity to explore how the use of a modern material such as polystyrene can have a unique and invaluable place in the tradition of making sculpture.

#### The following are covered during the course:

- The translation of source material (photographs, or sketches) etc. modelled in clay or plasticine into a 3-dimensional maquette.
- Understanding the process of enlarging or reducing the maquette to the desired size.
- Gaining practical experience in carving a block of polystyrene.
- Producing a piece of sculpture to a point where the finishing can be developed by the student without supervision, if needs be, at a later date.
- Discussion of the various coatings, finishes, and colour that can be applied to protect the surface of polystyrene.

You work on your own projects, receiving individual tuition, demonstrations, and practical experience of the different sculptural techniques involved in carving polystyrene.

#### 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:

John Blakeley is a classically trained sculptor and has worked in the film industry for 25 years, as well as working on private and public commissions, including work for Madame Tussauds.

#### TIMETABLE:

##### Arrival day: Friday 7 December

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	<b>First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course</b> An introduction to the process

##### Other days: Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 December

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 – the workshop is open until 10pm

**Departure day: Monday 10 December**

(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:**

You should bring images, sketches, ideas etc, as a possible starting point.

**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:**

A block of polystyrene (4 x 2 x 2 feet) and some finishing products.

**Available from the Shop:**

Plasticine  
Sandpaper (various grades)  
Felt tip pens  
Tape measure

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

Overalls  
2 Knives: large (10inch) and small (6 inch) – non- serrated

**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.