

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SWE08537: THE JOY OF CHARCOAL

Tutor: KATIE SOLLOHUB

Dates: WEEKEND FRIDAY 22 FEBRUARY – SUNDAY 24 FEBRUARY

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This is an enjoyable and exciting introduction to the potential of willow charcoal and its extraordinary versatility. From early cave drawings, humans have used the black trace of a burnt piece of wood to leave their mark. This course offers opportunity for you to discover the joy of charcoal, with the space and support to develop your skills in using charcoal in a new and exciting way.

You will be encouraged to use charcoal in a tactile, expressive way, to make a series of abstract studies, making marks.

You will be exploring charcoal as a basic drawing material, experimenting with a broad and expressive range of marks to find your own personal language (soft, rubbed, scribbled, line, detail, pattern, texture, hard, light, dark).

Later in the course you will be given a series of exercises designed to lead you into drawing from observation, from a simple still life set up in the studio. You will be encouraged to take abstract and sensory elements from the still life as well as making visual observations.

You will be encouraged to change your drawings as they progress, rubbing out as much as drawing on, so the drawings stay fresh. This will give you the courage to draw expressively with charcoal in the future, whatever your previous drawing skills and experience, and to use it in new and experimental ways.

By the end of the course, you will have:

- Discovered a greater range of marks to use when drawing with charcoal.
- Completed a series of mark-making exercises and still life studies on A1 paper.
- Made 2 or 3 more substantial drawings from a still life on different types of paper.
- Learnt how to make studies that are both observational and experimental.

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.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Katie Sollohub is an experienced and inspirational tutor, with many years' experience. She specialises in courses that deal with the creative process, getting people to really see, experience, and play. Her own work is widely recognised for its liveliness and fresh approach, whether in sketchbooks or on huge canvases.

Katie Sollohub studied Anthropology and Fine Art. In 2014 she received an Arts Council Award for a residency at Turner's House. Working in charcoal and oils, her work has been shortlisted for Jerwood Drawing Prize, Lynne Painter Stainers Prize and RA Summer Show.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Friday 22 February

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 – attendance is an essential part of the course. On the first evening you will have a hands on experience with charcoal, making simple marks on paper, as well as an introduction to the course.

Other days: Saturday 23 February

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 24 February

(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

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:

Charcoal and paper for the first evening session.

Available from the Shop:

Willow charcoal
Compressed charcoal/black conte/black chalk
Hard plastic rubber
Masking tape
Fixative spray
A1 cartridge paper
Fixative Spray

Optional extras:

Graphite pencil
Putty rubber
Brushes for wet and dry use with charcoal

Available from the tutor:

The tutor will bring A1 cartridge paper (20p-40p) for drawing and specialist paper for more substantial work (£3-£8) which can be bought directly from her if needed.

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

Cotton rags

Hairspray for fixing (cheaper option, though not for professional use)

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.

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