

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S3D08400: PERSONAL JOURNALS – SOURCING INSPIRATION FOR TEXTILES

Tutor: CAS HOLMES

Dates: 3 DAYS MONDAY 10 DECEMBER – THURSDAY 13 DECEMBER

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Artists always make reference to other images and narrative. In this workshop we look at developing ideas through creative journals and sketchbooks as a starting point for textile based work and design ideas. Using the images, patterns and textures we find in the building and grounds of West Dean and/or from your own design source, you will start your own visual diary and look at creating 'sketches' and design ideas in unconventional ways. These will be used as a base to start torn paper drawings and textile mixed-media processes to start evolving ideas for a piece of work. This workshop offers a unique insight into the tutor's approach to gathering ideas and resources from the world around you and reflects her own approach to working as observed in a residency here at West Dean.

The journal and samples resulting from this creative exploration could be used as a starting point to your own creative practice for mixed media and textile-based work, 3D, books or collage.

Materials and techniques covered:

- Collation and developing ideas through drawing, collage and photography.
- Developing references using collected media and found resources referencing West Dean or own subject.
- Combining paper and textiles media and techniques.
- Simple drawing techniques and its combination with the stitched mark.
- Creating your own references, photos, and notes. Seeing with 'new eyes'.

A combination of demonstrations and discussion in the workshop will encourage you to work individually in applying techniques in the development of your own journal. Develop ideas in mixed media. Samples will be available to look at and the course ends with an open discussion of ideas and process in relation to the work produced.

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 practise.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Cas Holmes artist and author, trained in Fine Art at University for Creative Arts before research trips in Japan and India. Interested in sustainable practice, her innovative work with found materials is reflected in her first book, *The Found Object in Textile Art*. Her pieces are held in collections around the world, including the Museum of Art and Design in New York, Arts Council England and The Embroiderer's Guild UK. In 2012 she was a guest exhibitor at Knitting and Stitching Show.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Monday 10 December

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

Arrival day continued: Monday 10 December

8.00pm – 9.00pm First teaching session – **attendance is an essential part of the course.**
This will be a brief discussion and practical session, giving you the opportunity to ask questions. Please bring your sketchbook and some drawing and painting media with you. Making first marks in sketchbook. Wear suitable clothing for painting etc.

Other days: Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 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 – workshops are available until 10pm for those wishing to work on, these sessions are untutored but the tutor may sit in and continue with her own work. Sessions will be agreed as the workshop progresses.

At 5.30pm on the first day there will also be a talk on Cas Holmes' work and approaches with a focus on West Dean residency and projects.

Departure day: Thursday 13 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:

As you work through the course you may choose to make reference to the environment of West Dean, and/or work from personal images, ideas and other materials you have collected for inspiration. Bring images for inspiration and one or two images of previous work.

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:

Shared materials provided and printer inks used during the course.

Available from the Shop:

Items marked * on the list below

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

The course is based on using found materials. The list is intended as a guide but feel free to bring any favoured media.

Students need to bring: (listed items * may be purchased at the College Shop if necessary)

Papers:

- Any references or papers you have on a personal theme and/or collection of interesting waste papers. Old books, maps or related objects or photocopies from books and images you like. Assorted weights of papers from brown wrapping paper/potato sacks, tissue, glossy magazines, patterned paper, textured paper (wallpaper) oriental specialist papers, hand-made paper.
Gathered ephemera eg. lace, fabric scraps, staples, paperclips, pins, old food wrappers, ties, pegs, photographs, etc. 3-4 small found objects to print with. **(This should fit in one small carrier bag.)**

Equipment:

- A digital camera, with fresh batteries or charger and the camera to computer leads.
- A memory stick or CD * to save digital image work in progress to.
- A5 horizontal (landscape) cartridge spiral sketchbook*. Approx 150gsm paper weight. Avoid the ones with thin paper. There are good Seawhite brand sketchbooks at a reasonable price in the college shop.
- A selection of drawing materials you may already have: include at least a waterproof fine tipped pen* a soft (2b-4b pencil) *koh-I-noor paint set or watercolour set*. Additional writing/drawing media of your choice (ie coloured pencils, felt pens small bottle of inks, etc). Small sponge.
- Plastic ruler *, Scalpel. Scissors*, 2 large glue sticks.*
- Wide or one-inch brush, 2-3 finer brushes, sponge, 3-4 plastic lidded containers (margarine tubs or similar for dye and glue).
- Small amount of fabric, patterns and plains, to be used for collage
- Small (half metre) or less of white cotton* for backing larger pieces (optional)

Basic sewing equipment:

- Needles*, pins*, assorted threads of your choice* include a few machine threads part of the course focuses on hand stitching for those who wish to stitch and there will be 2-4 sewing machines available for a brief demonstration and experimentation (you may bring your own machine if you wish).

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.