

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S3D08309: MOSAICS – ANCIENT FRAGMENTS, MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES

Tutor: HILARY SHAND

Dates: 3 DAYS MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER – THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER

## ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Learn how to make a fragment which looks like a piece of an original, ancient mosaic you might have found at Pompeii or a Roman Villa near you.

Become an apprentice for a few days and learn the traditional way of hand cutting marble, stone and terracotta, using the hammer and hardie, to make small cubes called tesserae. Using the INDIRECT METHOD find out through copying the work of a past master how tesserae can be best placed to interpret an image, and how the limited palette of colours can be most expressive. Your mosaic is then cast into a cement base.

You can choose to work from photographs of mosaic examples provided on the course or bring your own along. In which case you will be looking for a section of an ancient mosaic which you will find on the floor of a Romano British Villa or in a museum. Select a section roughly 10 x 14 ins or 26 x 36 cms which should include an image e.g. fish, bird or something similar in scale, perhaps some foliage too and a little geometric detail if you wish. Take a photograph or buy a post card or find it in a book. ENLARGE the photograph by repeatedly photocopying it until each individual tessera measures approx. 8 to 10 mm. The Tesserae you will make on the course are then stuck onto this copy. This will be cast in a cement mortar.

The finished mosaic you take home will be heavy. Be prepared to transport it horizontally.

## 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. No special pre skills are required. A steady hand helps.

## ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Hilary Shand trained as a painter at Bath Academy of Art and studied traditional mosaic making techniques in Ravenna Italy. She mostly works to commission and exhibits in garden galleries.

## TIMETABLE:

### Arrival day: Monday 5 November

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> Importantly on the first evening you will be selecting materials e.g. marble, stone and terracotta. Also we will be choosing the image you will be working from to make your mosaic.

### Other days: Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 November

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue

**Other days continued: Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 November**

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: Thursday 8 November**

(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:**

Look at ancient floor mosaics. Visit a Roman Villa near you if you can to gain enthusiasm.

**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 the cost of providing materials needed for your project, including marble, stone and terracotta, sand, cement and plasticizer for the mortar, the cost of the base board and release agent.

**Available from the Shop:**

Sketch pad  
Pencils  
Tile nippers (although you can borrow these on the course)

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

Flat trays in which to store cut tesserae e.g. food containers from your kitchen or supermarket  
Ruler, other usual drawing equipment  
Small glue brush  
Apron  
Heavy duty rubber gloves  
Bubble wrap or similar for transporting your mosaic which must be carried horizontally  
You will use most of the above on the course but nothing needs to be new

**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.