

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S4D08514: MIXED METAL FUSING

Tutor: HAZEL THORN

Dates: 4 DAYS SUNDAY 10 FEBRUARY – THURSDAY 14 FEBRUARY

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course covers various ways of creating pattern through mixed-metal fusing, by a lateral layering of wires, rods or pieces of sheet. The possibilities of these techniques can lend themselves to many different styles, whether geometric or organic, abstract or representational.

Hazel developed this fusing technique after learning Mokume Gane here at West Dean on Alistair McCallum's course. She spent several years including a Masters degree refining and progressing her technique, leading to a distinctive pallet of patterns and colours which are recognisably related to, but also distinct from, the original Mokume Gane.

During the course, you will create several small samples, and also consider how these processes could be incorporated into your design work, in either silversmithing or jewellery. The samples made on the course will include several different type of patterns and patinas. Before patinating, you may wish to form your metal samples into 3D objects.

You will be shown how to create various patterns, and then also encouraged to look at your research materials and work with the tutor to develop the techniques towards your own personal style and ideas.

After participating in this course, you will be well prepared to continue making the types of patterned metal sheets demonstrated, and also to experiment further on your own. There is a huge amount of potential to explore, in terms of the ways of creating patterns, the chemicals used to colour the metals, and the eventual applications of these experiments into finished pieces.

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

For those who have taken a related course or have some existing skills, and for more experienced practitioners who want to expand skills. The focus is on working towards independent practice.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Hazel is a contemporary silversmith specialising in mixed-metal fusing and patination. She studied at Edinburgh College of Art and is now a regular visiting tutor at ECA. Her work is held in permanent collections by The Goldsmiths' Company (London) and the Edinburgh Incorporation of Goldsmiths. She also collaborated with Hamilton & Inches (Edinburgh) and made a section of the ceremonial mace for the University of the Highlands & Islands.

A recent piece of Hazel's work can be seen at the V&A, where it is on display until June 2017. This is as part of the exhibition 'Silver Speaks' by the Contemporary British Silversmiths, of which she is a member.

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Sunday 10 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.

Other days: Monday 11 to Wednesday 13 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: Thursday 14 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

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Please bring sketchbooks or similar with your research materials (eg drawing, photography, painting, collage, etc). You will be using this imagery to develop patterns for your metalwork samples created during the course. You may also wish to work on designs for pieces you intend to make after completing this course. Please bring some imagery of your previous work, in order to help with design plans by considering the new techniques in relation to existing pieces and themes.

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.

Additional charge:

On this course the tutor will supply some of the materials. This charge should be paid to the tutor before the end of the course, by cash or cheque. The amount depends on the type and quantity of metal used – for your initial samples this will be between £40 to £80. It is then up to each student what kinds of metal they wish to use for further samples or pieces, and on what scale (and whether to purchase materials from the tutor, the shop, or to bring their own with them).

Available from the Shop:

Drawing materials	Some base and precious metal
Sandpaper	

Available from the tutor:

Some base and precious metal	Attachments for pendant drill
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Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:

Basic hand tools eg:

A selection of pliers and snips

Piercing saw and blades

Files (including needle files)

Things needed for soldering eg brush, tweezers

Workshop consumables such as flux and sandpaper (or purchase from the college shop)

Please bring continued:

If you have one – a device for holding tube or rod during sawing, such as a Chenier cutter

If you have them – burring / grinding / sanding attachments for a pendant drill

If you wish – any base or precious metal which you already have and would like to use during the course. The techniques to be learnt can accommodate many different types and forms of metal (eg copper, silver, gilding-metal, in either sheet, rod or wire format)

If you wish – some of your preferred drawing materials, though these can also be purchased at the college shop

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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