

WORKSHOP Autumnal Flowers & Still Life in Acrylic with Andrea Humphries

Price £125

Location RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

Date Wednesday 21st October 2026

Time 10.30am – 4.30pm

About the Workshop

Explore flowers and still life through observation, experimentation and acrylic paint in this workshop with Andrea Humphries.

The day will begin with close-up observational studies of flowers, leaves, berries and seedheads, as well as the shapes, patterns and surfaces of ceramics and textiles. You will work from the still life to explore shape, form and detail while developing a loose and expressive approach to painting.

Andrea will introduce her own techniques for working with acrylic paint, demonstrating how she uses ground chalk and acrylic medium to create a range of effects, from thick, dry and chalky impasto to transparent, silky washes. You will have the opportunity to experiment with these techniques and explore how they can be used to develop a floral painting from observation.

The emphasis throughout the day will be on experimentation and play, with opportunities to share work, discuss ideas and develop your painting as the day progresses.

Suitable for beginners.

Morning

- Initial introductions.
- Andrea will introduce the group to examples of her work, discussing her process and approach to her subject. Andrea will introduce the group to other female still life painters, including Winifred Nicholson, Gabriel Munter & Paula Modersohn Becker to help inspire.
- Participants will work from a close-up still life, observing the shape and form of flowers, leaves, berries and seedheads, as well as patterns and surfaces in ceramics and textiles.
- Andrea will demonstrate her own techniques for working with acrylic paint, including the use of ground chalk, acrylic medium and water to create different effects.
- Participants will experiment with thick, dry and chalky paint, transparent washes and other acrylic techniques through a series of loose, exploratory studies.

Afternoon

- Break for lunch.
- Participants will use the techniques and ideas explored in the morning to develop a floral painting. This can be a new piece or incorporate and collage elements from their morning studies. It can be a still life or a more abstract piece.
- Participants will be encouraged to explore representational or more abstract approaches, arranging shapes and forms, building up layers and adding detail to create a dynamic seasonal composition.
- Andrea will offer one to one advice, direction and mini demonstrations throughout
- Review: the day will finish with a group review led by Andrea, with an opportunity to discuss the work, ask questions and share ideas.

About the Tutor

Andrea is a still life painter living and working in London. She has taught drawing and painting to children and adults for over 20 years and exhibits her work widely throughout the UK.

A visit to a garden or landscape is an important starting point for Andrea's work. Her subjects include flowers, animals, birds and landscapes, which she explores through watercolour, pencil and acrylic painting.

Decorative backgrounds, detailed surface patterns, and the structure and shape of plants and objects are recurring features of her work.

Materials

- **Acrylic paint:** a good range of acrylic paint (roughly 10 colours), including white, Prussian Blue & the 3 primaries.
- **Heavy based acrylic paper:** A3 acrylic pad, roughly 15 sheets and 300gsm
- **Brushes:** assortment of 3 to 6 brushes in various sizes. Andrea recommends 1 x large round hog hair size 12, Domed lily bristle round brush No.4, Small/medium round size 3 & 10.
- **Palette:** deep wells with at least 6 sections (yogurt pots are also good)
- **Water pot**
- **Pencil & eraser**
- **Kitchen Roll**
- **Personal objects:** bring small personal objects/textiles from home you'd like to use to personalise your still life.

Optional:

- Artist whiting/ground chalk (the gallery will provide this)
- Acrylic Medium (the gallery will provide this)

Useful Links

Andrea recommends looking at your favourite still life painters and to study the content and composition of their still life work.

Especially the work of Gabriel Munter, Paula Modersohn Becker and Winifred Nicholson.

Website: www.andreahumphries.com

Instagram: www.instagram.com/andreahumphries3

Location



RWS Gallery
3-5 Whitcomb Street
London
WC2H 7HA

Just off Trafalgar Square
Nearest tubes: Leicester Square and
Charing Cross

Nearby parking is very limited. There is a Q-Park multi-storey car park at the top of Whitcomb Street that charges around £9/hour. If you wish to travel by car we recommend checking nearby parking on parkopedia.com

Lunch & Refreshments

Lunch is not provided and it is recommended that you bring your own food and drink for the day, which can be consumed in the gallery. Students are welcome to use the gallery fridges to store their food and drink. There are also many cafes nearby including a Pret-a-Manger next door to the gallery.