

WORKSHOP Colour & Transparency: Landscape Painting in Watercolour with Neil Pittaway RWS

Price £110

Location RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

Date Monday 15th September 2025

Time 10.30am – 4.30pm

About the Workshop

In this workshop you will be given a comprehensive introduction to creating watercolour landscape paintings. You will learn about how different artists use colour and transparency to create various styles of landscape painting and will be shown how to hone these techniques to create your own watercolour paintings.

You will learn how to use artist references, apply different washes using a broad tonal range, understand some of the qualities of watercolour through various techniques including transparency and light effects, and develop an understanding of composition in both abstract and figurative forms. There will be emphasis on experimentation, trial and error and creative discovery throughout the day.

This course is suitable for all levels of ability including beginners and those willing to have a go.

Morning

- Initial introductions and a brief discussion on various examples of watercolour landscape painting and watercolour landscape artists.
- Neil will then lead a series of practical exercises showing different techniques and methods to create landscape paintings. These exercises will include colour mixing techniques, compositional techniques and how to capture and paint different aspects of natural or built environments.
- Break for lunch.

Afternoon

- The afternoon session will start with a brief discussion on the explored techniques and produced works, along with suggestions for further development and extension.
- Guidance will be provided on utilising the morning's work and artist references to build and develop a finished watercolour landscape painting.
- Participants will continue working on their own paintings with personalised advice and direction from Neil.
- Review session: an opportunity to view each other's work, ask questions, and receive feedback on next steps for further developing individual watercolour projects.

About the Tutor

Neil Pittaway was born in Wakefield, Yorkshire. He studied at Cheltenham School of Art, the University of Bradford, the Royal Academy Schools, London, and the University of Huddersfield.

Neil is a Fellow of both the Royal Watercolour Society (RWS) and the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers (RE) and an exhibiting Member of Leeds Fine Artists. His work is in public collections including the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; Bankside Gallery, RWS & RE Collection, London; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; St. Paul's Cathedral Library, London; Guild Hall Art Library, London; The Arts Club, Dover Street, London; the D.H. Lawrence Museum and Birthplace, Nottingham; the Indian Institute of Contemporary Art, Mumbai, India; and H.M. The Queen, The Royal Collection and The Collection of Heritage Malta.

Materials

- **Watercolour paper:** sheets or pad (A2 or smaller)
- **Watercolour paints:** any colour sets
- **Paint brushes:** various sizes, including a broad wash brush (This can include any large rounded or flat soft brush synthetic or natural fibres)
- **Drawing pencils**
- **Eraser, ruler, pencil sharpener**
- **Masking tape**
- **Palette**
- **Water pot**
- **Kitchen roll**
- **Coloured pictures:** of different types of landscapes including urban and the natural world, please also bring some images of skies, sunsets, clouds, water reflections and any other inspiring landscape pictures you have
- **Previous sketchbook work** or completed pieces

Useful Links

Neil's website: <https://neilpittawayartist.com/>

Colour Theory: <https://watercoloracademy.com/watercolor-academy-news/color-theory-in-watercolor-painting>

Artist references:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/raoul-dufy-1038>

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/research-publications/jmw-turner>

<http://paresh-maity.com/>

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.