

WORKSHOP Exploring Still Life Through Gouache with Wendy Jacob RWS

Price £100

Location RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

Date Friday 4th of April 2025

Time 10.30am - 4pm

About the Workshop

Gouache, unlike watercolour, is opaque in nature meaning the white of the paper surface does not show through, making it much easier to use. Gouache allows you to mix wonderfully harmonious colours, either soft and gentle or vibrant and lively. With gouache, you can paint over yesterday's painting, allowing you to change your work radically as you go along.

In this workshop you will explore the possibilities of one of the oldest and most versatile of mediums. During the day, you will experiment with the handling and mixing of colours, to create a series of artistic responses to a still life. Wendy will go through the methods in arranging objects that will produce an eye-catching artwork. She will also describe the various techniques she uses in her own work.

This workshop is suitable for beginners.

Morning

- Introduction to gouache with a practical exercise in mixing gouache, focusing on consistency and colour, to demonstrate how different gouache is from watercolour. You will make a very small painting on card provided by Wendy.
- Wendy will discuss the importance of thinking hard about setting up your still life with reference to various artists.
- You will set up your own still life and make very small drawings, which will help you see how the arrangement could be altered, furthering your understanding of the importance of composition.
- Start the painting – continue until lunchtime.

Afternoon

- Break for lunch
- After a quick appraisal of the morning's work, you will continue to work on your painting with personal teaching as the works develop.
- Review: shortly before finishing for the day, Wendy will lead a group discussion about each other's work and give an opportunity to ask questions.

About the Tutor

Wendy grew up and went to Art School in London. She was an illustrator for many years, working for national newspapers, magazines, advertising and publishing.

Her paintings were first exhibited in 1989, and she has contributed regularly to many selected exhibitions, including the Sunday Times Watercolour Competition, The New English Art Club and the Discerning Eye.

Her usual medium is gouache, and her subject is landscape, often boundaries, edges and fences, seeking the spirit of a place rather than a topographical rendering. She likes painting buildings, fences, gardens, parks, beaches, cliffs - and always keeps her eyes wide open for new subjects, carrying a sketchbook wherever she goes.

Wendy also finds that still life is a constant joy, allowing contemplation of ideas concerning composition, colour and scale.

Materials

- **Watercolour paper**
- **Selection of brushes** - you don't need the best quality. Include one or two larger sizes – a number 6 or 8 and some smaller ones.
- **Tubes of gouache** – Winsor and Newton's Designers Colours are recommended. You can manage with just the primaries red, blue, yellow and white. (Cass Art often have good value small starter packs for sale)
- **Palette** or something to mix your paint on.
- **Water pot Pencil & eraser**
- **Masking tape**
- Some **absorbent paper (kitchen roll)**.
- Bring some **small objects** for setting up a still life

Useful Links:

<https://www.wendyjacob.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/Swendyjacob>

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.