

WORKSHOP Landscape, Memory & Narrative in Acrylic with David Phillips

Price £125

Location RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

Date Saturday 24th October 2026

Time 10.30am – 4.30pm

About the Workshop

Explore the relationship between landscape, memory and narrative in this acrylic workshop with David Phillips.

Inspired by the Welsh and English countryside and the stories woven into the land, David will share his personal approach to creating atmospheric landscapes in acrylic. Drawing on memory and personal experience, you will explore how colour, layering and texture can transform a familiar landscape into something more evocative.

Through demonstration and practical exploration, David will introduce the versatility of acrylic and its similarities to watercolour. Like watercolour, acrylic can be used in thin washes, with the added benefit that it does not re-activate once dry. Its fast-drying nature also allows you to build up layers of colour while retaining the washes beneath, creating effects that would not be possible with other media.

Working from ideas and observations of the landscape, you will develop a series of studies, experimenting with washes and layering. The workshop will encourage you to develop your own response to the landscape, considering how memories and imagination can influence the way you paint.

Suitable for beginners

Morning

- Initial introductions.
- David will introduce the group to examples of his work, discussing his process and approach to his subject.
- David will discuss the nature and qualities of acrylic paint, introducing the group to types and brands of acrylic, priming and painting surfaces and paint additives.
- David will demonstrate his own techniques for working with acrylic paint, demonstrating the versatility of acrylic and its similarities to watercolour.
- The rest of the morning will be an interactive studio practice where David will help and advise participants to better understand acrylic and its potential. Participants will experiment with short exercises on areas such as skies, foliage, etc.

Afternoon

- Break for lunch
- David will lead a group discussion of what has been learnt so far.
- Participants will use the techniques and ideas explored in the morning to develop their own personal landscape painting.
- David will offer one to one advice, direction and mini demonstrations throughout
- Review: final round up and viewing of the work as a group and a chance to discuss and consider how to take their work forward independently.

About the Tutor

David Phillips is an artist and designer whose career spans the intersecting worlds of art, architecture, education, and design. After graduating from the Royal College of Art with an MA in Fine Art, he went on to study architecture at London South Bank University, developing a practice that bridges spatial thinking with visual expression. He has exhibited his work internationally, with exhibitions held across Britain, Japan, China, and the United States.

Having previously taught at the University of the Arts London, Kingston University and the University of Hertfordshire, he has now retired from teaching to focus on his art and design practice.

Materials

- **Watercolour paper:** A pad of A4 watercolour paper
- **Acrylic paint:** in tubes, colours of your choice. David suggests you bring at least 10 different colours, one of which is white. Recommended brands: Windsor & Newton, Liquitex, Golden, Schmincke. Lefranc Bourgeois, Sennelier.
- **Brushes:** in a range of sizes. David recommends bring at least one large stiff brush.
- **Pencils & eraser**
- **Coloured crayons:** in a selection of colours
- **A notebook**
- **Water pots:** jam jars or yogurt pots will be fine
- **Palette:** with enough room for mixing, or similar, such as a large dinner plate or Tupperware with lid
- **Kitchen roll**
- **Reference images:** photographs of landscapes that have personal significance

Useful Links

David's website: www.tenfields.com

David's Instagram: www.instagram.com/tenfields

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.