

## **WORKSHOP** Light & Transparency: Landscape Painting in Watercolour with Neil Pittaway RWS

**Price** £100

**Location** RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

**Date** Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2025

**Time** 10.30am - 4pm

### **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 mix colours using different watercolour techniques to achieve various effects of light and transparency, exploring both abstract and figurative painting. The workshop draws inspiration from the works of Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky, Raoul Dufy, JMW Turner, Edward Lear and John Singer Sargent to inspire your own watercolour painting.

Throughout the day, 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, develop an understanding of composition in both abstract and figurative forms, and master colour mixing.

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, including works by Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky, Raoul Dufy, JMW Turner, Edward Lear and John Singer Sargent.
- Neil will then lead a series of practical exercises based on the techniques and methods used by these artists. This will include exploring some of Paul Klee's colour theories, among other artistic approaches.
- Participants will continue with these exercises and further explore techniques by creating their own landscape watercolour paintings. Emphasis will be placed on experimentation, trial and error, and creative discovery, with guidance provided on how to develop and refine individual watercolour projects.
- The morning session will conclude with a brief discussion on the explored techniques and produced works, along with suggestions for further development and extension.

## **Afternoon**

- Break for lunch.
- A short introduction to Neil's work, his artistic approach, and his inspiration drawn from the Royal Watercolour Society Diploma Collection.
- 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
- **Drawing pencils**
- **Eraser, ruler, pencil sharpener**
- **Masking tape**
- **Palette**
- **Water pot**
- **Kitchen roll**
- **Coloured pictures:** abstract shapes, patterns, portraits, landscapes, skies, sunsets, clouds, reflections, any inspiring subject
- **Previous sketchbook work** or completed pieces

## Useful Links

Neil's website:

<https://neilpittawayartist.com/>

Artist references:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/joseph-mallord-william-turner-558/how-spin-colour-wheel-turner-malevich-and-more>

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

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

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/wassily-kandinsky-1382>

<https://www.christies.com/en/artists/raoul-dufy?lotavailability=All&sortby=relevance>

## 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](http://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.