

## **WORKSHOP** Portraiture in Watercolour with Mark Entwisle RWS

**Price** £220

**Location** RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

**Date** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2025

**Time** 10.30am – 4.30pm

### **About the Workshop**

In this two day workshop you will learn the basic principles of watercolour portraiture; including the mixing of skin tones, application of paint, complimentary colours and composition. Through demonstration, you will have the chance to learn from Mark's personal approach, as well as seek inspiration from other artist references.

Day one you will work from a still image and be guided to create your own final piece of work. In day two you will have the chance to work directly from a live model and will be guided to create observational paintings. Through exploration, you will learn how to paint the human figure, focusing on colour mixing, light, shadow and composition.

This course is open to all levels, but it would be beneficial to have a small amount of experience in watercolour.

### **Day 1**

- Initial introductions and a group discussion on reference material and expected outcomes from the session
- Artist demonstration
- Begin own painting, giving thought to composition and reference to artist examples
- Break for lunch
- Continue with own painting, with tailored advice and mini demonstrations from Mark to illustrate this
- Review: there will be a chance to view each other's work and an opportunity to ask questions.

## Day 2

- Mark will start day 2 with a refresher on what the group learnt from the previous day. He will go over the mixing of skin tones, application of paint, complimentary colours and composition. Mark will also discuss the importance of understanding the anatomy of the body, especially the structure of the skull and how it relates to the face you are drawing/painting.
- You will then have the opportunity to work directly from a live clothed model. You will start the morning with a warm up of short poses, building up to a series of longer poses.
- Break for lunch
- In the afternoon you will work from one pose, creating a considered observational painting.
- Mark will offer one to one advice, direction and mini demonstrations throughout.
- Review/crit: there will be a chance to view each other's work and an opportunity to ask questions.

## About the Tutor

Mark studied illustration at Brighton University and was an illustrator for 15 years. His previous commissions include the National Theatre production of Wind in the Willows and book covers for P G Wodehouse, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Auden, Joanna Trollope, Aldous Huxley and many others. During his 15 years as an illustrator, Mark continued to feed his need to paint and began showing at galleries in Bath and London in the 1990s. He has won Art prizes including the Hunting Art Prize, the Discerning Eye Founders Prize and The Sunday Times Watercolour Competition. After winning a prize at the BP Portrait Awards, Mark was invited to teach students at the National Portrait Gallery and has been teaching ever since. He most recently has taught at The Art Stables in Finchley, ArtHouse in Crouch End and at Art retreats.

## Materials

- **Watercolour pad A4 or A3:** preferably Hot Press or Not (smooth or slightly textured). Recommended brands are Arches paper or Bockingford.
- **Watercolour set:** recommended colours include Lemon Yellow, Yellow Ochre, Naples Yellow (if possible), Burnt Sienna, Vandyke Brown / Burnt Umber , Ultramarine Blue , Turquoise , Cadmium Red/ Vermilion, Crimson , Sap Green, Phthalo Green, Payne's Grey
- **Brushes:** two or three round head brushes. Size 4 and 8 would suffice but a larger brush or flat headed brush for larger washes could be useful. Recommended brushes are Da Vinci sable brushes, but synthetic brushes are fine and more affordable for the bigger sizes.
- **Palette** (large plate is also suitable)
- **Water pot**
- **Pencil and rubber**
- **Clips:** for drawing board
- **Still images to work from and artist references (if applicable)**

## Useful Links:

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/markentwisle/watercolour-portraits/>

## 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.