

WORKSHOP | BEING PLAYFUL & BOLD IN WATERCOLOUR | SOPHIE KNIGHT RWS
Saturday 30 March 2019 | 10am – 4pm

Course Description:

Watercolour painting can be a little scary at first. Most people will have heard a set of rules and the 'do's and don'ts' about how to handle the medium. This course aims to bring back the fun and joy of working in watercolour, using working methods that Sophie Knight employs in her own paintings. She will show how much freedom you can have covering the surface with the use of bold colour, washes, wet on wet paint, scratching, strong brush marks, and all on unprepared paper.

This workshop will suit anyone who wants to further their ability to use watercolour who has a smaller or larger amount of experience.

Structure of the day:

Morning:

1. A demonstration by Sophie of her working methods & a discussion of the aims of the day:

- To further the student 's handling of bold washes of watercolour
- To show how watercolour paper can be used without stretching it beforehand
- To introduce new ways of working with watercolour, including squeezing paint straight onto paper
- To allow experimentation with painting methods to encourage confidence

2. Students should start one small painting using these methods before lunch using landscape photos Sophie will supply

Afternoon:

Students will paint one or two paintings using new methods, such as 'wet on wet' and bold washes, and will be encouraged to take a fast and bold approach.

There will be a 40 minute lunch break, but students are welcome to continue working over this period, if they wish.

About the Tutor:

Sophie lives in London and has a studio in New Cross, but much of her work is done outside working directly from the landscape or cityscape. Her watercolours are worked in an energetic and vigorous manner, squeezing paint straight onto the paper, scratching in marks and drawing directly with a brush, she aims to retain the freshness and vitality of her visual excitement and record the physical experience of working within the landscape.

Required Materials

- A clean plant sprayer
- Toilet rolls
- A small knife or palate knife to cut the paper with (size of paintings to be decided on the day)
- Tubes of paint/ student quality cotman tubes ideal

Recommended colours:

- Indigo blue
- Ultramarine blue
- Cobalt blue
- Cerulean blue
- Prussian blue
- Alizarin Crimson
- Cadmium red
- Burnt Sienna
- Sepia
- Cadmium yellow
- Lemon yellow
- Chinese white

Either:

- 2 large imperial size pieces of paper/ Archers 200 grams in 'Not texture' or 'Rough' (not hot pressed)

Or

- Saunders Watercolour paper , 185 or 200 grams in 'Not texture' or 'Rough' (not hot pressed.
- A range of watercolour brushes including at least one large flat wash brush of 1 ½ inch or larger
- A coffee mug as Heatherley's has gone disposable cup-free, but tea, coffee and milk are available for students

Other Practical Information for the Day of the Workshop

- The workshop is held at **The Heatherley School of Art, 75 Lots Road, London SW10 0RN (020 7351 4190)**
- On Saturdays there is some parking on the premises and a paid car park nearby.
- Entry to the College is through the front door and tutors and students must sign in at the office. Doors open at 9.30am for the tutor to set up, and 9.45-10am for students.
- You would be wise to bring a packed lunch as most of the nearby sandwich shops are closed on a Saturday. However, if you wish to buy food, there are two pubs within 2 minutes' walk of the school, *The Ram* on Burnaby Street, and the *Lots Road Pub & Dining Rooms* on Lots Road. There is a large subterranean café called *Jak's* also on Lots Road on the corner of the Kings Road. There are two Tescos about 10 minutes' walk away, one by Imperial Wharf Station and one on the Kings Road, going west at the Esso Garage. Please bring your own tea and coffee

cup as Heatherley's no longer provides these in a bid to help the environment. They will however provide tea, coffee, hot water and milk.

- Heatherley's is on the London Overground and their station is Imperial Wharf, which is about five minutes' walk away. www.Tfl.gov.uk can help plan your journey and Heatherley's also has useful information on their website <https://www.heatherleys.org/contact/find-us/>
- If you are painting still life, objects found in other studios may be used.
- At the end of the day the office staff leave at 3.30pm. Classes must leave promptly and Heatherley's recommend that you have your class cleared up by 3.50. The door is locked at 4.00pm by a Heatherley's tutor, as RWS tutors do not have keys.
- The tutor will be provided with a list of students attending the course, but not their contact details.

If you are unable to attend last minute on the morning of the workshop, please contact the Heatherley's Reception (020 7351 4190) after 9.30am and they will pass on the message to the tutor. Bankside Gallery's phones will not be answered until 11am. **Please be aware we do not offer course fee transfers or refunds unless it is us who cancels the workshop.**

