

WELCOME TO THE OMEGA ART SCHOOL

The beginner's course is designed for you to develop core skills and your appreciation of (but is not limited to) colour, form, tone, texture, proportion and composition. Which will be through, engagement of exploration of a range of tools, surfaces and techniques in drawing, painting, and collage. You will gain experience working in representational, non-figurative, non-representational and/or abstract genres. Developing your technical skills within a range of different media.

Materials are included, and you will be provided with a sketchbook and set some tasks or challenges at home. Remember, the only bad sketchbook is an empty one! Motivation is a myth so don't wait for it, instead put the time aside. As few as ten minutes a day is enough to make substantial progress and the key to your personal development and gaining confidence. In this course you will be asked to do preliminary work to facilitate work in the upcoming lessons. There is also an expectation for you to use your sketchbook, to internalize what you have learnt so far and develop as an artist. This may be in the form of homework or your own independent work. Whilst we won't pressure you to use it you will be pleased you did! At the end of the 10 weeks, you will look back and be surprised by the difference it made.

Wear clothing that you are happy to spoil and if you prefer not to get ink etc. on your hands, please bring along some skin gloves.

COURSE DURATION – 10 WEEKS

WEEK 1: KEVIN DEAN DRAWING

OBJECTIVE – get to experience some drawing exercises and gain a better understanding of mark making and the impact this has on work. To develop a desire to experiment with media and materials with purpose. Examine how other artists have explored materials with differing intentions and the resulting artwork.
MATERIALS – Pencils, Paper

Aim – create a visual lexicon of techniques and experiments for future reference through the exploration of materials

WEEK 2 CHRIS WOOD A.M. KEVIN DEAN P.M. TONAL DRAWING

OBJECTIVE – To appreciate the subtleties between tints and shades. How these are used to create the illusion of 3 dimensions, understanding light and how direction of line, combined with tints and shades can create depth, form, volume, weight and mass. To become familiar with the qualities of the materials being employed, using both additive and subtractive techniques.
MATERIALS – charcoal, putty rubber, pencils

Aim – to produce a series of experiments with mark making. Create 3dimensional forms. Produce a drawing using taught techniques.

WEEK 3 JACQUI MAIR COLOUR THEORY

OBJECTIVE – Gain a better knowledge of colour theory using pigment. How a colour wheel works and what information read from it. Where do primary colours come from, how to create consistent secondary colour values, how tertiary colours are created and why analogous colours are associated with a more harmonious outcome than complimentary.
MATERIALS – Water colour paints, variety of brushes, colour wheels, papers

Aim – After producing colour wheel. Play with limited palettes and brush techniques to produce a 'horse's blankets'

THE OMEGA ART SCHOOL

Welcome Pack and Beginners Course Syllabus

WEEK 4
KEVIN DEAN
PERSPECTIVE

OBJECTIVE – Gain knowledge of approaches to perspective and the difference between one and two-point perspective. The importance of YOUR eye level when drawing perspective. Understanding the effects of eyelevel on perspective with some artist examples. Getting to grips with orthogonal lines, ellipses and more organic shapes when creating a perspective piece.
MATERIALS – pencils, paper

Aim –to produce a series of increasingly complex drawings that explore different aspects of perspective.

WEEK 5
KEVIN DEAN
WATER COLOUR

OBJECTIVE – To understand the techniques and processes for laying various washes, from flat to wet on wet washes. When and how to employ hard or soft edges, resist techniques, drawing with paint and varying the tonal values of watercolour
Materials: Watercolour paints, brushes, resist products, watercolour paper.
Please bring a white plate to use as a palette and a jam jar for water.

Aim –The samples and exercises should be seen as a form of picture making which, once combined can make up an abstract image.

2 WEEK HALF TERM

WEEK 6
KEVIN DEAN
WATER COLOUR

OBJECTIVE – Employ and develop transferrable skills and techniques you have covered in previous sessions with drawing (weeks and 2), perspective (week 3) and water colour techniques (week 4) along with the colour theory (week 5), into practice. To create an observational still life painting of a mix of man-made objects and organic forms.

Aim – To create a short series of watercolour studies of a mix of man-made objects and organic forms.

WEEK 7
CHRIS WOOD A.M.
MATAIO AUSTIN-DEAN P.M.
ACRYLICS

OBJECTIVE – To understand of the properties of acrylic paints, the effects of the medium when used in differing consistencies, with varying application methods and upon different surfaces. Develop brush skills. How to lay out a palette, best methods to prepare your surfaces and why. To appreciate how your purpose, mark making, application methods can create multiple outcomes.
MATERIALS – Acrylic, Acrylic Medium, Paper, Various brushes, Paint Knife and other instruments.

Aim – explore properties/effects of acrylic to change the substance upon varying surfaces with a variety of tools and thinners.

WEEK 8
CHRIS WOOD A.M.
MATAIO AUSTIN-DEAN P.M.
ACRYLICS

OBJECTIVE – to expand knowledge of the benefits of the fast-drying time of acrylic and recognise methods to exploit this property. Look at why this can be an advantage or a disadvantage. Which materials can be added to slow or increase its drying time or change its structure. To understand why acrylics can be good for expressive and experimental work.
MATERIALS – Acrylic, Acrylic Medium, Paper, Various brushes, Paint Knife and other instruments

Aim – To complete a series of paintings, that explore several techniques when working with acrylic. With a view to employing in your own future work.

WEEK 9 JACQUI MAIR COLLAGE

OBJECTIVE – to understand the processes of creating a collage, creating harmonious or contrasting images by playing with composition, using layering, and creating surfaces and textures. Gaining knowledge of the importance of positioning and repositioning. Creating a narrative within an image.

MATERIALS – paints, ink, various papers, found objects, scissors, glue and other mixed media.

Aim – To create a collage in response to the theme “Birds and other worlds”

WEEK 10 REVIEW & CONSOLIDATION

OBJECTIVE – To finish off any loose ends, present your work, and share your work with your group. Evaluate progress and celebrate each other’s achievements. Tutors are available to give personalised feedback and provide advice for your next steps.

MATERIALS –Your class works, homework and sketchbooks and a little laughter, conversation and each other!

Aim – recognise your progress and that of your newfound artist circle. To be given feedback from tutors if you choose to

RECOMMENDED READS

Ways of Seeing: John Berger
About Looking: John Berger
Image, Music, Text: Roland Barthes
Think Like an Artist: Will Gompertz
Mindfulness and the Art of Drawing:
Wendy Ann Greenhalgh
The Story of Painting:
Sister Wendy Beckett

DOCUMENTARIES

Painters Painting (1972) directed
Emile De Antonio
Alice Neel (2007) directed
Andrew Neel
Boom for Real (2017) Sara Driver
Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict
(2015) directed Lisa Vreeland
Nothing Changes, for Hanks Sake
(2018) directed Mathew
Kaplowitz
[Click here for “Documentary
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ARTISTS OF INTEREST

Mark Hearld, Moira Frith, Leon Kossoff,
Winifred Nicholson, Michael Collins,
David Hockney, Jean-Michel Basquiat,
Marc Rothko, Albrecht Durer,
Rembrandt, Pierre Bonnard, Sir Terry
Frost, Ben Nicholson, Michael Craig
Martin, Camille Corot, David
Gentleman, Leonard Rosoman, Hughie
O’Donoghue, Gillian Ayres, Jenny
Saville, Helen Frankenthaler, Kurt
Jackson, Berthe Morisot, Mary Cassett

EXHIBITIONS

Click on the Gallery list below to see
whats on
[Aspex Gallery - Portsmouth](#)
[The Jack House Gallery - Portsmouth](#)
[Southampton City Gallery](#)
[The Royal Academy - London](#)
[Pallant House](#)
[The Tate Modern - London](#)
[The Tate Britain - London](#)
[Oxmarket Gallery - Chichester](#)
[The Lightbox - Woking](#)

Try not to over think it and make time. We can all find time when we need to! Find some time for you. Get up 30 minutes earlier or combine an activity you are likely to be doing, with working in your sketchbook for example listening to the radio, waiting for a bus, or if you are your in kitchen having a coffee, do a few sketches of the surroundings or a cup on the table. If your work doesn’t come out quite as you pictured, THAT IS NORMAL. Having an idea of what you hope to achieve is the start, the finish is sometimes a pleasant surprise. The more you do the more pleasant surprises you will have. Immerse yourself in art – if going out isn’t an option – tv, radio, film, books online galleries.