

HIGHAM
HALL

STUDY
BREAKS
IN THE
LAKES

MARCH -
SEPTEMBER
2024



Contact us


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WELCOME TO HIGHAM HALL



Welcome to our new brochure for Spring/Summer 2024.

While it may look a little different on the outside, you will find a smorgasbord of familiar favourites and one or two new offerings, including courses on literary and local history, storytelling and illustration, landscape archaeology, and gentle yoga for anyone living with mobility issues, chronic pain or fatigue. In July we welcome back the Festival Players for an outdoor performance of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and are delighted to host two very special recitals, open to non-residents, by tutors Eden Baroque in April and Laurence Perkins & friends in July. We have also put together a new series of monthly Sunday Lectures (followed by tea/coffee and cake of course) with eminent visiting speakers on a broad range of subjects. You may see some changes on the front lawn this year as we begin the slow process of restoring a traditional northern hay meadow. According to Cumbria Wildlife Trust, there are less than 1000 hectares of northern hay meadows left in the UK. We look forward to enjoying and learning from the flowering plants, insects and birds this little patch of rare habitat will bring to Higham in years to come.

As usual, please call to enquire about a course or event, to book a place and to discuss your accommodation requirements. Our office team – Chris, Joan, Helen and Amy – are always happy to help. We do not have an answerphone service so please be patient if you can't get through at first.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Elizabeth'.

Dr Elizabeth Fisher
Principal

COURSES

All courses take place in the main house or studio, a converted stable which is reached via an internal courtyard. All teaching spaces are on the ground floor and have level access.

Some courses run every year and there is often great demand for places. If you wish your name to be added to our 'register an interest' list for a particular course you can do this up to 12 months in advance. Just speak to a member of the office team.

All courses start with dinner at 6.30pm on the first day and end after lunch on the last day unless otherwise noted in the course programme.

Details correct at publication. Please note we reserve the right to make changes to the programme if necessary.



STAY UP TO DATE

Any alterations and late additions to the programme will be advertised in our eNewsletter.

Subscribe at www.highamhall.com

Course Categories



Music



Wellbeing



Literature



Textiles



Nature



History



Crafts



Philosophy



Visual Arts

BRAHMS AND THE SCHUMANNS

Johannes Brahms (1833-97) and Robert Schumann (1810-56) were 2 of the greatest composers of the Romantic era. Their lives were intertwined through the remarkable figure of Clara Schumann (1819-96). We will explore this 'musical threesome' through orchestral, chamber and piano music, choral works and songs.



Date Fri 1 Mar –
Sun 3 Mar 2024

Tutor Chris Rodwell

Cost Residential £270
Non-residential £190

Course code M2403CR

PASTELS: PURE AND SIMPLE

Learn and develop a mastery of chalk pastel on its own, delivering vibrant colours across a wide range of tones. Work from landscape and still life under guidance of an artist who continues the authentic approach of the much-missed Christopher Assheton-Stones (d.1999). All levels of ability and an individualised approach is offered for previous attendees.



Date Sun 3 Mar –
Thu 7 Mar 2024

Tutor Graham Oliver

Cost Residential £465
Non-residential £330

Course code A2403GO

SHAKESPEARE'S CONTEMPORARIES: BEN JONSON'S THE ALCHEMIST

Join us to explore Ben Jonson's ever-popular comedy of greed and folly. Social satire and split-second timing combine as a trio of con-artists frantically juggle an increasingly complex series of overlapping scams and fight for status between themselves. Not to be missed!



Date Fri 8 Mar –
Sun 10 Mar 2024

Tutor Clare Smout

Cost Residential £270
Non-residential £190

Course code L2403CS

ESSENTIAL ART SKILLS: ACRYLIC FOR BEGINNERS

A starter or refresher to get to grips with the basics in painting with acrylics. Projects will be set to explore the subject and develop your skills.



Date Fri 15 Mar –
Sun 17 Mar 2024

Tutor Ceri Allen

Cost Residential £270
Non-residential £190

Course code A2403CA

CREATIVE STITCHING - FOR THE TERRIFIED!

A fun way to get serious with stitching little creative projects using a stash of bits and pieces. Basic materials provided, but feel free to bring some of your own if you wish. Ann will guide you with professional tips to see what you can end up with. Relaxed and absorbing, a course to inspire your creativity and awaken your needle and/or sewing machine skills.

Date Wed 20 Mar –
Fri 22 Mar 2024

Tutor Ann Gill

Cost Residential £270
Non-residential £190
Materials available to
purchase from tutor
£10

Course code C2403AG

EASTER CREATIONS

Arrangements will include an Easter wreath, a decorated tree, a Spring bowl, a candlelit Easter pot and a caged Easter egg. Just bring scissors and and/or secateurs – all materials provided. Come and enjoy creating at Higham in the Spring!

Date Wed 20 Mar –
Fri 22 Mar 2024

Tutor Karen Neville

Cost Residential £302
Non-residential £222
Includes materials

Course code C2403KN

**PIANO KEYBOARD IMPROVISATION
MADE SIMPLE**

Bring 'keys' and 'cans' (keyboard and headphones, darling) to develop your improvisational skills based on well-known pop songs. Play tunes you know and like in the way you want to play them. Convert a melody into different styles. Don't let dots get in the way. If this doesn't get you tickling the ivories with more confidence, nothing will! For anyone willing to give it a go.

Date Wed 27 Mar –
Fri 29 Mar 2024

Tutor Dr. Robin Harrison

Cost Residential £270
Non-residential £190

Course code M2403RH

WHITWORK EMBROIDERY

As the name suggests, whitework is traditionally worked with white thread on white fabric. It encompasses a wide range of techniques from the bold to the delicate and is commonly used in bridal, christening wear and ecclesiastical embroidery. Sample different types and techniques of whitework or develop your own piece with Angie's patient and generous technical support.



Date Mon 1 Apr –
Wed 3 Apr 2024

Tutor Angie Burt

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2404AB

THE PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE OF HENRIK IBSEN



"A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm." (An Enemy of the People)
What is the relationship between the community and individual? Is one more important than the other? In this course we discuss society, ethics, truth and life in the plays of Henrik Ibsen, one of the most influential playwrights in Western literature. One of the leading proponents of modernism in theatre, he was known as the 'father of realism' and his work took an unsentimental look at the realities of life and issues of morality behind the facades of polite society. We will look particularly at Ibsen's later works, including A Doll's House (1879), Ghosts (1882), An Enemy of the People (1882) and Hedda Gabler (1891).



Date Tue 2 Apr –
Fri 5 Apr 2024

Tutor Darren Harper

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code L2404DH

RUSKIN LACE

A Lake District speciality since the late nineteenth century, Ruskin lace was made from hand-spun and woven linen produced by cottagers around Coniston. Karen is a leading exponent of this heritage craft who brings extensive knowledge to support and guide you in traditional needlepoint lace techniques, drawn thread and cut linen work to create beautiful geometric designs. This course is suitable for both the beginner and experienced needleworkers. If required, a starter pack (£15) is available to purchase from the tutor.



Date Wed 3 Apr –
Fri 5 Apr 2024

Tutor Karen Quickfall

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2404KQ

CIRCLE DANCE: SPRING

All are welcome to join in exploring this inclusive form of community dancing where no partners are required. For newcomers and the experienced alike. Music and dances drawn from cultures and countries around the world; the pace varies from lively to meditative. A tonic for body and mind!



Date Wed 3 Apr –
Fri 5 Apr 2024

Tutor Anne-Lise Kryger

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2404AK

**TALK & TEA:
A PHILOSOPHER'S GUIDE TO IDENTITY**


Who are you? Is the self immutable? Are you still the same person after you retire? In this talk, with the help of philosopher Amartya Sen, we will explore not only the questions above, but also to what degree our identities are plural, while casting a philosophical perspective on the incendiary topic of identity politics.

Date Fri 5 Apr 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Darren Harper

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2404DH

**17TH & 18TH CENTURY CHAMBER
MUSIC WORKSHOP**


For pre-formed chamber groups (with or without singer) who should bring at least 4 pieces to work on which can be at varying stages of readiness. Work at 415 or 440Hz, with availability of one harpsichord playable at either pitch, plus Higham's transposable electric pianos. Keyboard players are welcome to bring their own instruments if they wish. The workshop will include a tutors' recital on Saturday evening and culminate with an informal participants' concert before lunch on Sunday.

Date Fri 5 Apr –
Sun 7 Apr 2024

Tutor Katharine May and
Michael Sanderson

Cost Residential £320
Non-residential £240

Course code M2404KM

JEWELLERY MAKING: SILVER CLAY


Silver Clay is a remarkable material made up of fine silver particles, an organic plant-based binder and water. It can be moulded, rolled, textured and shaped to create hand-crafted pieces which are then fired and polished to make fine hallmark-quality silver jewellery. With expert guidance, make up to three professionally styled pieces over a weekend. Those with some experience may be supported to work on their own projects.

Date Fri 5 Apr –
Sun 7 Apr 2024

Tutor Tracey Spurgin

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210
Materials available to
purchase from tutor
£70

Course code C2404TS

TRY FOR A DAY: BOTANICAL PAINTING (MATERIALS PROVIDED)



This informal and relaxed workshop is a gentle introduction to the delights of drawing from nature. You will spend the morning building confidence while closely observing individual flower petals, leaves and berries and practising watercolour techniques. The afternoon is spent painting flowers and plants from the beautiful gardens here at Higham. Everyone welcome, no experience needed. You may surprise yourself. All materials supplied, including a sketchbook to take home.

Date Sat 6 Apr 2024
10am - 5pm

Tutor Lis Bramwell

Cost £100
Includes materials,
lunch and
refreshments.

Course code D2404LB

A RECITAL BY EDEN BAROQUE



All the world's a stage: 17th & 18th century theatrical songs and instrumental music inspired by Shakespeare and others.

Programme includes music by Holborne, Locke, Biber, Purcell, Dibdin and Arne performed by Eden Baroque: Michael Sanderson (baritone, baroque violin & viola) and Katharine May (harpisichord).

Date Sat 6 Apr 2024
8pm - 10pm

Cost £10 proceeds to the
Stroke Association

Course code D2404EB



VISITING LAKELAND HOUSES AND GARDENS



Join expert horticulturalist Louise for special guided tours of some inspiring Spring gardens in the Lake District. Get to know the plants, growing conditions and particular challenges that gardeners and garden designers faced as part of the history of landscape gardening in this special corner of the world.

Date Sun 7 Apr –
Wed 10 Apr 2024

Tutor Louise Stoddart

Cost Residential £430
Non-residential £310
Includes field trips.

Course code N2404LS

WOODCARVING: CREATIVE RELIEF CARVING

Relief carving is the process of cutting a pattern or design into a flat surface. For those new to the craft, Sharon will gently guide you through the process of transforming a block of wood into a unique image in relief with generous one-to-one support, technical instruction and extensive knowledge of her subject. Bring your own visual sources or use Sharon's books for inspiration. You will learn to transfer a pattern, use chisels safely and try a range of carving techniques. For beginners and experienced woodworkers. Those who have attended previous courses may bring projects of their own to work on with Sharon's guidance.

Date Mon 8 Apr –
Sun 14 Apr 2024

Tutor Sharon Littley

Cost Residential £660
Non-residential £470

Course code C2404SL

**WOVEN TAPESTRY DAY
(MATERIALS PROVIDED)**

This one-day course serves either as an introduction for those new to tapestry or as a refresher covering the fundamentals of tapestry weaving. Looms will be ready for you to start weaving an image of a tree. The first in a series of 3 courses led by international award-winning tapestry artist Louise during her spring residency at Higham.

Date Wed 10 Apr 2024
10am - 5pm

Tutor Louise Martin

Cost £100
Includes materials,
lunch and
refreshments.

Course code D2404LMA

**WOVEN TAPESTRY: LANDSCAPE TO WEAVE**

Capture the essence of Higham's gardens and the surrounding landscape first in yarn and then directly into weave. The second in a series of 3 separate courses led by international award-winning tapestry artist Louise. See also Tapestry Day (10 April) and Woven Tapestry: Trees (12 to 14 April).

Date Wed 10 Apr –
Fri 12 Apr 2024

Tutor Louise Martin

Cost Residential £295
Non-residential £215

Course code C2404LM1

LANDSCAPES AND GARDENS IN LITERATURE

Gardens and landscapes have been important to writers throughout history, either as the subject, or the setting, for novels and poetry. The great landscape gardens of the eighteenth century appear in the novels of Jane Austen (1775-1817), while the Dorset countryside plays an important part in the novels of Thomas Hardy (1840-1928). This weekend course offers the opportunity to enjoy and discuss the writings of these and other novelists and poets, in their settings of landscape and landscape gardens, with illustrations.



Date Fri 12 Apr –
Sun 14 Apr 2024

Tutor Prof. Bill Jones

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code L2404BJ



MAKE THE MOST OF WATERCOLOURS (MATERIALS PROVIDED)

Watercolour is a beguiling medium, fast-drying, responsive and versatile. Its transparency lends colour a luminosity that is unmatched by other media. Learn how to use watercolour with confidence over a weekend. Explore colour-mixing, composition and different painterly techniques to achieve simple yet striking effects with time to experiment, develop and consolidate your skills. No experience necessary.



Date Fri 12 Apr –
Sun 14 Apr 2024

Tutor Jane Beech

Cost Residential £310
Non-residential £230
Includes materials.

Course code A2404JB

WOVEN TAPESTRY: TREES

This course will focus on observing form and texture in the trees at Higham. We will look at how trees have been portrayed in tapestry and explore various weaverly possibilities. The last in a series of 3 separate courses led by international award-winning tapestry artist Louise. See also Tapestry Day (10 April) and Woven Tapestry: Landscape to Weave (11-12 April).



Date Fri 12 Apr –
Sun 14 Apr 2024

Tutor Louise Martin

Cost Residential £295
Non-residential £215

Course code C2404LM2

LINO CUT PRINTMAKING

Produce your own lino cut designs to create individual and decorative printed cards and pictures using traditional lino cut printmaking techniques with expert guidance from Clare Melinsky. Clare is a professional illustrator whose sought-after designs can be seen on product packaging and book covers, magazines, cards and even postage stamps. All tools needed are provided as part of the course; we also provide heated work surfaces to soften the traditional linoleum block, making it much easier to cut and carve. The course will benefit both beginners and those with some experience.



Date Sun 14 Apr –
Wed 17 Apr 2024

Tutor Clare Melinsky

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270
Materials are available to purchase from tutor £15.

Course code C2404CM



DRAMATIC SKIES, LAND AND SEASCAPE IN SOFT PASTELS

Extend your artistic skills using pastels to create expressive seascapes, landscapes and dramatic skies. With demonstrations throughout, gentle guidance for beginners, encouragement for the more experienced and constructive one-to-one critique to support you to confidently handle this subtle yet versatile medium.



Date Sun 14 Apr –
Wed 17 Apr 2024

Tutor Eileen Gardner

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2404EG

BIRD SONGS AND CALLS

The vocalisations of birds are invaluable aids to help us in their identification but the process of learning them all may seem daunting and never-ending. Fortunately, most species have a repertoire which is unique, enabling confident identification, even in the absence of a view. Such calls and songs can also draw our attention to the existence of a bird which may otherwise go unnoticed. Three full days will be spent in the glorious surroundings and varied habitats of the North Lakes at the time of year when birds are at their most vocal. Daily excursions to different sites will typically include gentle walks, sometimes on uneven ground but with plenty of stops. While the majority of time will be spent outside, there will be indoor re-cap sessions. Students should be confident of their ability to complete the walks and should bring appropriate footwear/outdoor clothing.



Date Mon 15 Apr –
Fri 19 Apr 2024

Tutor Keith Offord

Cost Residential £500
Non-residential £360
Includes field trips

Course code N2404KO

THE WORLD OF SAMUEL PEPYS AND JOHN EVELYN



The diaries of Samuel Pepys (1633-1703) and John Evelyn (1620-1706) provide a unique window onto the social life and turbulent history of 17th century England. We will spend some time in their company, encountering kings and princes, artists and scientists, prostitutes and mistresses, coffee houses and theatres, wars and revolutions.

Date Wed 17 Apr –
Fri 19 Apr 2024

Tutor Dr. Andrew Lacey

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code H2404AL

BOTANICAL DRAWING IN COLOURED PENCIL: SPRING BUDS AND FLOWERS



Spring is a time of new excitement for the botanical artist, where colour and fresh forms burst forth after the dearth of winter. Capture the new buds and flowers as they appear. Techniques for drawing, mixing and layering colour will be explored along with opportunities to experience different paper surfaces and several different pencil types. There will be guidance on composition and presentation, with individual attention as needed to support beginner and experienced alike through demonstrations, troubleshooting and discussion of equipment and materials. By the end of the course, you will have developed confidence to continue with your study or composition at home.

Date Wed 17 Apr –
Sun 21 Apr 2024

Tutor Susan Christopher-
Coulson

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360

Course code A2404SCC



INTRODUCTION TO MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPT ILLUMINATION (MATERIALS PROVIDED)



Learn ancient skills involved in the embellishment of a manuscript with rich colours and pure gold leaf. Working with both traditional and modern materials and techniques you will create a small-scale design using 23 carat gold leaf and pigments, drawing inspiration from a selection of medieval and contemporary designs and patterns including illuminated letters. No drawing experience is necessary for this entry-level course. See also Further Medieval Manuscript Illumination with Toni 21-23 April.

Date Fri 19 Apr –
Sun 21 Apr 2024

Tutor Toni Watts

Cost Residential £310
Non-residential £230
Includes materials.

Course code A2404TW1

OVERTURES



Traditionally, concerts always began with an overture featuring colourful orchestration and memorable melodies. Starting with Mozart and Beethoven we will examine overtures by Rossini, Mendelssohn and Weber, Verdi and Wagner, Smetana, Dvorak and other European and Russian composers, plus lighter works by Von Suppe and Nicolai. Ian will educate your ear and enrich your understanding of the historical role of this musical form.

Date Fri 19 Apr –
Sun 21 Apr 2024

Tutor Ian France

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2404IF



PEN, INK AND COLOURED PENCIL



Bring your own photographs (animal portraits, birds or landscapes make good subjects) or inanimate objects to work from. Learn about the different ways you can use pen and ink with coloured pencil: layering, blending and removing colour to create images with rich texture and depth. All materials except pencils provided. Bring your own good quality coloured pencils (tutor will be using Derwent Inkntense), together with an A3 size folder for your completed work.

Date Sun 21 Apr –
Wed 24 Apr 2024

Tutor Paul Holmes

Cost Residential £410
Non-residential £290
Includes all materials
except pencils.

Course code A2404PH

FURTHER MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPT ILLUMINATION



This course involves more advanced illumination techniques and is therefore NOT suitable for beginners. Those who have already attended the beginner's course (Introduction to Medieval Manuscript Illumination, 19-21 April) and have some experience of the craft will be able to progress and expand their repertoire. We will make a perfect manuscript gesso using a traditional recipe then learn how to lay it smoothly, gild with loose leaf gold and burnish it to a mirror shine. All materials will be provided. Those who are already able to make and lay gesso are welcome to work on their own projects with help and advice from the tutor.

Date Sun 21 Apr –
Tue 23 Apr 2024

Tutor Toni Watts

Cost Residential £310
Non-residential £230
Includes materials

Course code A2404TW2

SUNDAY LECTURE: RUSKIN AND THE PRE-RAPHAELITE WOMEN



John Ruskin's attitude to Pre-Raphaelite women writers and artists reflected an unsympathetic age. The challenges faced by Christina Rossetti, Elizabeth Siddal, Georgiana Burne-Jones, Jane Morris, Evelyn de Morgan and Maria Spartali were immense, but they created some of the most wonderful poetry and painting of the 19th century. Kathleen Jones is an acclaimed novelist, poet and biographer of, among others, Christina Rossetti, Katherine Mansfield, Norman Nicholson, Catherine Cookson as well as the wives, sisters and daughters of the Lake poets in *A Passionate Sisterhood* (Virago).

Date Sun 21 Apr 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Kathleen Jones

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2404KJ

CONJURE YOUR CONFIDENCE



Ta-daa! Learning some simple close-up, cabaret-style magic is not only fun, but develops confidence. Maybe you could increase your popularity at social gatherings or just keep the grandchildren amused! Suitable for all.

Date Mon 22 Apr –
Wed 24 Apr 2024

Tutor Chris Winnick

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210
Includes materials.

Course code W2404CW



BASSOONS WITH LAURENCE PERKINS AND ROGER BIRNSTINGL



For bassoon lovers, the aim of this course is to help make playing easier and more enjoyable! Receive advice on posture & breathing, embouchure, good tone and tuning, sound projection, reed adjustment, fingerings, technical fluency and musical interpretation from internationally renowned bassoonists Laurence Perkins and Roger Birnstingl.

There will be optional reed-making sessions, opportunities to play in bassoon ensembles and a performance class with concert pianist John Gough - a chance to play one of your favourite works and receive constructive feedback on technique, musical style and interpretation. Plus an informal tutors' concert and plenty of time for relaxation and socialising as always. All applications to be made initially through Laurence to ascertain ensemble line-up: www.laurenceperkins.com/wind-serenades

Date Wed 24 Apr –
Sun 28 Apr 2024

Tutor Laurence Perkins
with Roger
Birnstingl and John
Gough

Cost Residential £560
Non-residential £425
Pick up at 5pm from
Penrith Rail Station
+£40 (please request
on booking).

Course code M2404LP

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING: BETWEEN ABSTRACTION AND REPRESENTATION



This is a practical course exploring the relationship between abstraction and representation in painting. You will be encouraged to develop your technical skills with your chosen media and to extend your responses to your subject matter whilst exploring the processes of abstraction. Exercises may invite you to work in a particular way, with a specified approach or materials, or both. You will also be introduced to different contemporary painters and their working methods, to explore a range of possible strategies you might wish to employ in your own work. Through group discussions and individual tutorials, you will be encouraged to extend your own thinking about abstraction and think critically about your own painting practice in the wider context of contemporary painting.

Date Fri 26 Apr –
Wed 1 May 2024

Tutor Steve Humble

Cost Residential £575
Non-residential £400
Includes field trips.

Course code A2404SH



CUMBRIAN TEXTILE ADVENTURES



This course, which combines site visits to an outdoor textile sculpture path and working studios alongside practical workshop sessions, should prove inspiring to those who enjoy textiles. Dianne will guide you through techniques that can transform a variety of recycled /sustainable materials into 3D textile work.

Date Sun 28 Apr –
Wed 1 May 2024

Tutor Dianne Standen

Cost Residential £405
Non-residential £285
Includes field trips.

Course code C2404DS

FRANCES WINDER IN RESIDENCE



Join Frances for a few days in the studio to work on your own paintings with Frances' guidance and expertise.



Date Wed 1 May –
Fri 3 May 2024

Tutor Frances Winder

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code A2405FW

BEADED EMBROIDERY

Embroider with beads on silk fabric. Learn different stitching techniques to create intricate beaded designs. Taster kits available from £20.00 upwards.



Date Wed 1 May –
Fri 3 May 2024

Tutor Angie Burt

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2405AB

BOOKBINDING: RESTORATION

Old books are irreplaceable, but often their pages and bindings show signs of fragility, decay or damage. This course focuses on the processes of deconstruction, repair and conservation that can extend a book's usable life for many decades. Students are invited to bring along at least three books (no larger than A4) to be guided step by step through each process. You will learn techniques of paper repair and cover restoration using modern materials and keeping as much of the original as is practical. NB Leather bound books can be more difficult to repair and will take longer compared to cloth.



Date Sun 5 May –
Thu 9 May 2024

Tutor Doug Mitchell

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360
Materials available
to purchase at cost
from tutor.

Course code C2405DM

EXPLORE COLLAGE

Collage frees you up from the 'rules' of representational drawing or painting and allows you to explore a more personal artistic language. It is a compositional technique that combines found images, printed text or textured surfaces – often alongside painted or hand-drawn elements – to create an image that can be abstract, expressive and sometimes contain social commentary. Modern collage techniques can be traced back to the Cubists Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque, who regularly incorporated found elements from the 'real world' in their paintings, sculptures (assemblages) and drawings as they explored multiple viewpoints in response to scientific discoveries that changed our understanding of space, time and matter in the early 20th century. Flex your artistic muscles with creative exercises and develop your own compositions guided by professional artist Sue Ford.



Date Sun 5 May –
Thu 9 May 2024

Tutor Sue Ford

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360

Course code A2405SF



YOGA FOR EVERY BODY



Helen has practised yoga for 25 years and is a Yoga Alliance senior teacher. In 2021, she experienced a chronic illness which left her unable to perform self-care tasks and made movement painful. This experience and long recovery impassioned Helen to make yoga more accessible to people adjusting to illness, ageing, or who are apprehensive about the physical focus of a regular yoga class. Helen utilises a variety of approaches, to experience yoga as a holistic discipline rather than just solely exercise for the body. In yogic philosophy and practice, prana (breath) is the thread that connects us to our bodies, our minds, each other, and our environment. Over this short course, we will develop an understanding of prana (breath) through a variety of practical yoga exercises and techniques. We will then workshop these techniques into an individually tailored sequence so that each student can continue their practice at home.

Date Sun 5 May –
Tue 7 May 2024

Tutor Helen Collard

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code F2405HC

STOICISM: CULTIVATING RESILIENCE AND TRANQUILITY WITHIN



Embark on a transformative journey into Stoicism and delve into the profound teachings of Stoic philosophers such as Marcus Aurelius, Seneca, and Epictetus. This course goes beyond positive thinking, offering practical insights to navigate challenges with inner strength and serenity. Explore the timeless wisdom of Stoicism through immersive discussions, reflective activities, meditations and literary explorations, crafting a resilient mindset rooted in the principles of virtue and acceptance.

Date Tue 7 May –
Fri 10 May 2024

Tutor Darren Harper

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code L2405DH

GEOLOGY OF THE LAKES: AN INTRODUCTION



Have you ever wondered why the topography and geology of the Lake District and wider Cumbria area varies so much? Find out why when you travel through 500 million years of geological history on this course. There will be stories of ancient oceans, volcanoes, Himalayan-scale mountain ranges, tropical seas and swamps, deserts and ice ages. The course includes field trips out with walking – please wear appropriate walking boots and warm, waterproof clothes!

Date Thu 9 May –
Sun 12 May 2024

Tutor Dr. Annette
McGrath

Cost Residential £405
Non-residential £285
Includes field trip.

Course code N2405AM



TALK & TEA: A PHILOSOPHER'S GUIDE TO PLEASURE



Ever contemplated the intricacies of pleasure? Can John Stuart Mill's philosophy distinguish between higher and lower pleasures guide us toward a more fulfilling life? How does Epicurus' pursuit of tranquil pleasure challenge modern hedonism, encouraging a more thoughtful approach to gratification? Join us as we explore these questions and others, allowing pleasure to be our guide through the licentious labyrinth of human experience.

Date Fri 10 May 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Darren Harper

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2405DH

A WEEKEND FOR FLUTES WITH PIANO



A relaxed weekend of flute playing for players at Grade 3 and above, to build confidence and improve performing skills. Ask questions about tone and technique; play in a flute ensemble and have the chance to play your favourite pieces with piano accompaniment (bring along a piece for flute and piano that you know well for this session). We end with an informal concert just between ourselves.

Date Fri 10 May –
Sun 12 May 2024

Tutor Rachel Holt with
John Gough (piano)

Cost Residential £320
Non-residential £240

Course code M2405RH



SILVER JEWELLERY: RINGS, BANGLES AND EARRINGS



This is a practical course aimed at beginners, but more experienced students are most welcome. Over the course of a weekend, students will work on 3 different projects, guided step-by-step by a professional jewellery designer and maker through the processes of designing and working with silver to create simple hand-crafted pieces. Students should feel comfortable learning how to use hand tools and soldering torches. Summer and Winter course projects differ.

Date Fri 10 May –
Mon 13 May 2024

Tutor Rebecca Halstead

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270
Materials are
available to purchase
from tutor £45.

Course code C2405RH

SUNDAY LECTURE: 'THE LADY OF THE LAKES': CLARE ISOBEL FELL AND THE ROLE OF LOCAL SOCIETIES FOR WOMEN WORKING IN PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY



New research is beginning to reveal that women contributed far more to the story of archaeology than previously understood. Traditionally, narrators focussed on centres of academia and used publishing prowess to gauge professional distinction. If, however, we delve into the archives of local societies, we can paint a much fuller picture – one in which women were important, influential figures. This lecture will explore the role of women in one such society, the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, with a focus on the career of Clare Isobel Fell (1912-2003), who shaped research into prehistoric Lakeland, and was the first to identify the remains of Neolithic stone axe 'factories' in Great Langdale.

Date Sun 12 May 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Dr Kate Sharpe

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2405KS

ESSENTIAL ART SKILLS: EXPERIMENTAL DRAWING



Expand your ideas about drawing with exciting projects using a variety of drawing media on this fun course with inspiration from work by modern and contemporary artists.

Date Wed 15 May –
Fri 17 May 2024

Tutor Ceri Allen

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code A2405CA

VIOL AND RECORDER CONSORT PLAYING



Two parallel, friendly courses offering a variety of music for players at any level except beginners. For those who wish, there are opportunities to mix and match between the two courses and we usually join together for the final session.

Date Wed 15 May –
Fri 17 May 2024

Tutor Elizabeth Dodd
(viol) with Philip
Gruar (recorders)

Cost Residential £320
Non-residential £240

Course code M2405ED



LANDSCAPE DRAWING FOR BEGINNERS



Many people dream of sitting in the landscape and sketching with some skill. This course will help to demystify the journey from framing a view to understanding line and perspective, light and colour. Jason will teach you how to make a relatively small range of simple yet versatile marks, then begin to explore where and how to use them effectively to bring your landscapes to life.

Date Thu 16 May –
Sun 19 May 2024

Tutor Jason Skill

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2405JS



RUSKIN LACE



A Lake District speciality since the late nineteenth century, Ruskin lace was made from hand-spun and woven linen produced by cottagers around Coniston. Karen is a leading exponent of this heritage craft who brings extensive knowledge to support and guide you in traditional needlepoint lace techniques, drawn thread and cut linen work to create beautiful geometric designs. This course is suitable for both the beginner and experienced needleworkers. If required, a starter pack (£15) is available to purchase from the tutor. The same course is repeated 19 – 21 May.

Date Fri 17 May –
Sun 19 May 2024

Tutor Karen Quickfall

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2405KQ1

FRENCH MUSIC FROM RAMEAU TO RAVEL



This weekend will uncover the great wealth of French music from the Baroque (1600-1750) through to the 20th century. Composers will include Berlioz, Gounod, Saint-Saëns, Fauré and many others. We will explore a wide range of forms and genres, including symphonic music, operas and choral works, songs and piano music.

Date Fri 17 May –
Sun 19 May 2024

Tutor Chris Rodwell

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2405CR

SKETCHING AND PAINTING THE GREAT OUTDOORS



Join Lionel for expert guidance and advice on working 'en plein air' using either his choice of demonstration media, such as watercolours and acrylics, or your preferred ones for drawing and painting. Learn about the advantages of this way of working quickly and spontaneously to capture the changing character of weather and light in the landscape, and how to use your sketches, paintings, photographs and other visual notes or materials gathered for reference as source materials for further paintings made back in the studio. Explore the varied landscapes of the northern Lake District then return to the studio for demonstrations using watercolour and acrylics, discussion of equipment, materials and technical troubleshooting.

Date Sun 19 May –
Thu 23 May 2024

Tutor Lionel Playford

Cost Residential £515
Non-residential £380
Includes field trips.

Course code A2405LP

RUSKIN LACE



A Lake District speciality since the late nineteenth century, Ruskin lace was made from hand-spun and woven linen produced by cottagers around Coniston. Karen is a leading exponent of this heritage craft who brings extensive knowledge to support and guide you in traditional needlepoint lace techniques, drawn thread and cut linen work to create beautiful geometric designs. This course is suitable for both the beginner and experienced needleworkers. If required, a starter pack (£15) is available to purchase from the tutor. This is a repeat of the earlier course 17 – 19 May.

Date Sun 19 May –
Tue 21 May 2024

Tutor Karen Quickfall

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2405KQ2

GET WEAVING!



Explore the use of colour and texture. Dress a loom. Understand how to read pattern draft. Suitable for both absolute beginners and developing weavers.

A set of yarns (£15) can be purchased from the tutor.



Date Sun 19 May –
Wed 22 May 2024

Tutor Jan Beadle

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code C2405JB

WOMEN WRITERS OF LAKES



The literary landscape of the Lake District has been dominated by men while its female writers of both the 19th and 20th century have been overlooked. This course will look at the lives and work of Dorothy and Dora Wordsworth, Sara Coleridge, Harriet Martineau, Beatrix Potter, Margaret Forster and Sarah Hall.

Date Tue 21 May –
Fri 24 May 2024

Tutor Kathleen Jones

Cost Residential £400
Non-residential £280

Course code L2405KJ

PATCHWORK: APPLIQUE

Appliqué is the process of attaching one piece of fabric to another and this can be done in many ways to create a decorative pattern or picture. You can choose hand or machine-sewing, use just one technique or try several on this intensive appliqué masterclass. Different designs will be available to experiment with. Alternatively, bring your own project. Suitable for all levels of ability or experience.



Date Thu 23 May –
Sun 26 May 2024

Tutor Lis Binns

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code C2405LB



EXPRESSIVE LANDSCAPES: MIXED MEDIA

This practical studio-based course delves into expressionism to explore the emotive and sensual qualities of colour, materials and mark making. Taking landscape as our subject, we will look at ways of working with different media to bring intensity or lightness, mood and meaning to our images. Experiment with sumptuous combinations of acrylic inks, watercolour and soft pastels. This course is not suitable for beginners but for artists with some previous painting experience who want to develop a more personal painterly approach.



Date Thu 23 May –
Sun 26 May 2024

Tutor Robert Dutton

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2405RD

REPRESENTING DEITIES IN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ART

Ancient Egyptian gods are immediately recognisable on temple walls and in museum displays. But why did the Egyptians choose their distinctive hybrid human-animal forms, and what was the meaning behind those choices? This course provides an in-depth review of the form, functions and identities of Pharaonic deities and considers how we see them today.



Date Fri 24 May –
Sun 26 May 2024

Tutor Dr. Campbell Price

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code H2405CP

SPRING FLOWERS IN COLOURED PENCIL AND WATERCOLOUR



Immerse yourself in the delicate beauty of daffodils, bluebells and other spring flowers, drawing directly from flowers in the gardens at Higham. With Margaret's patient, expert guidance you will be encouraged to gently explore the remarkable artistic range of the humble pencil. For all.

Date Sun 26 May –
Thu 30 May 2024

Tutor Margaret Eggleton

Cost Residential £520
Non-residential £385
Includes field trips.

Course code A2405ME



STAINED GLASS WORK



Make a stained glass panel or a Tiffany-style lamp, developing key skills that will enable you to construct more elaborate projects later. Understand and use the techniques of template glass cutting, learn how to use grinding machines, copper foiling, leading application and final soldering. No experience required - be guided in all aspects by the master craftsman who created Higham's magnificent anniversary window. Illustrated evening slide lectures. Materials available to purchase at cost as required.

Date Sun 26 May –
Thu 30 May 2024

Tutor Bill Davies

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360

Course code C2405BD

LIFE DRAWING



A traditional skill that increases accuracy within observational drawing, life drawing feeds into all areas of art practice. Expand, refine, and challenge yourself reinforcing all the essential fundamentals in a small group and working direct from a life model.



Date Sun 26 May –
Wed 29 May 2024

Tutor Catherine
MacDiarmid

Cost Residential £410
Non-residential £290

Course code A2405CM

FROM WALK TO WALL

This course focuses on developing a piece of work from initial sketches made outdoors to a painting completed in the studio. Students are welcome to work at their own pace with support from Alex as needed, or follow a structured plan with additional guidance which breaks down the process into easy, bite-size stages. Start with a walk around Higham where you will make drawings from nature, then spend time developing your sketches into a finished mixed media piece in the studio using acrylic paints and pastels to hang on your wall.



Date Thu 30 May –
Sun 2 Jun 2024

Tutor Alex Jakob-
Whitworth

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2405AJW

BUTTERFLIES, MOTHS AND THE COUNTRYSIDE OF NORTH WEST CUMBRIA

For lovers of natural history and the countryside, and an eye opener for anyone wishing to improve awareness of the natural world. Walk contrasting Cumbrian sites where conservation management has helped the habitats of rare butterflies including the Marsh Fritillary, Mountain Ringlet, Small Blue and The Forester. Lecture presentations in the evening will consider wider conservation issues.



Date Thu 30 May –
Sun 2 Jun 2024

Tutor Chris Winnick

Cost Residential £405
Non-residential £285
Includes field trips.

Course code N2405CW

RECORDERS IN CONCORD: GRADES VI-XIII

Play music in a recorder ensemble. For recorder players of advanced standard (grade 6 and above). Music will range from Renaissance to the present day, from three to eight or more parts. Technical and stylistic guidance as appropriate.



Date Fri 31 May –
Sun 2 Jun 2024

Tutor Annemarie Klein

Cost Residential £295
Non-residential £215

Course code M2405AK

ESSENTIAL ART SKILLS: DRAWING HUMAN FORM

For beginners or a refresher to get to grips with the basics in drawing the Figure. The course includes an introduction to anatomy and proportions, fun quick projects and longer sessions working from a clothed model with guidance from practising artist Ceri Allen.



Date Sun 2 Jun –
Tue 4 Jun 2024

Tutor Ceri Allen

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code A2406CA

SUMMER FLOWER COMPOSITION IN COLOURED PENCIL



Guided by award-winning botanical artist Janie Pirie, you will develop a well-balanced composition using a variety of summer flowering plants, fruits, grasses and shrubs to highlight the diverse textures and colours of the season. You will select 3-5 stems to work with, and through a combination of demonstrations and one-to-one support you will learn and apply a range of techniques. This will allow you to reproduce the delicate natural tones and forms with accuracy and skill, paying close attention to the shapes, colours, scale and proportions of your chosen specimens. This is the first of two courses running back-to-back.

Date Sun 2 Jun –
Thu 6 Jun 2024

Tutor Janie Pirie

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360

Course code A2406JP1



LAKELAND BIRDS



Magnificent scree-covered slopes, tranquil lakes, hanging oak woodlands and dramatic sea cliffs are just a few of Cumbria's habitats which we will be exploring on this 5-day course. There will be short local trips to different sites to sample the best of Cumbria's summer birdlife including Wheatears, Ring Ouzels, Redstarts, Pied Flycatchers Wood Warblers and Ospreys to name a few plus, of course, the unforgettable 'sea-bird city' at St Bees Head. These daily excursions will typically include gentle walks, sometimes on uneven ground but with plenty of stops. While the majority of time will be spent outside, there will be indoor re-cap sessions. Students should be confident of their ability to complete the walks and should bring appropriate footwear/outdoor clothing.

Date Sun 2 Jun –
Fri 7 Jun 2024

Tutor Keith Offord

Cost Residential £610
Non-residential £435
Includes field trips

Course code N2406KO

'ABSTRACTIONS BASED ON CIRCLES' BRITISH ROCK ART IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT



The landscapes of northern Britain are decorated with an array of symbols carved into stone surfaces over 5000 years ago. In this course we will explore what these intriguing symbols can tell us about the people who made them – what their world was like, and what mattered to them. These abstract marks are found on boulders and outcrops but are also used to decorate monuments such as burial tombs and stone circles. What might they mean? Why were they placed on particular stones? And how do they fit within the rich variety of rock art around the world, from the earliest cave art to modern graffiti? The course will include a visit to a rock art site in the Lake District.

Date Tue 4 Jun –
Fri 7 Jun 2024

Tutor Dr Kate Sharpe

Cost Residential £410
Non-residential £290
Includes field trip.

Course code H2406KS

DESIGN REPEAT PATTERNS WITH BOTANICAL IMAGERY



This is the second of two courses run back-to-back by award-winning botanical artist Janie Pirie, and will guide you through the process of making a repeat pattern using botanical imagery. Repeat patterns are used widely on wallpaper, wrapping paper and fabrics. You can choose a floral theme, foliage or just flowing shapes based loosely on a botanical subject. For inspiration, look at any of William Morris' designs. Once the pattern has been created you will introduce colour to the design, developing a harmonious palette of carefully chosen colours to bring everything together. You will then work with coloured pencils, watercolour or water-soluble pencils to complete your design.

Date Thu 6 Jun –
Sun 9 Jun 2024

Tutor Janie Pirie

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2406JP2

SUMMER YOGA RETREAT



Explore the Yoga tradition, balancing seasonal effects through diet, daily routine and Yoga practice. Essentially practical, using posture, breathing, meditative techniques and just a tiny bit of theory. All levels welcome.

Date Fri 7 Jun –
Sun 9 Jun 2024

Tutor Amanda Oakes

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code F2406AO

BESPOKE UPHOLSTERY



You will learn to strip a small item of furniture (e.g. a chair, stool, ottoman or headboard), tackle interior paddings and rebuild it using traditional or modern upholstery techniques as appropriate. You bring the item of furniture you want to restore and the fabric you would like to use; all the fillings, specialist tools, technical materials and expertise will be provided. In order to ensure your time is well spent, you must contact Cathy directly prior to your course to discuss your project needs. Contact details will be provided on booking.

Date Fri 7 Jun –
Sun 9 Jun 2024

Tutor Cathy Newbery

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2406CN

SECRET SOLWAY (SHORT WALKS)



Take a journey through time exploring the lesser-known inner Solway estuary coast of both Cumbria and Dumfries & Galloway. This is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Special Area of Conservation with internationally important salt marshes, sand dunes and wetlands; it is also rich in history, local culture and stories. It is renowned for its archaeological heritage which includes the western end of Hadrian's wall, medieval fortified buildings, forgotten harbours and WW2 airfields. This programme will involve fieldtrips and walks to various historic sites, picturesque harbour towns and nature reserves in this stunning corner of the world where England and Scotland meet. Each full day will include a lower-level Solway coastal walk of no more than five miles and some visits by minibus to different local heritage sites. Not suitable for dogs due to wildlife and possible grazing livestock.

Date Sun 9 Jun –
Wed 12 Jun 2024

Tutor Fiona Stoddart

Cost Residential £435
Non-residential £315
Includes field trips
and all associated
costs.

Course code H2406FS

SUMMER STRING ORCHESTRA



A chance to experience the joy of string orchestra playing in the wonderful ambience of Higham Hall. This is an introductory course for string players, exploring the core repertoire for string orchestra to include Vivaldi, Elgar's Serenade, Warlock's Capriol Suite, Grieg's Holberg Suite and Mozart's Divertimenti. Course director Louise Latham (violin), plays in the Northern Chamber Orchestra and specialises in adult string coaching. Cellist Mary Dainton will join us to guide the lower strings. Previous orchestral experience would be useful but not essential. Please state your instrument when applying.

Date Sun 9 Jun –
Tue 11 Jun 2024

Tutor Louise Latham

Cost Residential £315
Non-residential £235

Course code M2406LL

SUNDAY LECTURE: THE HIDDEN MAJORITY IN SOIL: WHY SOIL LIFE MATTERS



It has been estimated that 59% of all species on earth live in soil. This talk will explore the vast diversity of soil life: how it is distributed, what it does, and what threats it is under. The talk will also explore what can be done to protect and promote soil life and the critical functions it performs.

Richard Bardgett CBE is Professor of Ecology at the University of Manchester and was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the King's 2023 New Years Honours for services to soil ecology and climate change science.

Date Sun 9 Jun 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Professor Richard
Bardgett CBE

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2406RB

TORCH FIRED ENAMEL BEADS



Make your own enamel beads then create beautiful jewellery from them under the expert guidance of Sharon Ford, leading enameller and restorer in enamels and gilding. Enamelling involves the fusion of jeweller's quality vitreous enamel with copper and silver through firing. When heat is applied, the

enamels soften and flow, and the varying presence of different components creates a spectacular range of visual effects so that every bead created is unique. Experiment with different effects and colours for exciting necklace and earrings, or an unusual pendant. Thread your beads professionally, using a variety of findings. Inspirational and fun for both existing beaders and newbies. All materials are supplied at cost by the tutor.



Date Sun 9 Jun –
Thu 13 Jun 2024

Tutor Sharon Ford

Cost Residential £515
Non-residential £380
Includes first
bottle of MAPgas.
Additional materials
available to purchase
at cost from tutor.

Course code C2406SF1

TCHAIKOVSKY 4, 5 AND 6



Tchaikovsky's last three symphonies are considered his greatest orchestral works. An obsession with fate tends to dominate the outer movements: 'doom-laden' and 'heart-on-the-sleeve' are terms frequently applied. By contrast the middle movements are graceful, sounding not unlike ballet music. Following a now-familiar format, Ian will guide you expertly through these pieces, drawing out aspects of Tchaikovsky's work that are often missed by the layman's ear.

Date Tue 11 Jun –
Thu 13 Jun 2024

Tutor Ian France

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M24061F

RUSKIN LACE



A Lake District speciality since the late nineteenth century, Ruskin lace was made from hand-spun and woven linen produced by cottagers around Coniston. Karen is a leading exponent of this heritage craft who brings extensive knowledge to support and guide you in traditional needlepoint lace techniques, drawn thread and cut linen work to create beautiful geometric designs. This course is suitable for both the beginner and experienced needleworkers. If required, a starter pack (£15) is available to purchase from the tutor.

Date Wed 12 Jun –
Fri 14 Jun 2024

Tutor Karen Quickfall

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2406KQ



IDENTIFYING TREES AND UNDERSTANDING WOODLANDS



Gain a better understanding of different tree species and their ecosystems, their relationships with fungi, soil and other trees, and how we depend on them; learn about the differences between native, exotic and naturalised trees and where they might be found. This course will involve some gentle guided walks (on the level) through local woodlands to collect specimens and identify trees in leaf with Paul Nichol, highly regarded natural historian and author who was for many years Cumbria's esteemed official County Recorder for fungi. His knowledge and insight will transform the way you look at the landscape around us.

Date Sun 16 Jun –
Wed 19 Jun 2024

Tutor Paul Nichol

Cost Residential £405
Non-residential £285
Includes field trips

Course code N2406PN

LIGHT ON THE LAKE: LANDSCAPE IN INK AND COLOURED PENCIL



Head down to Bassenthwaite Lake with artist Helen Hanson to capture the mellow sunlight of midsummer on the water. Helen has developed a distinctive approach to image-making that draws on her experience as a master printmaker to combine the clarity of ink with the softness and subtlety of



coloured pencil. Under her generous tutelage, you will practise mark-making in ink and blending, embossing and lifting out in coloured pencil; you will learn how to integrate the two media to create a harmonious image that captures cool reflections, soft light and contrasting foliage shapes. This is a slow and absorbing way of working in beautiful surroundings that offers plenty of scope for individual expression on a small scale.

Date Sun 16 Jun –
Wed 19 Jun 2024

Tutor Helen Hanson

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2406HH

ENAMEL BOWLS LARGE AND SMALL



This course will focus on making fired enamel copper bowls of different sizes. While there will be a range of sizes available to work with, those who have not made an enamel bowl before will be encouraged to start with a small bowl. Those with some experience of making small enamel bowls will have the opportunity to move onto very large bowls. We will troubleshoot the challenges of working at this scale and experiment with enamel colours and techniques used in firing larger items to achieve captivating effects. Students will be encouraged to develop their own decorative styles and techniques, supported by Sharon's wide-ranging specialist knowledge and expertise. Please note this course is NOT for beginner enamellers. All materials available to purchase at cost from the tutor.

Date Sun 16 Jun –
Sat 22 Jun 2024

Tutor Sharon Ford

Cost Residential £680
Non-residential £495

Course code C2406SF2

A HISTORY OF NATIONS AND PEOPLES: NORTH AMERICA



From the days of the Pilgrim Fathers to the War of Independence and the settlement of lands west of the Mississippi, the story of the two nations of North



America (USA and Canada) is a powerful and dramatic narrative of heroic pioneers, colonisation and conflict. This is a companion to David's course on Germany, 21-23 June. Attend both courses and get free B&B (dinner can be booked separately) for the day off in-between to do your own thing.

Date Tue 18 Jun –
Thu 20 Jun 2024

Tutor Dr David Baker

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code H2406DB1

FOLK SINGING WITH WILL AND ROSIE



A gentle introduction to singing folk music in three- and four-part harmony. Can't read music? No problem - folk is an oral tradition, and we teach everything by ear. Learn how to warm up your voice, then sing in rounds and in parts, as you become acquainted with a wonderful folk repertoire with two expert tutors providing plenty of support and guidance. Suitable for all, even non-musicians. Will and Rosie are acclaimed performers of traditional and contemporary folk music who have been working together for the last 15 years.

Date Wed 19 Jun –
Fri 21 Jun 2024

Tutors Will Finn and
Rosie Calvert

Cost Residential £320
Non-residential £240

Course code M2406RC



MIDSUMMER YOGA AND WALKING WEEKEND



A perfect mix of hatha yoga sessions (working on postures, breathing exercises and relaxation) and guided hill walks of up to 5 miles, sometimes over rough and steep ground (requiring a reasonable level of fitness) among the peaceful northern fells - which will leave you feeling supple, relaxed and refreshed! Suitable for beginners and experienced.

Date Fri 21 Jun –
Tue 25 Jun 2024

Tutors Gill Hunter with
Alan Hunter

Cost Residential £515
Non-residential £380
Includes field trips

Course code F2406GH

A HISTORY OF NATIONS AND PEOPLES: GERMANY



From tribal communities opposed by Rome but celebrated by Tacitus, to a confederation of States uniting as a single nation, Germany's story is irrevocably linked to the fate and fortunes of other European countries across centuries. This is a companion to David's course on North America. Attend both and get free B&B for the day off in-between to do your own thing (book dinner separately).

Date Fri 21 Jun –
Sun 23 Jun 2024

Tutor Dr. David Baker

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code H2406DB2

WATERCOLOURS WITH CONFIDENCE



Making the most of Higham's beautiful building and grounds, we will paint from life in a variety of settings. Enjoy demonstrations and discussion in the studio, and painting en plein-air as the weather permits. Build your skills and technical understanding of the medium, try different compositional strategies and gain confidence with Jane's gentle guidance and encouragement. For painters of all abilities, this is a course where individuals will be supported to progress at their own pace. Beginners and those with some experience welcome.

Date Sun 23 Jun –
Thu 27 Jun 2024

Tutor Jane Beech

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360

Course code A2406JB



QUILTERS' SUMMER RETREAT



Relax and create with new friends and old as you sew your day away. Lis will bring a selection of projects for you to tackle with her support; choose from a lap quilt, a wall hanging, or try your hand at bag-making. Alternatively bring a project from home to work on in the company of fellow quilters, and make the most of Lis' extensive knowledge and experience.

Date Mon 24 Jun –
Fri 28 Jun 2024

Tutor Lis Binns

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360

Course code C2406LB1

SINGING AND CIRCLE DANCING



Join us on a multicultural journey as we explore songs and dances from other countries and cultures. This course combines singing and dancing; offering a chance to dip into one or both. Previous experience of circle dancing is not necessary. All welcome.

Date Tue 25 Jun –
Fri 28 Jun 2024

Tutors Anne-Lise Kryger
with Chris Hale

Cost Residential £420
Non-residential £300

Course code M2406AK

PAINTING ROCKS AND MOUNTAINS



If you are shown a variety of ways to draw and paint pebbles it becomes easier to paint boulders. If you learn how to make up jagged rocks from construction models then it's a small step to painting mountains using a blend of reference and imagination. The right knowledge and skills help you build up your confidence and dexterity. This course aims to enable and embolden you to be able to interpret imagery rather than being a slave to it. Use any medium that suits you best to make stronger rock and mountain painting that reflects a new level of understanding and self belief.

Date Thu 27 Jun –
Sun 30 Jun 2024

Tutor Jason Skill

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2406JS

PATCHWORK: BARGELLO



Bargello is usually thought of as an Italian embroidery/tapestry technique, but in this course we are going to be tackling the patchwork version. Use from five to fifteen fabrics to construct the design of your choice – or there is a two-fabric alternative. You can choose to make a wall hanging or a full quilt; make several small quilt tops or bring a project that you have been working on at home to complete in company with expert guidance. Please note this course is not suitable for absolute beginners.

Date Fri 28 Jun –
Mon 1 Jul 2024

Tutor Lis Binns

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code C2406LB2

SING AMERICA!



Explore America in song! From the great cultural traditions of Gospel, Jazz, Country and Folk to classic Broadway, Swing and Pop. We will sing in 2- or 3-part harmony depending on voice balance, and you may be given sheet music but not expected to sight read. The emphasis is on fun! Complete beginners may struggle but Chris is happy to chat to students before you book. Please call us for her contact details.

Date Fri 28 Jun –
Sun 30 Jun 2024

Tutor Chris Hale

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2406CH

WILLOW ANIMAL SCULPTURES



Delve into the creative world of willow animal sculpture with Phil Bradley, who has been a full-time professional basket-maker and willow sculptor since 1995. With Phil's patient and skillful guidance you will produce at least two sculptural pieces...a bird and a hare or small deer. All materials and tools provided; please pay the tutor directly for materials.

Date Sun 30 Jun –
Wed 3 Jul 2024

Tutor Phil Bradley

Cost Residential £415
Non-residential £295
Materials £25.

Course code C2406PB

PAINTING THE SEA

Cumbria's west coast boasts a wide variety of shoreline subjects for the painter, from dramatic cliffs to tranquil seascapes. Join professional landscape painter Lionel Playford visiting old harbours, sandy beaches, rocky headlands and salt marshes for inspiration. Sharpen up your skills drawing en plein air and learn some useful techniques to capture the dynamism of the sea, then translate your sketches onto canvas back in the studio.



Date Sun 30 Jun –
Fri 5 Jul 2024

Tutor Lionel Playford

Cost Residential £650
Non-residential £470
Includes field trips

Course code A2406LP

CALICO GARDENS HAND EMBROIDERY

Calico Gardens embroidery is stitched in tones and shades of one or a few closely matched neutral colours, with subtle enhancements using different threads and stitches to create lots of texture and 3D effects. Beginners and experienced embroiderers all welcome. You can choose to work either on a Calico Garden sampler to frame once finished, or bring your own project to work on in company with the benefit of Angie's extensive knowledge and technical expertise. The first of two courses running back-to-back. See also Calico Gardens Hand Embroidery, 5-7 July.



Date Tue 2 Jul –
Fri 5 Jul 2024

Tutor Angie Burt

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code C2407AB1

AN INTRODUCTION TO ZEN AND JAPANESE PHILOSOPHY

Japanese philosophy has historically been a fusion of both indigenous Shinto and continental religions such as Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism. Having spent centuries in the orbit of both Chinese philosophy and Indian philosophy, modern Japanese thought draws on both of these cultural influences, resulting in a rich religio-philosophical worldview which underpins Japanese aesthetic concepts such as Wabi-Sabi and the practice of traditional arts such as calligraphy and poetry. Using lectures, literature, discussion and meditation, this course will explore the key philosophical tenets of Japanese culture before focusing on Zen as a philosophical and practical way of life.



Date Tue 2 Jul –
Fri 5 Jul 2024

Tutor Darren Harper

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code L2407DH

A WELCOME IN THE HILLS: REFUGEES IN CUMBRIA IN THE 1930S

During the 1930s, as today, Cumbria hosted many refugee communities. This course will investigate the stories of refugees who fled fascism in Spain, Czechoslovakia, Germany and Austria and who found refuge in Cumbria. It includes a visit to Carlisle Archive Centre to look at the range of documents, photographs and other sources which have survived and now constitute one of the best collections of historical material relating to this aspect of recent history in the UK.



Date Wed 3 Jul –
Fri 5 Jul 2024

Tutor Dr Rob David

Cost Residential £310
Non-residential £230

Course code H2407RD

BLOW! INTERMEDIATE WOODWIND WEEKEND

For grades 3 - 5 Flute, Oboe, Clarinet and Bassoon. Small and larger group playing under patient and supportive professional instruction. A great way to develop your playing! Notify us of instrument when booking. Catriona will also lead the Starters' Mini Orchestra course, 23-25 August.

Date Fri 5 Jul –
Sun 7 Jul 2024

Tutor Catriona Melville-
Mason

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2407MM

**PALETTE KNIFE EXPERIMENTS**

Learn to use the palette knife as part of your mark-making repertoire. Have fun applying paint without a brush using drag, scrape and spread techniques. Explore the sculptural qualities of paint playing with textures and layers and mixing colours directly on the surface of the canvas. This humble artist's tool can unlock many new possibilities for abstract and chance effects.

Date Fri 5 Jul –
Sun 7 Jul 2024

Tutor Coral Grace

Cost Residential £310
Non-residential £230
Includes materials.

Course code A2407CG

**TALK & TEA:
A PHILOSOPHER'S GUIDE TO NATURE**

Ever pondered the profound mysteries of nature? Can Arne Naess's deep ecology unveil the wisdom inherent in our connection with the natural world? How does Soga Ryojin's assertion, "We cannot rise above nature," resonate in a world balancing technological marvels and ecological consciousness? Join us in exploring these questions, as we attempt to guide ourselves towards a harmonious coexistence with nature in our ever-evolving world.

Date Fri 5 Jul 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Darren Harper

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2407DH

CALICO GARDENS HAND EMBROIDERY

Calico Gardens embroidery is stitched in tones and shades of one or a few closely matched neutral colours, with subtle enhancements using different threads and stitches to create lots of texture and 3D effects. Beginners and experienced embroiderers all welcome. You can choose to work either on a Calico Garden sampler to frame once finished, or bring your own project to work on in company with the benefit of Angie's extensive knowledge and technical expertise. The second of two courses running back-to-back. See also Calico Gardens Hand Embroidery, 2-5 July.



Date Fri 5 Jul –
Sun 7 Jul 2024

Tutor Angie Burt

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2407AB2

WIND SERENADES SUMMER SCHOOL

Wind Chamber course for high-advanced amateur players (diploma standard level 1 minimum) to work in-depth on substantial original repertoire with the highest level of tuition. All works studied will be performed complete in informal concerts on the last day. The course includes a mid-week tutors' concert. All applications to be made initially through Laurence to ascertain ensemble line-up: www.laurenceperkins.com/wind-serenades



Date Sun 7 Jul –
Fri 12 Jul 2024

Tutors Laurence Perkins
with Philippa
Davies, Colin
Honour and Jan
Willem Nelleke

Cost Residential £755
Non-residential
£575. Pick up at 5pm
from Penrith Rail
Station +£40 (please
request on booking).

Course code M2407LP



A VERY SPECIAL WOODWIND RECITAL

An hour of memorable musical performances performed by Laurence Perkins (bassoon) with Philippa Davies (flute), Colin Honour (clarinet) and Jan Willem Nelleke (piano). Bar open before and after the performance. No interval.



Date Wed 10 Jul 2024
8.15pm - 9.30pm

Cost £10
proceeds to The
Stroke Association.

Course code D2407LP1

SCULPTURAL NEEDLEFELT

Create a characterful sculpture, c.12-18 inches in size, using wool fibres based on a wire armature. There will be plenty of sources of inspiration and support to try one of a range of stylistic approaches, from art deco abstraction to stone carving and caricature. Sympathetic, patient and knowledgeable guidance from an outstanding felt artist (<http://www.furzie.co.uk>). All welcome, no experience with textiles necessary.



Date Fri 12 Jul –
Mon 15 Jul 2024

Tutor Furzie aka
Michelle Hickman

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270
Materials available at
cost from tutor £25.

Course code C2407MH

WHAT IS FREEDOM OF THE WILL? DO WE HAVE IT?

Most people believe that they have freedom of the will. Philosophers, however, disagree over whether or not this belief is correct. In this short course, we will consider religious, scientific, ethical and literary views concerning what freedom of the will might be and decide for ourselves whether or not any of these present a compelling case for freedom.



Date Fri 12 Jul –
Sun 14 Jul 2024

Tutor Dr. Alex Carter

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code L2407AC

PEWTERWORK

Learn to give form and texture to flat sheet metal. Popularised by the Arts & Crafts movement, pewterwork uses no heat, heavy tools, or machinery. Simple hand-held tools and an ability to follow direction are all that are needed to produce decorative pieces to wear or give as gifts.



Date Fri 12 Jul –
Sun 14 Jul 2024

Tutor Tilly Wilkinson

Cost Residential £310
Non-residential £230
Includes materials.

Course code C2407TW

AN INFORMAL (& FREE) WOODWIND CONCERT - IN TWO HALVES



All are invited to attend two 45-minute concerts at 11am and 2pm given by diploma-standard players completing a summer school with Laurence Perkins. A little audience will be appreciated! Please do let us know if you intend to come so we can put out enough chairs. You are welcome to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in our grounds between concerts; alternatively check availability for a 2-course lunch in the dining room. Tea and cake will be served afterwards.

Date Fri 12 Jul 2024
11am and 2pm

Cost FREE
(donations welcome)

Course code D2407LP2

ADVANCED BOOKBINDING: A QUARTER LEATHER BINDING MODEL



Making books covered in leather is always a challenging but most satisfying thing to do, no matter how many times you do it. We will be making a 19th century smooth spine, quarter-bound book in goatskin leather with decorative paper sidings. We will be making endpapers and hand sewing the text-block, taking the book through the construction stages, board attachment, leather preparation and forwarding. Trust me, it will be fun.

Date Sun 14 Jul –
Wed 17 Jul 2024

Tutor Doug Mitchell

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270
Materials available
to purchase at cost
from tutor.

Course code C2407DM1

VISITING LAKELAND GARDENS



Join expert horticulturalist Louise on an intimate tour of Lake District gardens, including some not normally open to the public. Meet the gardeners, discover new plants and garden design inspiration behind the gates, walls and clipped hedges of some hidden horticultural gems of the Lake District. The same course is repeated in September.

Date Sun 14 Jul –
Wed 17 Jul 2024

Tutor Louise Stoddart

Cost Residential £430
Non-residential £310
Includes field trips.

Course code N2407LS

SUNDAY LECTURE: THE INGENIOUS MR FLITCROFT



...“arguably the most significant Georgian architect of whom most people have never heard,” Henry Flitcroft designed some of the greatest country houses of the 18th century including Woburn Abbey, Wimpole and Wentworth Woodhouse. His accomplishments also included furniture, churches and notable London buildings such as Chatham House and Benjamin Franklin House. Author Gill Hedley will lead us through Flitcroft’s life and achievements in the social context of the period. The first of two special lectures for Higham by distinguished curator, historian and author Gill Hedley. See also Power and Thrones 19 July.

Date Sun 14 Jul 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Gill Hedley

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2407GH1

LEATHERWORK: HAND- STITCHED WALLET



Make your own leather wallet or card holder using the traditional method of hand-stitching the saddle stitch. You will learn how to work with thinner leathers and be able to personalise leather items by hand-tooling your own designs or using stamps. Templates are available if you do not wish to use your own drawings.



Date Mon 15 Jul –
Wed 17 Jul 2024

Tutor Roslyn Whiting

Cost Residential £310
Non-residential £230
Includes materials.

Course code C2407RW

SKETCHBOOK: FAST AND LOOSE!

Relax and enjoy getting back to the basics with artful games to get creative inspiration flowing, all in the privacy of your own sketchbook! Explore new ways of seeing objects, recording your impressions and using your sketchbook so it becomes an essential resource to support your creative thinking.

Date Wed 17 Jul –
Fri 19 Jul 2024

Tutor Pam Grant

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code A2407PG

BOOKBINDING: BEGINNERS

An introduction to the basics of hand bookbinding using techniques that have hardly changed in centuries. See how paper is prepared then hand sewn into a single-section pamphlet and a multi-section book. Learn how to prepare the book for covering, using traditional methods with modern materials. Gain experience and insight into book construction and how to use materials to their best advantage. End up with two lovely books to take home!

Date Wed 17 Jul –
Fri 19 Jul 2024

Tutor Doug Mitchell

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210
Materials available
to purchase at cost
from tutor.

Course code C2407DM2

GET TO KNOW YOUR POLLINATORS: BEES, BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER INSECT HEROS

Pollinators are vital to the survival of the human race. Plants depend on pollinators for the production of their seeds, which provide us with 1 in 3 mouthfuls of the food we eat. Through practical activities and presentations from entomologists and other experts, you will learn about the life cycles and habitats of a variety of pollinators, the threats to their survival and how you can support them by creating conditions in which they can thrive. The programme has been developed by Cumbria Beekeepers Association www.cbka.org.uk

Date Wed 17 Jul –
Fri 19 Jul 2024

Tutors Margaret Riches,
Stephen Barnes
and others

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code N2407CP

SUNDAY LECTURE: POWERS AND THRONES: WOMEN IN CHARGE OF THE ARTS IN PRE AND POST WAR BRITAIN

This talk will look at many, but by no means all, the powerful women who ran commercial and public galleries, were directors of arts organisations or major collectors in Britain from c1930-1960. Some names are well known, like Peggy Guggenheim and Erica Brausen, others kept a modest profile but had a powerful impact, like Dorothy Morland at the ICA or Noel Norton at the London Gallery. Overlooked until recently, their roles and stories are now being recognised and celebrated. A distinguished curator herself, Hedley organised exhibitions for the British Council including Francis Bacon in Moscow and Richard Hamilton at the Venice Biennale. For over a decade she also led the Contemporary Art Society, working with UK museums to expand their collections. The second of two special lectures for Higham. See also The Ingenious Mr Flitcroft, 14 July.

Date Fri 19 Jul 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Gill Hedley

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2407GH2

ANCIENT ROCKS OF LAKELAND

An advanced course for people with some geological knowledge, or those that have already attended our Geology of the Lakes: an Introduction (9-12 May). This course examines the oldest rocks in Lakeland: the early-mid Palaeozoic - Ordovician to Devonian age. It includes several field trips to locations across the Lake District – please wear appropriate walking boots and warm, waterproof clothes!



Date Sun 21 Jul –
Wed 24 Jul 2024

Tutor Dr. Annette
McGrath

Cost Residential £415
Non-residential £295
Includes field trips.

Course code N2407AM



PASTELS PURE AND SIMPLE

Chalk pastel has been used to great effect by artists through the ages, from Leonardo da Vinci in the 15th century and Whistler and Degas in the 19th to Paula Rego and Roger Hilton in the 20th. Pastels are versatile and easy to use, delivering vibrant colours across a wide range of tones to create delicate and dramatic effects. Learn and develop a mastery of this enigmatic medium working from landscape and still life subjects under the guidance of an artist who continues the authentic approach of the much-missed Christopher Assheton-Stones. All levels of ability and an individualised approach is offered for previous attendees.



Date Sun 21 Jul –
Fri 26 Jul 2024

Tutor Graham Oliver

Cost Residential £560
Non-residential £385

Course code A2407GO

EXPRESSIVE LANDSCAPES: MIXED MEDIA

Explore mixed media techniques using watercolour, gouache, acrylics, inks and soft pastel. We may venture outdoors (weather permitting), painting and drawing in the dramatic Lakeland landscape in order to build up a body of source material to work with, but this course focuses on developing your personal painterly style through exercises in the studio. We will explore our responses to the subject of landscape through processes of abstraction and the use of colour, paying attention to the expressive potential of different forms of mark-making and the responsiveness of different media.



Date Sun 21 Jul –
Fri 26 Jul 2024

Tutor Robert Dutton

Cost Residential £625
Non-residential £445
Includes field trips.

Course code A2407RD

GREAT OPERA SCENES BY VERDI AND PUCCINI



In this course, we will look at two Italian composers with a passion for passion: Verdi's *Rigoletto*, *Il Trovatore*, *La Traviata* and Puccini's *La Bohème*, *Tosca* and *Madama Butterfly* all revolve around intense scenes in which high drama and high emotion are exquisitely echoed and amplified by their musical scores. Verdi's scenes revolve around family ties: father and daughter, mother and son, father and son's lover. Puccini puts young love, tyranny and false hopes under the spotlight.

Date Wed 24 Jul –
Fri 26 Jul 2024

Tutor Ian France

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2407IF

HILLS AND MOORLAND LANDSCAPES IN RECYCLED FABRICS



For beginners and improvers. Create a fabric landscape based on hilly landscapes and moorlands using a wide range of recycled, found and repurposed materials. Explore a wide range of experimental textile and mixed media techniques including layering and blending of fabrics using a sewing machine. From inspiration to realisation, be supported and encouraged to play, taking a closer look at colour, pattern and perspective. You should be comfortable using a sewing machine for this course.

Date Fri 26 Jul –
Sun 28 Jul 2024

Tutor Justine Warner

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2407JW

APPRECIATING SHAKESPEARE IN PERFORMANCE: THE TEMPEST



Join us to explore Shakespeare's late comedy of love and magic, power struggles and forgiveness. Consider how Prospero and Miranda, Ariel and Caliban respond to the arrival of outsiders from the past on their Mediterranean island. The weekend includes an outdoor performance by the Festival Players on Saturday, followed by an evening Q&A with the director and cast.

Date Fri 26 Jul –
Sun 28 Jul 2024

Tutor Clare Smout

Cost Residential £315
Non-residential £235
Includes ticket
for outdoor
performance.

Course code L2407CS

SHAKESPEARE IN THE GARDEN: THE TEMPEST



The Festival Players return, performing Shakespeare's fantastical and some say allegorical play about magic, betrayal, love and forgiveness. With a bit of romance, comedy and tragedy thrown in for good measure, there's something for everyone. We are hoping for good weather, but the show will go on even if we have to hand out umbrellas. Open from 1.30 pm for picnics. Bring your own seating. Well-behaved dogs welcome. This performance coincides with Clare Smout's *Appreciating Shakespeare* course, which will focus on this play and includes a ticket to the performance.

Date Sat 27 Jul 2024
3pm - 5pm

The Festival Players
thefestivalplayers.co.uk

Cost Adults £18, Under
18s £12

Course code D2407FP

JAZZ PLAYERS' SUMMER SCHOOL FEATURING ALAN BARNES (SAX)



A serious yet relaxed week for jazz musicians who are able to play and read music to rehearsal band standard. Play a range of material from Swing to Bebop in small groups under the expert guidance of three of the UK's best jazz musicians. All prospective players must contact David 07951 903230 daveblackmusic@hotmail.com before enrolling to ascertain instrument(s) and level.



Date Sun 28 Jul –
Sun 4 Aug 2024

Tutors David Black (course leader/saxophone/flute/piano) with Alan Barnes (saxophone/clarinet) and Mark Armstrong (trumpet)

Cost Residential £680
Non-residential £460

Course code M2407DB

JAZZ CONCERT



A lively and engaging evening with David Black and players from our residential jazz summer school joined by very special guests saxophonist Alan Barnes and trumpeter Mark Armstrong.

Date Sat 3 Aug 2024
8pm -11pm

Cost £10
Bar open

Course code D2408DB



PAINTING AND DRAWING SUMMER SCHOOL



A week of workshops, lectures and demonstrations led by four of our tutors, offering a broad mix of inspiration, approaches, techniques and styles intended to refresh and expand your painting and drawing skills. Bring your favourite media and equipment, use our beautiful setting, and devote some quality time to developing your creative practice.

Date Sun 4 Aug –
Fri 9 Aug 2024

Tutors Lionel Playford, Jason Skill, Jane Beech, Ceri Allen

Cost Residential £640
Non-residential £465

Course code A2408ASS

THE LANGUAGE OF RENAISSANCE AND BAROQUE MUSIC FOR RECORDER PLAYERS



This is a practical course examining the relationship between language and music in the renaissance and baroque. There will be a focus on approaching scores from a historical /contextual point of view and will include some history of performance practice in relation to fundamental principles of classical rhetoric and the practical application of concepts through a varied use of articulation. Each day will begin with a warmup session followed by full group playing in which various concepts and techniques will be introduced. During the course of the day there will be the opportunity to split into small groups to work independently on music either selected by the tutor or chosen by the participants. These small ensembles will receive tutoring for presentation of a piece to the rest of the group. If time permits, participants are invited to take a private lesson from the tutor. Each day will have a 'special topic' session introducing specific concepts and techniques with practical exercises. Evening sessions will be full group playing.

Date Fri 9 Aug –
Sun 11 Aug 2024

Tutor Michael Piraner

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2408MP

EARLY MUSIC SUMMER SCHOOL 2024



For competent singers, viol and recorder players, covering music c1450-c1650. Instruction in choral/solo singing, viol and recorder playing, lute, plus vocal technique and various consorts. Plenary music-making sessions, lectures and opportunities to try something new (instrument or voice). A marvellously rich musical cocktail! There is an application process: please contact head tutor Deborah before booking (deborah_catterall@yahoo.com / 07964310617) so that Deborah can ensure the correct balance of singers and instruments for this summer school. For full details and application form see www.highhamhall.com/emss

Date Sun 11 Aug –
Sat 17 Aug 2024

Tutors Deborah Catterall (vocal) with Elizabeth Dodd (viol, Renaissance dance), Philip Guar (recorder), Michael Piraner (recorder) and Richard MacKenzie (lute).

Cost Residential £730
Non-residential £500

Course code M2408DC



BOTANICAL COLOURED PENCILS: THE SUMMER SESSION



The summer session with Susan is a perfect time to complete botanical work already begun in a previous class or work that you have begun on your own. There might be a botanical subject you would like to tackle but have never got round to it... make the most of Susan's knowledge and expertise to troubleshoot and improve your techniques or resolve compositions.

Date Sat 17 Aug –
Thu 22 Aug 2024

Tutor Susan Christopher-Coulson

Cost Residential £625
Non-residential £445

Course code A2408SCC

CIRCLE DANCE RETREAT

An extended circle dancing retreat where we will explore music and dances from cultures and communities around the world and the pace will vary from lively to meditative. Circle dancing is an inclusive form of community dancing where no partners are required, and previous experience of circle dancing is not necessary. All welcome. A tonic for body and mind!



Date Sat 17 Aug –
Wed 21 Aug 2024

Tutor Anne-Lise Kryger

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360

Course code M2408AK

PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

Explore a wide range of techniques to produce handmade prints to your own design: woodcut (cutting on plank wood); wood engraving (using end-grain substitute or similar);



drypoint (drawing on plastic or metal sheet with a needle); and etching (using copper sulphate to etch zinc plates, including hard and soft ground and aquatint). All abilities welcome. With demonstrations, extensive technical support and all materials provided (except items noted on course programme), this is a fantastic opportunity to expand your printmaking repertoire.



Date Sat 17 Aug –
Wed 21 Aug 2024

Tutor Peter Collins

Cost Residential £495
Non-residential £360

Course code C2408PC

EXPLORING ANCIENT IDENTITIES TODAY: THE IRON AGE AND ROMAN PAST IN THE PRESENT



What did the Romans really do for us? And were the 'Ancient Brits' really a savage bunch covered in blue paint? Where do our ideas of the past originate, and how do they colour the way we think today? Recent research has highlighted the way that perceptions of the ancient past can be used in divisive ways, especially in relation to political discussions – for example, relating to Brexit, immigration, and colonialism. This is especially true of the Iron Age and Roman pasts, which tend to be presented in very binary ways. This course will explore how and why these ideas arise, and what we might do to generate a much richer, more nuanced presentation of the past. Includes a visit to Senhouse Museum, Maryport.

Date Tue 20 Aug –
Fri 23 Aug 2024

Tutor Dr Kate Sharpe

Cost Residential £410
Non-residential £290
Includes field trip.

Course code H2408KS

WOODCARVING: CREATIVE RELIEF CARVING



Relief carving is the process of cutting a pattern or design into a flat surface. For those new to the craft, Sharon will gently guide you through the process of transforming a block of wood into a unique image in relief with generous one-to-one support, technical instruction and extensive knowledge of her subject. Bring your own visual sources or use Sharon's books and the Higham library for inspiration. You will learn to transfer a pattern, use chisels safely and try a range of carving techniques. For beginners and experienced woodworkers. Those who have attended previous courses may bring projects of their own to work on with Sharon's guidance.

Date Wed 21 Aug –
Tue 27 Aug 2024

Tutor Sharon Littley

Cost Residential £660
Non-residential £470

Course code C2408SL

NUTURE THROUGH NATURE SUMMER YOGA RETREAT

Develop a sense of harmony and balance within yourself and the world in which you live. Suitable for all abilities. Using Ayurvedic wisdom, practicing 'pranayama' (breath control), 'asanas' (yoga postures) and through 'dhyana' (meditation) we will look to nature to nurture an inner state of peace and calm.



Date Wed 21 Aug –
Fri 23 Aug 2024

Tutor Andrea Sanders-Fox

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code F2408ASF

EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY



This course brings together aspects of creative writing and illustration to explore personal storytelling through pictures. In structured sessions, learn how to generate ideas and explore themes through playful activities and short writing exercises. Discover how to use simple and expressive watercolour techniques, and to combine them with collage and other materials. We will also explore ways of working with found images using layering and tracing techniques. There will be opportunities to work from observation and your imagination as you develop your own visual storytelling style. No experience necessary - curiosity and a love of stories are the only ingredients needed. Colette will support you on your journey whatever your starting point.

Date Thu 22 Aug –
Sat 24 Aug 2024

Tutor Colette Cameron

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code A2408CC

STARTERS' MINI-ORCHESTRA FOR WOODWIND & STRINGS (C INSTRUMENTS)



Not played with others much? Instrument been languishing in its case? Lacking confidence? This easy beginners-level weekend is for you! Primarily designed for musicians between Grades 1-4. For instruments in the key of C (i.e. flute, oboe, bassoon and bowed strings - sorry, no clarinets or saxophones). With relatively straightforward instrumental parts in terms of key and note range, enjoy making music with others in our mini-orchestra. Catriona will also lead the Intermediate Woodwind Weekend, 5-7 July.

Date Fri 23 Aug –
Sun 25 Aug 2024

Tutor Catriona
Melville-Mason

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2408MM

SUNDAY LECTURE: LOST CUMBRIA ON FILM

We will be heading back in time for a nostalgic trip to bygone Cumbria with the Cumbria Film Archive. A unique afternoon of entertainment enjoying genuinely rare and unique footage of people and places across the county - always fascinating and always something new. See cumbriafilmmarchive.com for examples of the growing collection of excellent footage available.

Date Sun 25 Aug 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutors Andrew Leitch &
Jim Bownass

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2408AL

CHAMBER MUSIC SUMMER SCHOOL

For pre-formed trios, quartets and quintets. Groups work together in the mornings at self-selected repertoire. Afternoons free to explore the beautiful surroundings. Remaining sessions for mixed ensembles. Large library of music to explore.

Date Tue 27 Aug –
Sat 31 Aug 2024

Tutor/co-ordinator:
Louise Latham

Cost Residential £525
Non-residential £390

Course code M2408LL

EXPRESSIVE SKETCHBOOKS

For all those wishing to loosen up working from what they see. Let Alex inspire and guide you in her own special and informed way. There may be some outside work, weather permitting.

Date Sat 31 Aug –
Tue 3 Sep 2024

Tutor Alex Jakob-
Whitworth

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2408AJW

SING WITH OTHERS: YES YOU CAN!

If you have little experience of singing with others, believe you can't sing or just feel a bit rusty, then this course will be a journey of discovery to find your voice and use it to join others singing beautiful music together. We take a holistic approach and have a lot of fun along the way. No music reading required but there will be a good deal of confidence building!

Date Sun 1 Sep –
Tue 3 Sep 2024

Tutor Deborah Catterall

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2409DC

RUSKIN LACE

A Lake District speciality since the late nineteenth century, Ruskin lace was made from hand-spun and woven linen produced by cottagers around Coniston. Karen is a leading exponent of this heritage craft who brings extensive knowledge to support and guide you in traditional needlepoint lace techniques, drawn thread and cut linen work to create beautiful geometric designs. This course is suitable for both beginners and experienced needleworkers. If required, a starter pack (£15) is available to purchase from the tutor.



Date Sun 1 Sep –
Tue 3 Sep 2024

Tutor Karen Quickfall

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2409KQ



TRY FOR A DAY: BOTANICAL PAINTING

This informal and relaxed workshop is a gentle introduction to the delights of drawing from nature. You will spend the morning building confidence while closely observing individual flower petals, leaves and berries and practising watercolour techniques. The afternoon is spent painting flowers and plants from the beautiful gardens here at Higham. Everyone welcome, no experience needed. You may surprise yourself. All materials supplied, including a sketchbook to take home.



Date Sun 1 Sep 2024
10am - 5pm

Tutor Lis Bramwell

Cost £100
Includes lunch and materials.

Course code D2409LB

PHILOSOPHY AND FILM

Immerse yourself in an intellectual sojourn as we navigate the interplay between existential philosophy and the visual language of film, where the profound meets the poetic to forge a unique tapestry of introspection and reflection. Following a now-familiar format, this course is built around a series of structured sessions involving screenings and guided discussion, and invites you to consider the ways in which different films engage key philosophical themes to challenge, expose or subvert social mores, reflect on the ineffable beauty of existence or posit the meaning of life. Films will include *Ida* (Pawel Pawlikowski, 2013), *Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter...and Spring* (Kim Ki-duk, 2003), *Memento* (Christopher Nolan, 2000), and *The Tree of Life* (Terence Malick, 2011).



Date Tue 3 Sep –
Fri 6 Sep 2024

Tutor Darren Harper

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code L2409DH

NOW'S THE TIME FOR BRUCKNER



Getting to know Bruckner's music is a challenge many have shied away from. But as we celebrate 200 years since the Austrian composer's birth this very week, there can be no better time to grasp the nettle. His 'romantic' 4th symphony and the heavenly 7th afford the easiest way into Bruckner's complex musical legacy.

Date Tue 3 Sep –
Thu 5 Sep 2024

Tutor Ian France

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2409IF

HOLLYWOOD'S VIEW OF AMERICAN HISTORY 1914-1980



This course looks at Hollywood movies and extracts from them the history of the times in which they were made. While films such as Mr Smith Goes to Washington (1939), The Grapes of Wrath (1940) or On The Waterfront (1954) were overtly political, many Hollywood films offer perhaps unintended insights into American society. These are the films of escapism made purely for the purposes of entertainment but the very idea of escapism is in itself a political statement. We shall also consider the studios' relationships with Washington, which they actively courted during the New Deal and WWII while remaining fearful of federal interference and notably self-conscious of their Jewish heritage.

Date Tue 3 Sep –
Fri 6 Sep 2024

Tutor Dr. Colin Shindler

Cost Residential £405
Non-residential £285

Course code L2409CS

THE PRE-RAPHAELITE BROTHERHOOD



In this course of illustrated lectures & discussion we will investigate the contribution made to the art world by three great Victorian painters - John Everett Millais, William Holman Hunt and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Their art embodies so much that is at the heart of English identity: poetry, love of nature, love itself. Long the favourites of gallery goers, these artists created memorable images that are inextricably part of the Victorian world. As such, the complexity, psychological depth and compelling narratives within these paintings are often underestimated although they continue to resonate with who we are today and deserve to be appreciated on these terms.

Date Thu 5 Sep –
Sat 7 Sep 2024

Tutor Tim Stimson

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code A2409TS1

TALK & TEA: A PHILOSOPHER'S GUIDE TO AGEING



Ever pondered the philosophical intricacies of ageing? Can Confucian virtues guide us through the challenges of later life, emphasizing harmony and virtue? How do David Hume's skeptical reflections on personal identity and time influence our pursuit of happiness in the twilight years? Join us on an intellectually stimulating journey where these questions unravel the profound philosophy woven into the fabric of our later years.

Date Fri 6 Sep 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Darren Harper

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2409DH

WHITWORK EMBROIDERY



As the name suggests, whitework is traditionally worked with white thread on white fabric. It encompasses a wide range of techniques from the bold to the delicate and is commonly used in bridal, christening wear and ecclesiastical embroidery. Sample different types and techniques of whitework or develop your own piece with Angie's patient and generous technical support. For those wishing to continue working on their projects, a further 3-night Whitework Embroidery course follows this (8-11 Sept).



Date Fri 6 Sep –
Sun 8 Sep 2024

Tutor Angie Burt

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2409AB1

DANISH ART: THE GOLDEN AGE



From the early crisp, clear, bright & cheerful images of a gentle landscape and its people in the 19th century, Danish artists evolved a fascinatingly rich diversity of approaches in the dynamic period between 1800 and the early 20th century. British art collections contain few Nordic pictures, so for many these artists will be a revelation.

Date Sat 7 Sep –
Mon 9 Sep 2024

Tutor Tim Stimson

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code A2409TS2

WHITWORK EMBROIDERY



As the name suggests, whitework is traditionally worked with white thread on white fabric. It encompasses a wide range of techniques from the bold to the delicate and is commonly used in bridal, christening wear and ecclesiastical embroidery. Sample different types and techniques of whitework or develop your own piece with Angie's patient and generous technical support. This course runs back-to-back with the earlier Whitework Embroidery, 6-8 Sept.

Date Sun 8 Sep –
Wed 11 Sep 2024

Tutor Angie Burt

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code C2409AB2

LATE SUMMER YOGA AND WALKING



A perfect mix of hatha yoga sessions (working on postures, breathing exercises and relaxation) and guided hill walks of up to 5 miles, sometimes over rough and steep ground (requiring a reasonable level of fitness) among the peaceful northern fells - which will leave you feeling supple, relaxed and refreshed! Suitable for beginners and experienced. Courses run in spring, mid- and late-summer.

Date Mon 9 Sep –
Fri 13 Sep 2024

Tutors Gill Hunter with
Alan Hunter

Cost Residential £515
Non-residential £380
Includes field trips.

Course code F2409GH

CERAMIC SCULPTURE: GET A-HEAD!

Learn how to model clay heads, up to 30cm tall, to be glazed and Raku fired at the end of the course. In the second half of the week you will produce a larger sculpture using Cumbrian brick clay, fired later by us when dry.

Date Tue 10 Sep –
Mon 16 Sep 2024

Tutors Martin Copley with
Kay Latto

Cost Residential £710
Non-residential £520

Course code C2409MC

EMBROIDERY FOR BEGINNERS

An introduction to embroidery for beginners. Get to know your materials, learn basic embroidery stitches and make your first embroidery with step-by-step guidance and one-to-one support. There will be a variety of starter kits available to buy from the tutor including crewel and calico gardens embroideries, priced from £15 upwards.



Date Wed 11 Sep –
Fri 13 Sep 2024

Tutor Angie Burt

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code C2409AB3

DVOŘÁK AND JANÁČEK: 2 CZECH MASTERS

Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904) and Leoš Janáček (1854-1928) are 2 of the greatest composers to emerge from the Czech lands; from Bohemia and Moravia respectively. We will explore their contribution to classical music, from the popular orchestral and chamber works of Dvořák to the remarkable operas and choral music of Janáček.

Date Fri 13 Sep –
Sun 15 Sep 2024

Tutor Chris Rodwell

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code M2409CR

INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE STITCHING

A fun way to get serious, stitching little creative projects using a stash of bits and pieces. Basic materials are provided, but feel free to bring some fabric of your own if you wish. Ann will guide you with professional tips to see what you can end up with. Relaxed and absorbing, this is a course to inspire your creativity and awaken your needle and/or sewing machine skills.

Date Sun 15 Sep –
Tue 17 Sep 2024

Tutor Ann Gill

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210
Materials available
to purchase at cost
from Tutor £10.

Course code C2409AG

PIANO WORKSHOP



For up to ten players* at Grade 7 and above. In advance of this intensive, non-competitive workshop, you will prepare a 20-minute programme to be played and discussed; if possible, bring along spare copies of pieces for others.

Working with John and fellow workshop participants, you will be encouraged and supported in your playing and offered constructive suggestions for improving style, technique and presentation. There will be a joint recital on the final morning.

*Non-performing listeners also welcome.

Date Sun 15 Sep –
Tue 17 Sep 2024

Tutor John Gough

Cost Residential £300
Non-residential £220

Course code M2409JG



ENAMELLING



Make enamelled jewellery, small tiles, or panels working on copper, silver, or steel. Learn the techniques of enamel application, foils, stencils, sgraffito among others as desired, and training in kiln use, control and safety. All abilities welcome from beginners to advanced; students will be supported to work at their own pace on appropriate projects.

Date Mon 16 Sep –
Fri 20 Sep 2024

Tutor Tilly Wilkinson

Cost Residential £505
Non-residential
£370. Materials
available to purchase
at cost from tutor.

Course code C2409TW

THE ICE AGE AND ITS AFTERMATH IN LAKELAND



Geological field trips (with some rough, possibly muddy footpaths and a little elevation close to the road) combined with evening lectures. Learn how to identify and understand glacial landforms and features that have formed since the ice disappeared (scree, landslides, river terraces and floodplains) alongside landscape changes still happening today. Suitable for all who are interested in geology. Bring appropriate footwear/ outdoor clothing for off-road walking and inclement weather. Students should be able to cope with steep and uneven ground.

Date Tue 17 Sep –
Fri 20 Sep 2024

Tutor Dr. Peter Wilson

Cost Residential £405
Non-residential £285
Includes field trips.

Course code N2409PW

BOTANICAL ART WITH COLOURED PENCILS: SEASONAL SPLENDOUR



September is a time of transition with lots of new colours and exciting forms for the botanical artist to record. Autumn's rich palette of berries and turning foliage contrasts with sculptural flower seed heads. Working at your own pace in a relaxed atmosphere, this course offers an opportunity to continue developing your skills in drawing, mixing and layering colour. You will be given guidance with composition and presentation, with demonstrations, troubleshooting, discussion of equipment and individual attention as needed to support beginner and experienced alike.

Date Tue 17 Sep –
Fri 20 Sep 2024

Tutor Susan Christopher-Coulson

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2409SCC

ANIMAL PORTRAITS IN PASTEL (MATERIALS PROVIDED)



For both beginners and improvers. Complete a tutor-led portrait of an alpaca on velour paper. Learn about various types of pastel and surfaces and practice layering, blending and building up texture. After this exercise, work on a picture of your own choosing with Paul's patient and generous one-to-one support. All materials provided but please bring your own photographs/reference material for the personal choice of subject (keep them clear and simple), a folder (A3 size or larger) for completed work and an apron or old shirt to protect your clothes.

Date Fri 20 Sep –
Sun 22 Sep 2024

Tutor Paul Holmes

Cost Residential £310
Non-residential £230
Includes a set of
pastels to keep.

Course code A2409PH

THE LIFE OF BUILDINGS: PAST PRESENT FUTURES



In almost every town or village, there's a building built, once upon a time, for a purpose that no longer exists. It might be a church without a congregation, a big house without a household, or an institution without an institute. What do, or could, we do with such buildings? This course will tell the stories of six such buildings – three at home, and three abroad - in which local communities are grappling with this question, using bricks and mortar, but also memories and legacies – to (re)build new futures - not just for those buildings, but for the communities that care for them, too. And this course also invites you to share your own stories of buildings and communities and to imagine new futures for them.

Date Fri 20 Sep –
Sun 22 Sep 2024

Tutor Prof. Edward Hollis

Cost Residential £290
Non-residential £210

Course code H2409EH

VISITING LAKELAND GARDENS



Join expert horticulturalist Louise on an intimate tour of Lake District gardens, including some not normally open to the public. Meet the gardeners, discover new plants and garden design inspiration behind the gates, walls and clipped hedges of some hidden horticultural gems of the Lake District.



Date Fri 20 Sep –
Mon 23 Sep 2024

Tutor Louise Stoddart

Cost Residential £430
Non-residential £310
Includes field trips.

Course code N2409LS

MOVING AWAY FROM REALISM WITH STILL LIFE



As the title suggests we will be looking at ways to gently move your art from strict copy work into more creative territory. Why still life? Well, still life is an area of art where artists can be more experimental, because they can play more easily with the components. If you don't like something where it is, you can just pick it up and move it. Not possible with landscape and sometimes tricky with figure work. If you couple this flexibility with learning to interpret your reference, perhaps changing or even distorting it, still life becomes a playground for creative endeavour, which partly explains why Cezanne and later Picasso used it extensively in their more experimental work. Stir in a little of your personality, ideas, feeling and still life becomes a hot bed for helping you develop your art.

Date Sun 22 Sep –
Wed 25 Sep 2024

Tutor Jason Skill

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2409JS



SUNDAY LECTURE: VISUAL ART, LANDSCAPE AND THE ANGLO-SCOTTISH BORDERS



In this lecture, art historian and academic Ysanne Holt will share her current research on the cultural history of this region, exploring artists' engagements with the landscapes of this cross-border region from the interwar period to the present. Those for consideration include Winifred Nicholson and William Johnstone in the earlier decades, Land/environmental artists of the 1970s and 80s, and the practices of artists now directly concerned with impacts of climate change. Author of *British Art and the Modernist Landscape* (Ashgate) Professor Holt has published widely on the subjects of modern British art, the representation of landscape and a sense of place.

Date Sun 22 Sep 2024
2pm - 4pm

Tutor Professor Emerita
Ysanne Holt

Cost £18 each or
£32 for 2 including
refreshments

Course code D2409YH

ADVANCED GOLDWORK



This course is aimed at students who already have knowledge and experience of gold/metal thread work. you will be introduced to more advanced-level skills such as hard string padding, basketweave, or nué, s-ing, plate and manipulated kid, as well as different technical methods of work. We will explore each type of stitch from start to finish and will also focus on correction of technique to finesse and improve the finished appearance. Helen is one of the UK's leading artisan hand embroiderers and a historian specialising in all aspects of traditional and contemporary embroidery and embellishment. She can demonstrate left or right-handed. Helen's course on Counted Techniques follows, 26-29 Sept.

Date Mon 23 Sep –
Thu 26 Sep 2024

Tutor Helen McCook

Cost Residential £440
Non-residential £320
A materials kit is
available to purchase
from the tutor £50.

Course code C2409HM1

YOU THE JURY: CASEBOOK NUMBER SIX

After listening to and discussing evidence with fellow jurors, you will be able to pronounce your verdict on five separate (real-life) murder cases which occurred between 1900-1975. Each case is chosen for the insights they bring to our understanding of the British judicial system and social history. Come equipped with pen, notebook and an open mind...

N.B. This format involves lots of listening around the room. Each casebook course covers a different selection of cases.

Date Mon 23 Sep –
Thu 26 Sep 2024

Tutor Diane Janes

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code L2409DJ

COUNTED TECHNIQUES

During this course we will look at the traditional counted hand embroidery techniques of blackwork, pulled thread work and drawn thread work on evenweave fabric. This course is suitable for all levels of experience. We will explore each type of stitch from start to finish, with added variations to aid understanding. Helen is one of the UK's leading artisan hand embroiderer and historian specialising in all aspects of traditional and contemporary embroidery and embellishment. She can demonstrate left or right-handed. This course runs back-to-back with Helen's Advanced Goldwork course, 23-26 Sept.

Date Thu 26 Sep –
Sun 29 Sep 2024

Tutor Helen McCook

Cost Residential £440
Non-residential £320
A materials kit is available to purchase from the tutor c.£50.

Course code C2409HM2

WOVEN TAPESTRY: PULLED WARPS

Curved forms created by pulled warps. Making a tapestry to be manipulated into a shape once off the loom. The first of two technical courses led by international award-winning tapestry artist Louise, returning to Higham for the autumn season. Louise's course Woven Tapestry: Wedge Weave Landscape follows, 28-30 Sept.

Date Thu 26 Sep –
Sat 28 Sep 2024

Tutor Louise Martin

Cost Residential £295
Non-residential £215

Course code C2409LM1

**DRAMATIC SKIES, LAND AND SEASCAPE
IN SOFT PASTELS**

Extend your artistic skills using pastels to create expressive seascapes, landscapes and dramatic skies. With demonstrations throughout, gentle guidance for beginners, encouragement for the more experienced and constructive one-to-one critique to support you to confidently handle this subtle yet versatile medium.

Date Fri 27 Sep –
Mon 30 Sep 2024

Tutor Eileen Gardner

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2409EG

WOVEN TAPESTRY: WEDGE WEAVE LANDSCAPE

This course uses the landscape in and around Higham to explore the wedge weave technique. We will consider how the forms and movement in the landscape may be expressed in this weaverly, rather than literal way. This course follows Louise's course on Pulled Warp Woven Tapestry, 26-28 Sept.

Date Sat 28 Sep –
Mon 30 Sep 2024

Tutor Louise Martin

Cost Residential £295
Non-residential £215

Course code C2409LM2

**BOTANICAL WATERCOLOUR PAINTING**

Sculptural seed heads and glowing hedgerow fruits will inspire you to capture the fresh palette and clean lines of autumn. Working direct from nature, learn to accurately depict them in watercolour with technical demonstrations, knowledgeable guidance and one-to-one tuition. For both beginners and the more experienced.

Date Sun 29 Sep –
Wed 2 Oct 2024

Tutor Marion Wilson SBA

Cost Residential £390
Non-residential £270

Course code A2409MW

DRAWING AND PAINTING LAKELAND CHURCHES

The northern Lake District is littered with characterful old churches in stunning locations - where the dappled light of old churchyards conjure atmospheric qualities ideal for mixed-media sketching and painting en plein air. Join Lionel on five days of painting expeditions to hone your skills in drawing both architectural and natural forms and using colour imaginatively or analytically. Practice capturing the fleeting effects of weather, light conditions or the textures of tree bark and ancient stone in two or more media combined.

Date Mon 30 Sep –
Thu 3 Oct 2024

Tutor Lionel Playford

Cost Residential £405
Non-residential £285
Includes field trips.

Course code A2409LP

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

COURSE FEES

Non-residential course fees cover tuition, morning coffee/afternoon tea, lunch and dinner.

Residential fees cover all of the above plus accommodation and breakfast.

Materials: In addition to the course fees, there may be some additional itemised costs to cover materials provided as part of the course. These are often paid direct to the course tutor at the start of the course and are not included in the course fees unless otherwise stated. Full details in the course programme.

Field trips: Some courses involve field trips to locations around Cumbria and the Borders. Where this is the case, course fees include a small additional charge to cover transportation costs.

Course programmes are available on request and are sent with your booking confirmation.

OTHER EVENTS

The ticket price for lectures and performances do not include refreshments unless otherwise stated.

BURSARIES AND ASSISTED PLACES SCHEME

If you are in receipt of individual State Benefits or aged 18-25, you can apply for either:

- an assisted place: up to 20% discount on course fees.
- a bursary: a one-off discretionary award up to the value of 70% of course fees.

Please complete an application form available from the office: 017687 76276
admin@highamhall.com

Bursaries and the assisted place scheme are supported by Friends of Higham membership subscriptions. Awards are made at the discretion of Higham Hall College and subject to availability of funds.

TO BOOK A PLACE

Please call the office on 017687 76276 to enquire about a course, book a place and discuss your accommodation requirements.

1-day (non-residential) workshops

Full fee payable on booking.

Residential courses

A non-refundable deposit of £50 is required to reserve a place on a residential course. Payment of any outstanding course fees must be made no less than one month before the course start date.

You can book/pay

- over the telephone using a credit or debit card
- by sending a cheque made out to 'Higham Hall College Limited' with a completed booking form (enc.)

Please note, your booking will not be confirmed until this payment has been processed.

CANCELLATION POLICY

When paying the outstanding balance, you have the option to take out our cancellation cover at £5 per night. This guarantees an 80% refund of the course fee (less non-refundable deposit of £50) if you need to cancel your place within one month of the course start date because of illness, injury or death of self or close relative (a doctor's certificate or equivalent evidence may be required). Please note we are unable to issue any refund without this cover although your own travel insurance may cover you.

COVID-19

Current government guidance for educational settings states that 'adults with a positive COVID-19 test result are advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious.' Please call us if you have a positive COVID-19 result in the week before your course.



HOW TO GET HERE

Higham Hall is on the northern edge of the Lake District, between Cockermouth (3 miles) and Keswick (8 miles), near Bassenthwaite Lake.

Postcode: CA13 9SH

What3words: buzzards.practical.trickled

By car

From the A66, take the B5291 signposted Dubwath/Castle Inn. Higham Hall is signposted after turn-off. Continue 500m to the junction, turn right, go 500m and turn left 500m up the hill.

From Carlisle (A595), turn left at Bothel (A591) and turn right onto B5291 at Castle Inn. After Ouse Bridge bear sharp right, take 2nd road on the right 500m up the hill.

Public transport

Nearest railway stations: Penrith (25 miles), Carlisle (24 miles), Workington (10 miles) or Aspatria (8.4 miles).

From Penrith station, take the X4/X5 bus service towards Workington & get off at the Lakes Distillery or Embleton Wheatsheaf pub.

From Workington station, take the X4/X5 bus service towards Penrith & get off at the Lakes Distillery or Embleton Wheatsheaf pub.

From Carlisle station take the no.554 bus towards Keswick & get off at the Castle Inn Hotel.

Please let us know if you intend to travel by public transport. We can meet you at these bus stops if you arrive before 5pm.

Alternatively, pre-book taxis from the station to Higham for a fair fixed rate direct through Davies Taxis (Keswick): 017687 72676

www.stagecoachbus.com
www.nationalrail.co.uk
www.daviestaxis.co.uk

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

STAYING AT HIGHAM

We hope you will make yourself at home at Higham. Explore the garden or climb a fell; there is a drying room for damp clothes and boots. If not in use for a course, the Drawing Room is a cosy place to while away a quiet hour or two. Browse the bookshelves for reading material while you are here; we are working to reinstate a library in the Parlour for students to use and enjoy. The Bar is open nightly 6-10:45pm. We have umbrellas and hot water bottles and a small stock of travel essentials if you have forgotten anything. There is a member of staff on duty 24/7 so if you need help with anything, just ask.

On the menu

We serve a hearty breakfast, 2-course lunch and 3-course dinner every day. Morning coffee and afternoon tea with homemade biscuits and cakes are also provided. All meals are prepared freshly in our kitchens from locally sourced ingredients so we are able accommodate any dietary or allergy requirements. Please tell us about any dietary needs on booking.

Accommodation

Every room is different at Higham. We offer single, twin and double rooms. All have private bathrooms but not all are ensuite.

We charge an ensuite supplement of £10pppn. Double occupancy or carers sharing the same room can claim a discount of £5pppn.

Bedroom accommodation in the main house is on the first floor, and we have a stair lift to help with access. There are also a number of ground floor rooms with level access in the Gatehouse and Bungalow, which are a short distance from the main house. We offer one fully accessible (single) bedroom. Please get in touch to discuss any mobility issues so we can ensure you are offered appropriate accommodation.

Dogs are welcome to stay with guests in the Gatehouse only for an additional charge of £30 per dog. Please check availability on booking.

There is plenty of free parking on site.

Hook-ups and a sluice room are available for students wishing to stay in campervans or motor homes. Please tell us in advance. A charge of £15 per vehicle per night will be due on booking.

Electric car charging is also possible via hook-ups (regular 13amp socket). Please call in advance to check availability and bring an adapter for your car. £15 per vehicle per charge.

Space permitting, we also welcome guests who are not attending courses.

B&B standard room £50 (ensuite +£10pppn)

Breakfast £12, Lunch £16, Dinner £26

Please note accommodation and catering charges for non-course attendees are subject to VAT.

Alternative B&B accommodation is available in the local area; please ask the office for recommendations.





Higham Hall College is one of an increasingly small number of independent residential adult education institutions across the UK providing lifelong learning to adults of all ages. Our tutors and students come from across the UK. We employ 35 permanent members of staff and are the custodians of a Grade II listed manor house. We depend entirely on income from our courses. 2026 will mark our fiftieth anniversary as a college.

LOOKING FOR GIFT IDEAS?

We have a small selection of our artist tutors' prints and cards for sale. Higham gift cards are also available and can be credited with any amount, valid for 2 years.

PLEASE SUPPORT US

Volunteer

We are hugely grateful to our volunteers for the hard work they put in to help us keep Higham running, from gardening or driving the minibus to making curtains. If you have a skill and can offer a few hours of your time either on a regular weekly basis or for a few concentrated days, please get in touch.

Donate

Become a Friend of Higham. Membership starts at £10/year. Please see the website for more details www.highamhall.com/donate

Your contributions go directly to:

- Funding bursaries and our assisted places scheme to support broader access and participation for those on low incomes/in receipt of certain state benefits or aged 18-25.
- Looking after the building and grounds, with particular focus on improving access around the site for those with limited mobility and enhancing the learning environment with technical equipment and facilities to support a broader range of courses.

An Educational Trust
supporting lifelong learning
in the arts and humanities
through workshops,
lectures, residential courses
and retreats in the English
Lake District.

We are also a company limited by
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HIGHAM
HALL

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