



RWS

Royal Watercolour Society

WORKSHOP – Inky Watercolours with Tessa Pearson ARWS

Price £100

Location RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

Date Friday October 4th 2024

Time 10.30am - 4pm

About the Workshop

In this workshop you will explore the interesting possibilities of combining watercolour with ink; mixing watercolour washes with drawn line and textured marks, and utilising the various exciting effects of wet washes with Indian and acrylic inks. Subject matter may be from sketchbook references or studio still life seedhead arrangements and you will make various studies exploring these ideas leading to a more considered final piece.

This course is suitable for those with a small amount of experience in water based media and who are willing to experiment.

Morning

- Introduction to watercolour and the various types of inks available.
- Introduction to the work of John Blockley, John Piper, Suyao Tian and other artists working with ink and watercolour, examining their technique.
- Demonstration of techniques, experimenting with all aspects of application of ink, tools, sketchbook ideas, use of ink with mixed media, exploring various surfaces.
- Students experiment and paint samples.
- At this point you will not be concerned with subject matter, and the group will share ideas on possibilities.

Afternoon

- Break for lunch
- In the afternoon you may choose to work on a larger painting, referencing the seedhead still life arrangement or sketchbook images of your choice. Tessa will discuss her own process and

will work with you individually to discuss possible ways inks would work with your own painting techniques.

- Review: there will be a chance to view each other's work and an opportunity to ask questions.

About the Tutor

Tessa Pearson is a painter and printmaker living in the Surrey Hills, south of London. She graduated from the Royal College of Art in Printed Textile design, winning the Courtauld prize, and had a successful career selling hand painted fabrics all over the world from her London studio and gallery.

Transferring her skills, Tessa now uses painting as her preferred medium, working exclusively on paper with watercolour and silkscreen monotypes. Her influences have been many, from Matisse to Hodgkin and the bold colourists of mid twenty-first century painters Patrick Heron and Albert Irvin. Known for her exceptional use of colour, Tessa's recent work focusses on patterns and colour experienced in inspirational gardens both her own, and from her travels in Morocco, which she interprets in her very recognisable style.

Tessa has taught painting at every ability level for over 30 years and continues to enjoy inspiring and guiding painters in experimental techniques.

Materials

- **A selection of watercolours:** tubes of artist quality are best and should include a good range of reds/blues and yellows. A tube of Winsor and Newton Permanent White gouache would be useful
- **Inks:** you will need a small bottle of **black Indian Ink** , a small bottle of **black acrylic ink** (Daler Rowney?) and **coloured inks** if you have them – sepia, indigo, yellow, etc
- **Paper:** loose paper is best. A2 or A3 size, approximately 6-10 sheets, depending on how large/fast you work. Tessa recommends Saunders Waterford 300g NOT paper, but Bockingford or Fabriano A3 300g/140lb NOT paper is good value for experimenting
- **Reference material:** sketches, dried seedheads, leaves etc would be very welcome
- **Sketchbook or notebook:** a small sketchbook or notebook would be handy for notes and thumbnail sketches
- **Palette with large deep wells**
- **A few empty small yogurt type pots** for acrylic inks
- **Water pots:** two large water pots (and a bucket if you can fit one in...!)
- **Brushes:** bring what you have including large watercolour brushes and a few older rough brushes
- **Bamboo dip pens**, any other drawing implements you can find
- **Pencils**

- Eraser

- A wax candle stub for resist, and maybe some collage papers and glue would be fun to use too

Useful Links:

<https://www.tessapearson.com/watercolour>

Location



RWS Gallery
3-5 Whitcomb Street
London
WC2H 7HA

Just off Trafalgar Square
Nearest tubes: Leicester Square and
Charing Cross

Nearby parking is very limited. There is a Q-Park multi-storey car park at the top of Whitcomb Street that charges around £9/hour. If you wish to travel by car we recommend checking nearby parking on parkopedia.com

Lunch & Refreshments

Lunch is not provided and it is recommended that you bring your own food and drink for the day, which can be consumed in the gallery. Students are welcome to use the gallery fridges to store their food and drink. There are also many cafes nearby including a Pret-a-Manger next door to the gallery.