



RWS

Royal Watercolour Society

WORKSHOP – Kitsch Christmas Cards with Gertie Young RWS

Price £100

Location RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

Date Sunday 8th December 2024

Time 10.30am - 4pm

About the Workshop

In this workshop you will create your own kitsch Christmas cards through experimentation, imagination and enjoyment. You will work either directly from your own personal Christmas themed objects or from your imagination, to create your own fun compositions and designs.

You will create backgrounds to your cards by using experimental shapes and patterns, making large gestural marks with no initial focus, enjoying accidental mistakes, using colour, collage, stamping, stencilling, and imagining.

This workshop is about enjoyment and recreating Christmas memories. It is suitable for all levels.

Morning

- Initial introductions
- Gertie will share examples of her work and that of other artists, talk about her personal process and show visual references to help inspire participants.
- You will produce loose experimental backgrounds and enjoy the accidental mistakes
- From what you have learnt through experimentation, you will then begin your first card design, working from either your personal Christmas themed objects or from your imagination.

Afternoon

- Break for lunch
- Using a viewfinder you will select interesting areas for further ideas. You will experiment with painting, collage, stamping, stencilling and more, to create your own fun Christmas designs.

- You will continue to experiment and create multiple card designs.
- Review: there will be a chance to view each other's work and an opportunity to ask questions.

About the Tutor

Gertie began painting as a child, inventing comics, pretend photos, imaginary maps and dream paintings. At 18 she went on to study at Hornsey School of Art. Over the years she has held a variety of jobs but has always continued with her secret love of painting; filling in a series of 'scribble books' with her bright, imaginative pieces. Following her retirement Gertie started entering and winning various national and other open art competitions finally successfully applying for membership of the Royal Watercolour Society.

Gertie has firmly established her position as an artist in the UK, having participated in a variety of National competitions and exhibitions such as: the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition, the National Open Art competition, the RWS' Contemporary Watercolour Competition, the Society of Women Artists Annual Exhibition, the Sunday Times Watercolour competition, the New English Art Club exhibition, the Royal Society of British Artists exhibition, the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolour Exhibition and the Royal Watercolour Society where, after becoming a Member she also became the Society treasurer. Her paintings can be found in private collections in the USA, Oman, Israel, Switzerland, Germany, France and Spain as well as here in the UK.

Materials

- **Good quality paper:** for painting, glueing, stamping and stencilling. About 10 sheets of various sizes of your choice
- **White card:** folded and cut, blanks ready for several cards
- **Brushes:** some large, medium and several smaller brushes for detail
- **Pencils, crayons, felt tips, wax:** whatever you like to use
- **Water-based paints:** inks, acrylics, gouache and white gouache (whatever you like to use)
- **Scissors**
- **Glue**
- **Masking tape**
- **Palette or large dinner plate:** for mixing colours
- **Water pot**
- **Kitchen roll**
- **Old magazine illustrations:** for collages
- **Sparkles, stick-on diamanté's, sweet papers etc**
- **3 or 4 small objects:** that remind you of Christmas and any other Christmas references that you enjoy
- **Wear old clothes and bring an apron just in case you need it**

Gertie will bring some ready-made card blanks, envelopes, viewfinders, thick watercolour paper, potatoes and lino cutters for making potato stamps, Aqua Pasto for thickening colours and watercolour ground for helping to paint over magazine paper.

Useful Links:

Gertie's Pinterest account: <https://uk.pinterest.com/GMYRWS/>

Gertie's Website: www.gertieyoung.co.uk

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.