

WORKSHOP Capturing City Life in Line and Watercolour with Paul Cox RWS

Price £100

Location RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

Date Friday 11th of April 2025

Time 10.30am - 4pm

About the Workshop

In this workshop you will learn how to respond to a busy and vibrant city scene using line and watercolour. Working initially on location in the heart of central London, you will be encouraged to capture the essence of a place in your own unique way.

Taking inspiration from topographical artists and the way they document figures and architecture, you will use Charing Cross Road as your base, but you will be encouraged to find your own perspective and view point. Whilst on location, Paul Cox will demonstrate his own methods and you will learn to work in a spontaneous and brisk way. In the morning you will be based on location and in the afternoon you will produce a finished drawing back in the gallery, based on the studies produced earlier in the day.

This workshop is designed for individuals with a basic understanding of drawing and watercolour. You must be comfortable working outside for the first half of the day.

Morning

- Initial introductions
- Paul will introduce influential artists like David Gentleman, Paul Hogarth, Felix Topolski and Edward Ardizzone and discuss how you can adapt perspective to your own advantage and how the use of figures can emphasize scale and movement
- You will head to Charing Cross Road (just minutes away from the gallery), where Paul will give a short demonstration using the materials suggested
- You will begin to make your own observational drawings. You will be encouraged to work in a spontaneous and brisk way
- The location you choose to focus on can be your own choice, whether it is The Wyndham Theatre, The National Portrait Gallery, Cecil Court or St Martin-in-the-Fields Church, there are lots of interesting locations to choose from

Afternoon

- Break for lunch
- The afternoon will be gallery based
- In the afternoon you will work on creating a more finished painting from the observational studies you made on location in the morning
- Paul will demonstrate how to approach the development of a finished drawing, giving demonstrations on how to apply washes and colour to your line drawings. There will be an opportunity to experiment with new materials provided by Paul
- Review: there will be a chance to view each other's work and an opportunity to ask questions

About the Tutor

Paul Cox studied illustration at Camberwell School of Art and the Royal College of Art. Since his graduation in 1982, he has worked as a freelance illustrator and painter, involving himself in a number and variety of projects. Readers of newspapers and magazines on both sides of the Atlantic will instantly recognise his images from the Daily Telegraph, Country Life, The Spectator, The Sunday Times Magazine, Punch, The Times, Blueprint Magazine, Vanity Fair and Esquire Magazine.

His witty draughtsmanship has enhanced the charm of many classics and he has illustrated over thirty books for the Folio Society. These include three sets of P G Wodehouse's Jeeves and Wooster novels and five of the Blandings series. He has produced numerous book jackets and some complete series for authors such as Dylan Thomas, David Lodge and Simon Raven.

Working on location while traveling has both informed and influenced his studio based painting, capturing the spirit of a place in a fresh and spontaneous way.

Materials

Please note: it is not necessary to bring along all of the suggested materials. Please only bring what you are comfortable using. As you will be spending half of the day outside, please consider how you will carry your materials and what will be most comfortable to work from.

- **Watercolour paints:** principally Cadmium Yellow pale, Yellow Ochre, Alizarine Crimson, Burnt Siena, French Ultramarine, Windsor Blue, Cyrellian Blue, Payne's Grey.
- **Ink:** Black Quink, Permanent drawing ink or Indian ink.
- **Watercolour resist** Masking fluid like Schmincke Rubbelkrepp
- **Pens:** Waterproof fine liner pens 0.3-0.8 mm, *Pentel waterproof brush pen, flexible nib dip pens, Chinese bamboo pen or Quills. *Paul personally recommends the Pentel waterproof brush pen which is an extremely useful tool for working outside. It is linked [here](#)
- **Pencils** and **rubber**.
- **Brushes:** a range of watercolour brushes plus older less precious brushes for using ink or masking fluid.
- **Watercolour paper or pads**, or cartridge paper
- **water pot** and **sponge** for stretching.
- **Gum tape**
- **Drawing board**
- **Paper clips**
- A **portable stool** if you would prefer to sit when working outside
- Please consider the weather and bring a **raincoat** and **umbrella** if needed

Links:

<https://www.instagram.com/paulcoxartist/?hl=en>

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.