

Exploring Themes and Series in Pastels Term4 2025

Tutor: Lindy Whitton

This course is suitable for beginners and more advanced students.

This term we'll focus on creating a series of paintings exploring themes and subjects that interest you individually. Painting the same subject over a period of time is a wonderful way to develop your pastel skills as you become more familiar with your subject. As tutor I'll introduce you to tools to help you progress at your own pace and broaden your skill set as we look at different ways to use this versatile medium. You will create a series of paintings related to the same subject but with different formats, focus, colour, style and mood.

Session structure

The first hour of each session will be used for tutor demonstrations and short exercises to kick start the creative process and then you will spend the next 2 hours developing your own paintings using some of the ideas from the exercises.

There will be time for one on one tuition and tutor critiques and the class will be encouraged to share their work and engage in constructive critiques in a supportive environment.

General painting concepts which will be incorporated into lessons:

There will be an emphasis on creating strong paintings through

- developing observational skills
- understanding composition
- using dynamic contrast
- becoming comfortable with tonal values
- using colour effectively
- introducing texture

ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS

The tutor will cover all the basics you need to know as a beginner and will give you extra one on one time as needed.

If you're an absolute beginner please watch my YouTube channel videos Pastel Painting Course 1. Choosing your pastels, 2. Choosing your paper, 5. Setting up to paint, at www.youtube.com/lindywhittonstudio

This will give you an idea of my teaching style and is a good summary of the types of paper, pastels and other materials you will need.

Materials to bring

- pastel paper. Having a few different coloured papers is useful. (Colourfix sheets will also be available to purchase at cost during class)
- any pastels you have (not oil pastels)
- charcoal or conte pastels for sketching
- a small table easel if you have one – there are several available at the studio if you don't have one
- paper towels or rags for cleaning your pastels and hands
- a rigid surface (eg mdf board, sheet of foamcore) to attach paper to
- masking tape or bulldog clips for attaching your paper to a board
- sketchbook or paper and pencils for planning sketches and note taking

You can find out more about Lindy here:

www.lindywhittonstudio.com

www.youtube.com/lindywhittonstudio

www.facebook.com/lindywhittonstudio

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