

CONFERENCE 2018 WORKSHOPS

Markmaking – liquid enamel on steel with Ruth Ball

This is a one day workshop using liquid enamel on steel to explore mark making. The emphasis will be working in Black and White. Abstracted images and inspiration will be created through short drawing exercises and design discussions within the session

The aim of the course is to enable you to gain the opportunity to develop new ideas, to experiment and refine processes. With a limited pallet you will focus on gestural drawing to formulate design elements for future work. The techniques will concentrate on scraffito & stencilling with the inclusion of some painted techniques. The course covers working on steel and at the end of the session you will have completed a range of samples that you can use for further development into investigating wall based artwork or alternative jewellery designs.

Painting Detailed Pictures with Francis Clark

This workshop covers techniques for painting a picture onto a white enamelled surface and will be suitable for everyone, beginners and more advanced.

We will paint a still life picture of fruit onto an enamelled plaque. It makes an easy starting point and a good subject to learn the process. You can bring your own picture/design to copy if you wish but bear in mind we have limited time.

Drawing in, mixing and applying colour and how to build up the colour in layers over several firings will be covered.

All materials will be supplied, including a Ball's 100mm x75mm white enamelled steel plaque, (unless you wish to supply your own) but please bring some small brushes if you have them.

There will be a charge of £5 for the use of paints, mediums etc. and approximately another £5 for the Ball's plaque.

Making and enamelling an anticlastic piece with Jenny Edge

The workshop is for those who would like to go through the process of making and enamelling a piece of anticlastic jewellery.

You will be provided with a piece of silver, cut out and ready to work, so that we can concentrate on the forming and enamelling the metal. You will be guided through each step of the making process, so the day is suitable for anyone who is prepared to work hard. Hammering skill will be helpful but not essential.

We will supply the silver and anticlastic raising tools, the cost TBC. You will be asked to bring a transparent enamel (any colour) ready ground, quite finely, in a sealed container in purified or distilled water. Any further requirements will be sent out nearer the time.

Stencilling with Janine Partington

Stencilling is a fun and easy way to successfully transfer your ideas into enamels. You can use found objects, improvise with torn bits of paper, as well as using stencils that you have created yourself to construct your images.

During the workshop we'll have fun cutting stencils, talking about design and winging it with found objects. This is about playing and working out a method that works for you. I'll be sharing tips and maybe getting some from you with regards to getting the best results from the use of stencils.

Off cuts of copper will be available free of charge as will leaded enamels. If you would like to use unleaded enamels or have specific pieces of copper that you would like to work on please bring these. More details will be sent out nearer the conference to those who sign up.

Design workshop with Harriet St Leger

We all struggle with starting a design and a blank sheet of paper can be very intimidating. In this workshop we will find ways to create a design from photos, using various simple and effective techniques which we will then make into an enamelled panel. If you don't feel confident about drawing, then this is a way to help you create successful designs. For those of you who have an iPad we can also experiment with a couple of apps on the iPad, but this is not essential. You will end the day with an enamelled design and lots of tips about how to turn your ideas into striking pieces.

Silver Cloisonné Workshop with Caroline Tetley

Cloisonné is one of the oldest enamelling techniques and still one of the most effective ways of creating a design in enamels. 'Cloison' is the French for 'cell' or 'enclosed area' and cloisonné is the art of shaping fine silver wires to form outlines and patterns and laying them on the metal, then filling the shapes with enamel colours.

We will be working on silver blanks and using a variety of techniques and tricks to form the wires into designs, bringing definition and accents to the finished enamelled piece. The simplest of shapes can produce stunning results.

I can supply silver blanks with cloisonné wire at approximately £7.50

Screen printing with enamel using Riso screens with Tilly Wilkinson and David Cowling

When we have had the thermofax machine we have often been sent images that aren't really suitable for putting through the machine for a range of reasons. In this workshop we intend to look at some images and show how they can be improved to produce better screens when using the thermofax.

If you bring some black and white images as source material, you will be able to work on these to make them ready and suitable for scanning and printing. The prints will then be run through the machine to create your screen.

If you also have finished images ready to turn into screens they must be either carbon based photocopies or carbon based laser printed images. The images do not need to be "best" quality, normal is fine. You can also experiment with other carbon based drawing media that you bring such as willow charcoal or indian ink.

If you wish to try out your screens, please bring some pre enamelled copper or steel with you and some powder enamel and sifters and your usual equipment.

PLEASE NOTE: We should also be able to make screens for you even if you aren't on this workshop. Drop your prints off with us first thing and they'll be ready to collect at the end of the day.

Screens from digital images are also possible. On a stick please and formatted so that Windows can see it (**Apple users beware**). Images need to be saved as pdf's or docs **NOT JPEGS** (JPEG images don't have a fixed size so we won't know how big to make it).