

PAINTING PATTERNED CLOTH – (Pre-recorded online course)

Tutor – Nick Bodimeade

Cost: £130

Pattern is all around us. We wear it, live amongst it in our homes, cities and in the landscape. Its one of the ways in which we differentiate between things, and nature rewards us for being good at spotting it with intense visual pleasure.

Patterned cloth plays games with all of this, disguising and revealing, it responds to form and gravity and movement, it seems to be the perfect combination of the synthetic and the natural.

On this course you will be encouraged to make a series of shaped, painted and collaged relief constructions. Working with packaging cardboard, patterned cloth and acrylic paint you will make works that leave the flat rectangle behind to explore a more dynamic relationship with the wall, the architecture and the viewer.

These abstract works will focus intently on optical and material qualities and explore the fertile relationship between order and disorder, the conscious and the unconscious. They will be boldly visual, combining 3d form, rich pattern and sensually handled paint.

At the core of this workshop are strategies to help you become confident in making critical decisions. Playful and excessive production, working in series and making simple comparative judgements pave the way for increasingly sophisticated critical evaluation.

The three films take you from support construction, material handling and application to final review and evaluation, with Nick demonstrating and explaining practical processes as well as giving insight into his critical decision making and giving a contemporary and historical context for the work.

Film 1 Thinking through doing.

Cardboard relief construction, from packaging materials, glue, paint and cloth.

Breaking free from the flat rectangle.

Material qualities of card and cloth

Exploring the relationship with the grid and how it relates to ideas of control and accident, conscious and unconscious.

Safe working practices with modelling knives and hot glue guns

You will be encouraged to make a series of constructions in response to the film which will be developed in response to film 2.

Film 2 Paint, collage, space and surface.

You will be applying paint, pattern and colour both directly and through collage.

You will be exploring the relationship between the primary elements of the work, the paint, the pattern and the construction, trying to maintain integration, balance and simplicity.

We will look at the role of mark making materials handling gesture etc.

We will explore working in series and making comparative critical decisions

By the end of the session, you should have a number of dramatic and exciting works that will form the basis for the final session.

Film 3 Making and breaking, resolution and review

Beginning with a review of the previous days work you will note and save the most successful works and rework the less so.

Explore the value of making and breaking, creative destruction and reconstruction.

Discover the value of editing and simplification.

Look to resolve as many works as possible but expect a high failure rate. See failure as an indicator of critical development and a positive.

Explore what success in the work might entail. E.g., Is there a satisfying relationship between the principal elements or an exciting articulation of pictorial and physical space. Does the work have a poetic sense of being more than the sum of its parts. Does the work have a magic or transcendence, or which gets closest to it? Are there some you just really respond to?

By the end of this session, you should have a number of exciting, resolved, painted constructions. You should have an expanded understanding of the potential for pattern in painting and a new freedom when it comes to the making of wall hanging works. You should also have developed a greater confidence in your own decision making and sense of personal direction.

Materials and practical requirements.

You will need

A space where you can cut, glue and paint and a wall or large board on which to attach your work for review.

A collection of patterned cloth which you are prepared to use as an ingredient in the work.

A substantial quantity of packaging card board

A hot melt glue gun that takes 11mm glue sticks.

50 hot melt glue sticks [11mm] [I recommend you buy online - should be about £8]

PVA

Craft knife and scissors. Cutting matt

Acrylic paints and brushes

Artists that you may wish to research.

Robert Rauschenberg. Combines.

Claude Viallat

Mickalene Thomas

Jessica Stockholder

Jacqui Hallum

Hew Locke

Alison Watt