

A Day on the Beach

Simon Carter

Monday 16th - Thursday 19th September 2024

Course cost - £400

A four day practical course led by Simon Carter. Starting with a day's drawing on the beach at Worthing, the course will look at understanding and unpacking these initial drawings and at ways of using them to fuel work in the studio. Whether your usual drawings are loose notes in a sketchbook or are more complete and considered, it is often difficult to see how to use the drawings we make. Our initial drawings often have a life and spark that can easily be extinguished in the studio processes. This course will look at strategies for unpacking your drawings, understanding what it is that makes them work and seek at ways to maintain the freshness of the initial drawings as we develop studio work.

Day one:

Everyone will meet at 9.15am at the Sea Lane Cafe on Goring Beach (Marine Crescent, Goring by Sea, Worthing, BN12 4HR). The day will be spent drawing on the beach. We will find ways of working on site that is clear and intentional, but that is also both free and expressive.

Day two:

In the studio we will look at how we can use yesterday's drawings. We will begin to unpack and understand what we made in the landscape by making a series of charcoal drawings, looking for ways to maintain the freshness of observation but also encourage risk and surprise in the work.

Day three:

We will start to move the drawings into paint, exploring cutting, collaging, redrawing and the addition of colour. We will work towards making tough compositions, considering both depiction and the abstract qualities of composition.

Day four:

We will look at how we can use the previous day's work to continue painting and use strategies to keep the paint surface energetic and alive. We will consider the kind of information contained in the drawings and how we can use this to guide the painting. We will look at the decision making process and how to approach the painting with freedom and attack.

Materials needed

For drawing outdoors:

Paper and drawing board

or A4 or A3 sketch book

Plus a mix of materials for drawing. These could include

Pencils

Graphite

Crayons

Oil pastel

Charcoal

Eraser

Watercolour

Anything to make bold and loose marks!

For drawing in the studio

Mainly working with charcoal but other materials could include

Oil pastel or oil bar

Black ink

White acrylic

For painting in the studio

Simon suggests that you use acrylic on heavy cartridge paper. This can be purchased from the Seawhite Art Shop.

Acrylic paints (3 colours plus white as a minimum) and lots of brushes.

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