

## **Embellishing the Body - Costume and Poise**

**Tutor - Katie Sollohub**

**Dates: Wed 10<sup>th</sup> - Fri 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2025**

**Time: 9.30-4.30 each day**

**Cost: £330\***

**Location: Seawhite Studio**

This 3 day course is about making confident and expressive drawings and paintings that explore the poise and character of the model and the rich sumptuous fabrics that make up her costume. Along with the silhouette of the costume and poses, the texture and colours of the fabrics will be an inspiration.

Eve is our model and is Emily Ball's daughter. She is currently studying Costume Design for Stage and Screen at Wimbledon College of Art. She will be designing, making and modelling her own costume for this course as a reflection of who she is as a modern young woman. Painting from the clothed figure means we will be looking at colour, texture and pattern as much as the revealed and framed areas of the body. Celebrate the way fabric adorns the figure, how it changes as it wraps around form, glimpses of skin, the features of the face emerging from folds and frills.

Her designs take inspiration from Medieval and Elizabethan portraits and costumes but with an added contemporary twist. These portraits show an unconventional beauty of the women. The clothing speaks volumes and the head is often framed, pale and beautiful. These images - with their deep patterns and contrast - reflect the independent strong women gazing back at us.

Using inspiring creative processes you will make a series of quick studies from the figure in movement, as a warm up, reacquainting yourself with the body as a subject using the fluidity of paint to express the lyrical qualities, dance like. You will then start 2 or 3 longer paintings in which you will start to use the language of paint to describe the texture, direction and weight of cloth, how it shrouds, conceals, and reveals the form underneath. You will be encouraged to play and experiment, not relying simply on observation, so that the paintings you begin to make will be fresh and exciting, open to change.

We will look at artists including Matisse, Bonnard, Vuillard, Chantal Joffe, Alice Neal, and Jennifer Packer for inspiration.

Eve is starting her third year of Theatre and Costume Design at Wimbledon College of Art

\* cost includes model fee

### **COURSE MATERIALS**

**The studio has primed canvas on a roll and large paper for you to purchase as you require.**

You will need to bring: a generous number of brushes. Make sure you have at least 6 or so large decorating size brushes as well as standard smaller brushes to work with and lots of large tubes or pots of paint. Bring lots of lof cotton rags, any palette or scraping tools too. With either oils or acrylics we recommend that you have plenty of mediums;

For oils you will need Solvent. Please make sure it is odourless. We use Shelsol T which you can order from Jacksons. <https://www.jacksonsart.com/jackson-s-shellsol-t-odourless-solvent-2500ml>

To speed up the drying time of the paint you can use a medium that you can make using ShelsolT and Linseed Stand Oil (50/50 mix).

<https://www.jacksonsart.com/michael-harding-refined-linseed-stand-oil-1000ml>

For acylics we usggest you use a medium to increase the flow. Liquitex is a good brand.

<https://www.jacksonsart.com/liquitex-pouring-medium> (really makes fantastic puddles and flowing paint)

[www.jacksonsart.com/liquitex-super-heavy-gel-mediums](http://www.jacksonsart.com/liquitex-super-heavy-gel-mediums) (Good for thickening and making paint sculptural without use lots of paint.)

[www.jacksonsart.com/liquitex-fluid-gloss-medium](http://www.jacksonsart.com/liquitex-fluid-gloss-medium) (A good all rounder for making the paint flow and add gloss)

A guide for the colours you bring for either acrylics or oils:

Titanium White (lots of it), Lemon yellow, Cadmium Yellow, Indian Yellow, Vermillion, Alizarin Crimson, Magenta, Cobalt Blue, Ultramarine and Phthalo Blue.

If you like working with Oil Sticks then please bring those too. If you like using mix media with your acrylics then please do bring pastels, either oils or chalk, to add into the mix.

***We have plenty of large palettes you can use at the studio as well as pots for water and solvent, and mixing colours.***

**THE SEAWHITE SHOP:** The shop is open Monday – Friday from 9 am - 4.45 pm and 9am – 12 noon on Saturdays. All the products they sell are amazing value, at warehouse prices and so you might want to stock up with sketchbooks and materials while you are on the course. If you prefer to order before the course, you can preview their stock by visiting [www.artesaver.co.uk](http://www.artesaver.co.uk). You can get a 10% discount online if you use the code EB10. Items can be pre-ordered and packed ready for you to collect by calling 01403 712270, quoting the codes obtained from the website, however, if you physically go into the shop to buy your supplies, the prices are slightly cheaper, so always worth a visit.

**REFRESHMENTS AND LUNCH:** Tea, coffee, herbal teas and biscuits are available throughout the day. There will be tea breaks but feel free to help yourself whenever you need a drink. Bring a pack lunch. There is a fridge and also a microwave. If you need to buy some lunch there is a bakery/sandwich shop in the middle of Partridge Green that sells sandwiches, salads and hot food.

**STUDIO DRESS CODE:** In the studio make sure you wear clothes that do not matter. The space and equipment is in constant use and we cannot guarantee that it will be paint free from the previous groups.

**STUDIO ADDRESS:** Seawhite of Brighton, Avalon Court, Star Road Trading Estate, Partridge Green RH13 8RY **GETTING TO THE STUDIO:** We have a map on our website.

<http://www.emilyballatseawhite.co.uk/contact-emily-ball.html> The studio building is in the large warehouse, taking the next gateway after the Seawhite Showroom/Shop (2nd gate on the right as you turn into the Seawhite road). Turn into the entrance and keep driving round to the far end of the warehouse, past the skips and palettes on your right. There is a small car park at this end of the warehouse, just for the studio,