Programme

Introduction to Watercolours

Details

Fridays, 12 January – 16 February 2024
14.00 – 16.00 or 18.00 – 20.00 GMT

Overview

Throughout this course, tutor Leo Crane will introduce you to the lively personality of watercolour. Each week, throughout a series of exercises, you will explore a different way to use this versatile medium, from luminous manuscript painting to precision illustration and spontaneous mark-making. By the end of the course, you will have tried out a variety of techniques, creating a mini portfolio of sample pieces and a final project.

Your course leader

The course is led by Leo Crane, author of Contemporary Figures in Watercolour (Pavilion, 2021) and lead artist of the award-winning watercolour animation Nude Triumphant (Animate Projects 2020).

Essential Information

This course will be delivered online via Microsoft Teams. You will be issued with a V&A Academy Teams account prior to the start of the course. Materials are not provided, we will send you a list of readily available materials prior to the start of the course. There will be a maximum of 24 participants in the session. Recordings of the sessions will be available for 6 weeks after the end of the course. Suitable for ages 18+

Note: V&A Academy programmes are subject to change without notice.
Week 1 – 12 January 2024

Materials and techniques

Introduction to brushes, paper, paints and how to apply them

Spotlight Session: Wednesday 17 January

12.00  Watercolours in the V&A Collection, Leo Crane, Artist and tutor

Week 2 – 19 January 2024

From Opaque to Luminous

Overview of early manuscript painting; exploring opaque and transparent paints

Spotlight Session: Wednesday 24 January

12.00  Mughal Painting and its Influence with Varunika Saraf, Artist and Art Historian

Week 3 – 26 January 2024

Illustration and Enchantment

Washes and line inspired by Dulac, Rackham and British watercolour illustration

Spotlight Session: Wednesday 31 January

12.00 Virtual Studio visit with Joanna Layla, Fashion Illustrator

Week 4 – 02 February 2024

Expressive Figures

Painting from life, quick poses, gestural marks

Spotlight Session: Wednesday 07 February

12.00  Sumi-e Painting with Koshu Japanese Art
**Week 5 – 09 February 2024**

*Inner Energy*

Overview of East Asian ink wash painting; tree study in sumi-e style

**Spotlight Session: Wednesday 14 February**
12.00 Pigments with Lucy Mayes, London Pigment

**Week 6 – 16 February 2024**

*Final project and individual feedback*

Project brief and one-on-one tutorial time with a final group critique

**Spotlight Session: Wednesday 21 February**
12.00 Virtual Studio visit with Lottie Cole, Artist