



Oil Painting Portrait Skills

Date 11 May 2023
10am – 4 pm

Cost: £80 includes some great tuition, a stunning venue and a tasty, two-course lunch. Tea and coffee throughout the day and a slice of cake to finish.

If you have any special access/food allergies or disability requirements, please contact us by email: info@cowshedcreative.co.uk

Course Description:

Develop some oil painting skills that can be used in portrait painting. Using photos or digital images as source material you will be guided through some oil painting techniques for portraits. Equipment, different painting brushes/tools and what colour to have on your palette will all be covered. Be prepared to challenge your practice and broaden your approaches to portrait painting. You will be given expert group and one to one instruction and advice in a friendly supportive environment.

Catherine MacDiarmid is a local award winning artist who has exhibited widely. Recent awards include The Cass Art Prize at the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolour 2022 and the Alec Morrison Award for outstanding watercolour in the 2020 RBSA Prize Exhibition. Catherine was recently commissioned to write four articles for The Artist Magazine demonstrating some different techniques of her portraits and life drawing. She is an elected member of The Lakes Artists Society and appeared in Sky Portrait Artists of the Year 2014, 2018 and 2019. As well as completing private portrait commissions her work is collected internationally. Catherine works from her home-based studio in Kendal.

What to bring

Clothes that aren't precious or an apron

Materials:-

- 1) Set of basic oil colours which must include Titanium, Ultramarine Blue, Cadmium Yellow or Lemon Yellow, Yellow Ochre, Cadmium Red, Alizarin Crimson, Burnt or Raw Umber,
- 2) Two glass jars with lids for storing turps.
- 3) Turps, White spirit or low odour solvent to clean brushes.

- 4) Solvent, Linseed Oil or other oil medium to dilute your paint with (low odour options are available like Sansador or Zest It).
- 5) Some painting brushes of varying size (they do not have to all be hog hair brushes and a variety is good).
- 6) Material cotton rags.
- 7) 2 x sheets of primed paper of reasonable size (A3/A2) or equivalent oil support. Anything is okay for oil painting as long as it is primed twice with a GESSO primer.
- 8) Something to use as a palette to mix colours on – disposable palette are good.
- 9) Palette knife.
- 10) Wear overalls or old clothes.
- 11) Some images of heads to work from. Ideally these should be ones you have taken yourself in a natural light with the head quite large on the surface. They can be from different angles as this will be interesting – looking up/down/sideways and front on. The images can be printed or on a tablet or similar device.