



Learn

Autumn - Winter 2022/23 Courses & Events at Dillington House



Ilminster . Somerset TA19 9DT
www.dillington.com



For over 70 years Adult Education has been a cornerstone of Dillington House. We refresh and develop our adult education courses and events annually to ensure we offer a wide range of new subjects that run alongside more traditional favourites. Set in stunning, tranquil grounds, Dillington House provides an unparalleled learning environment no matter what the subject.

Please see the key below for the genres of each course.

KEY

-  Music
-  History
-  Literature
-  Philosophy
-  Architecture
-  Health & wellbeing
-  Art, design & crafting
-  Dance
-  Residential and Non-residential options available for this course



Dillington Discoveries can be enjoyed on a residential or non-residential basis. In addition to the rich and varied day courses on offer there is an after-dinner event each evening. Residents attend from dinner on Sunday, with courses running from Monday and finishing at lunch on Friday.

Dillington String Quartet Coaching Weekend

30 September - 2 October 2022 



Once again, we are thrilled that the members of the Coull Quartet have agreed to return to Dillington House to lead this extended weekend of coaching for pre-formed string quartets who play to a good standard.

Tutor Coull Quartet

Price from £373

The Music of America - North & South

30 September - 2 October 2022 



Jazz, the Blues and Latin American dance music have all played important parts in the development of popular music over the past century. But to think that that's where music of the Americas starts and ends would be a big mistake. When Antonín Dvořák went to New York in the 1890s to lead the new National Conservatory of Music, he was captivated by the richness of the traditional music of the negro population. Meanwhile, Heitor Villas-Lobos in Brazil, Astor Piazzolla in Argentina and Silvestre Revueles in Mexico - among many others - have found exciting ways of building their compositions on the foundations of the folk and traditional music of their countries.

Using excellent recordings - audio and visual - we shall explore all this in its dazzling variety.

Tutor Roy Westbrook

Price from £273

Sunday Concert with the Coull Quartet

2 October 2022



The magnificent Coull Quartet offers a rare combination of maturity and freshness, and we are delighted that once again they are returning to Dillington House.

Programme details: String Quartet in E flat major K428 - Mozart; String Quartet No. 1 - Heitor Villa Lobos; Serenade from 5 Fantasiestucke Op. 5 - S.T. Taylor; String Quartet in F major Op.96 "The American" - Dvořák

Tutor Coull Quartet

Price Adults £21 / Under 18's £10.50

Pre-booked two course carvery lunch available £21.50 per person.

Printing with Leaves Workshop

3 October 2022



A day exploring colour and textures when printing with real leaves. We will be using the heat press and dyes to print fabric using sublimation printing which can achieve the most surprising and beautiful results.

You will print onto a variety of polyester fabrics which can be used as linings, artwork and samples. **Suitable for beginners.**

Tutor Clare Walsh

Price £83 (includes materials)

Basic Sewing Skills Workshop - Zip, Hem, Seam and Bias Binding Workshop

4 October 2022



It is fair to say, that a number of people find it difficult to buy garments that are the perfect length, sleeves too long, or maybe a zip breaks in that favourite dress. The answer is to gain the skills necessary to alter the garment oneself. Enjoy an informative day covering a range of techniques in sewing alterations, skills that will be life long and very useful. This practical course will equip students with the knowledge of how to achieve professional alterations to their garments, whether it is to replace a broken zip in a favourite pair of trousers, take up the hem on a pair of jeans, or shorten an evening dress. You will need to bring your sewing machine to the course.

Tutor Jenny Harrison

Price £63

Modular Knitting - Fans Workshop

4 October 2022



Master the fascinating technique of modular knitting. Working with limited stitches and simple shaping you can create intricate pieces of work. It is a relatively simple method of the craft and is highly addictive! You will begin the day with simple fan shapes where you will be shown all the tricks and tips to keep your work neat and even - and ready to move on the next module. Once you are confident with the basic fan you can move on to more detailed work. Suitable for those who can knit and purl confidently.

Tutor Tracy Chapman

Price £72 (includes materials)

The Dillington Book Club

4 October 2022



For this month's Book Club, we will be discussing Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress by Dai Sijie translated by Ina Rilke published by Vintage. Includes coffee and lunch.

Tutor Elizabeth Rapp

Price £28

Willow Deer Workshop

4 October 2022



Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a 4-foot-high willow deer with a basic metal frame. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm! All materials provided and full guidance to make a lovely deer.

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £108 (includes materials)

Three British Artists Between the Wars:

Paul Nash, Edward Wadsworth & Tristram Hillier

5 - 6 October 2022 (R)



After the First World War, British artists strove to create innovative art that had links to the art of Europe. Paul Nash captured the 'spirit of place' in Dorset, Wiltshire and Kent in a modern style, later incorporating Surrealism. Edward Wadsworth had a great love of nautical instruments and the fruits of the sea and painted these in fascinating arrangements. Tristram Hillier was a good friend of Wadsworth and painted Somerset, France and Spain. All three were members of the Unit One group.

Tutor Dr Jan Cox

Price from £207

Poems to Live By: How to Write Poems that Matter

6 October 2022



In a time of worldly conflict and struggle, we need what poetry offers more than ever - words to express the inexpressible, heal the heart and inspire the human spirit. This will be an uplifting workshop, where we will read some of the best contemporary poetry, and write our own,

experimenting with exciting prompts, forms and examples. Poetry is not for the few but the many; it is a way of celebrating and affirming life in all its particulars and honouring all aspects of our experience.

Tutor Rosie Jackson

Price £63

Yoga for Older Beginners

7 October 2022



A day of yoga to introduce beginners to key yoga poses (asana) with clear instructions on how to get in and out of each pose safely and easily. Yoga props will be used throughout and poses can be adapted to suit people's unique needs. Throughout the day Zoe will provide advice on the benefits of each pose and how they can be adapted to suit an individual's circumstances. This course will provide a good introduction to all aspects of yoga. During the day you will learn key yoga poses, breathing techniques, simple meditation and finish with a guided relaxation. Ideal for anyone who wants to try yoga but thought they were too old to start. No need to be flexible to take part as we will be using yoga props to help modify poses. By the end of the day you will have the confidence to attend a regular class.

Tutor Zoe Harris

Price £63

Singing for Larks

7 - 9 October 2022 (R)



Singing with others is an exhilarating and liberating experience that everybody can enjoy. Singing for Larks workshops, run by Faith Watson, are based on the tradition of learning songs by ear. This approach makes the joy of singing with others easily accessible to those who are new to singing, whilst offering more experienced singers the opportunity to develop their aural skills. In this Singing in Harmony workshop the songs are drawn from a variety of cultures and styles, from international folk to soul, from golden oldies to original songs.

Tutor Faith Watson

Price from £283

Butterfly Needle Felting Workshop**10 October 2022**

Love wool? Then you'll love needle felting! Fibre artist Carla Taylor will guide you step by step through the techniques of needle felting as well as sharing lots of tips and tricks. Inspired by the butterflies of the British countryside you will learn how to design and transfer your butterfly design on to felt and then with a beautiful array of wool needle felt your own unique butterfly design that can then be transformed into either a brooch or framed as a picture! This workshop is suitable for both beginners or those with some experience of needle felting. The price of the workshop includes all materials and a needle felting kit, that you get to keep, take home and carry on creating with.

Tutor Carla Taylor**Price** £83 (includes materials)**Brahms and the Piano****14 - 16 October 2022** 

Brahms was not only one of the greatest composers of the Romantic era, but also a renowned concert pianist. So, it is not surprising that the piano features centrally in his list of works. He created one of the great bodies of music in the solo keyboard repertoire and used the piano extensively in chamber music: in duos, trios, quartets and a magnificent quintet. Then there are the numerous songs, the works for piano duet, and largest of all, the two great concertos. We shall explore all of these in the lectures, with the help of video and audio recordings; and the weekend concludes with a concert given by the outstanding recital pianists Charles Owen and Dominic Degavino. Music-lovers, including those with a special enthusiasm for piano music, will find much to interest them in both the talks and the concert. Note: This course was originally scheduled for March 2020 but delayed because of Covid-19

Tutor Gwyn Parry-Jones**Price** from £260**Sunday Concert - Solo and Duo Piano Recital with Charles Owen & Dominic Degavino****16 October 2022**

Charles Owen, 'one of the finest pianists of his generation', returns for his fourth visit to Dillington to give a recital of works by Brahms and Schumann. The first half of the concert is shared with the award-winning pianist Dominic Degavino, who will perform works by Clara and Robert Schumann. After the interval they will appear together as a Piano Duo. This event has been made possible by generous sponsorship from a group of Dillington friends.

Price Adults £21 / Under 18's £10.50

Pre-booked two course carvery lunch available £19 per person.

Willow Deer Workshop**17 October 2022**

Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged in Willow' to make a 4-foot-high willow deer with a basic metal frame. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm! All materials provided and full guidance to make a lovely deer.

Tutor Jo Sadler**Price** £108 (includes materials)**Bobbin Lace****21 - 24 October 2022** 

This course will suit all abilities of bobbin lacemakers from those just starting through to advanced. It covers English laces and many from the continent including Belgium, Spain and Russia. Many of the continental laces are taught with the aid of a colour-coded diagram to help students continue their work at home. Help and advice is available for the important related topics of thread choice, finishing and mounting lace.

Tutor Alison Thoburn**Price** from £358

English Parish Churches: Their Architecture, Design and Use

21- 23 October 2022 

English parish churches date from every period from the 6th century to today. This course looks at their architecture and how this evolved to accommodate the ways in which they were used. It explores who paid for the churches, changing attitudes to the non-religious uses of sacred buildings, and the rich array of 'treasures', from sculptures to wall paintings, that they contain. It concludes with a look at the prospects for parish churches today.

Tutor Philip Wilkinson

Price from £240

Watercolour Woodland Workshop

21 - 23 October 2022 

Focusing on trees and techniques for creating atmosphere, depth and texture. Shari will bring plenty of visual references of trees and, of course, we have all the beautiful trees at Dillington for inspiration.

We will explore setting up wet into wet backgrounds with lovely light and atmosphere for our trees to grow out of. Experimenting with a variety of techniques for distant trees, birches, gnarly, twisted old trunks and enjoying some autumn colour.

Tutor Shari Hills

Price from £252

Get to Know Your Sewing Machine Workshop

24 October 2022 

If you have recently bought a sewing machine or have never really understood how to use all the stitches and feet that came with your sewing machine, then this is the course for you. Suitable for students new to sewing or those just wanting to get the best from their machine, especially if it has not been used for a while. Gain confidence using your machine, to maximise your abilities in using it to its full potential. You will need to bring your sewing machine to the course.

Tutor Jenny Harrison

Price £63

Making a Leaded Stained-Glass Panel: Two Day Workshop

24 & 25 October 2022 

This two-day course will enable you to create your own stained-glass panel using the traditional method of combining coloured glass with lead. Stained Glass is an ancient art of using colour and light to create atmosphere and to depict images and stories. The panel that you choose to make can be displayed in your house or garden as a hanging panel or a stand-alone panel. Lead and lead solder will be used - these are toxic substances both to handle and to breathe in the solder fumes. This course is NOT therefore suitable for pregnant women.

Tutor Kate Doig

Price £158 (includes materials)

You the Jury - Casebook 7

24 October 2022 

Over the course of the day we will be considering two different real-life cases of murder which occurred in England between 1900-1975.

Participants will be expected to listen to the evidence, making notes as they go, then discuss the case and attempt to reach a verdict based on what they have heard. The cases have been selected with an eye to the insight they can give us on various aspects of our judicial system and social history. Please note: These are the same cases that were studied in September 2021.

Tutor Diane Janes

Price £63

Mobile Phone Photography Workshop

26 October 2022 

A relaxed and fun day's experience of practice and theory to enable everyone to understand their mobile camera phone and improve their photography skills, covering simple techniques for taking fantastic pictures with Android & iPhone. To include: Composition & Focus, Shutter speed, ISO & Aperture relationship, Formats (including Panorama's), Action Freeze, Depth of Field, Editing with Apps.

Tutor Nick Matthews

Price £63

Two Titans Who Shaped the History of Ballet: Lincoln Kirstein and Constant Lambert

26 & 27 October 2022

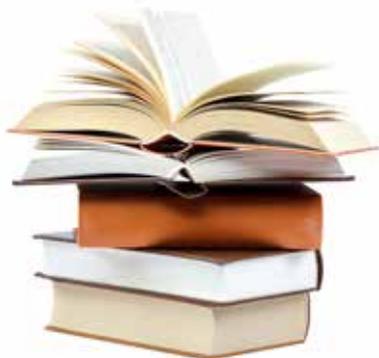


Day One: Lincoln Kirstein. Lincoln Kirstein was an extraordinary, colourful polymath and impresario who left an immense imprint on American artistic life in the 20th century. He was one of the iconic 'Monuments Men' who rescued art looted by the Nazis. But his legacy rests primarily on his first love - ballet, and his visionary invitation to George Balanchine to come to the US and found what became the New York City Ballet.

Day Two: Constant Lambert. The conductor/ composer Constant Lambert - to this day fêted in Royal Ballet programmes as 'Founder Music Director' - was an extraordinary, complex, multi-talented man... lovable, entertaining, mercurial, but carrying demons. The economist John Maynard Keynes thought him potentially the most brilliant man he'd ever met; to Clement Crisp, doyen of dance critics, he was quite simply a musician of genius.

Tutor Bridget Vane

Price £68 One Day, £136 Both Days



Lampshade Making Workshop

27 October 2022



Suitable for beginners Zara will support you at every stage to achieve your hand printed fabric that will be made into a lampshade to hang proudly in your home on a ceiling light or lamp. You will be shown how to create a one colour paper cut stencil that can be repeated across the length of your fabric for the lampshade. You will learn to screen print this onto the fabric. Zara will then demonstrate how to turn this fabric length into a 30cm drum lampshade.

Tutor Zara Shepherd

Price £105 (includes materials)



Lunch & Lecture: The Art & Lives of Stanley Spencer & Hilda Carline in Images & Poems

27 October 2022



Stanley Spencer was one of the most prolific and popular English artists of the 20th century.

This talk will explore his life and work and that of his first wife Hilda Carline, using a colourful slide show of dozens of paintings and photographs, as well as commentary and poems.

Two Girls and a Beehive, a collaborative collection of poems by Rosie Jackson and (the late) Graham Burchell, was published in 2020, raising issues about art, spirituality, love, war and sexual politics. Includes lunch. Lunch is served from 1pm and lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Rosemary Jackson

Price £28 (includes lunch)

You the Jury - Casebook 8
27 October 2022



We will be considering two different real-life cases of murder which occurred between 1900-1975. Participants will be expected to listen to the evidence, discuss the case and attempt to reach a verdict, based on what they have heard. The cases have been selected with an eye to the insight they can give us on various aspects of our judicial system and social history. Please note: These are the same cases that were studied in April & May 2022.

Tutor Diane Janes
Price £63

The Age of Discovery - The Mercantile Empires
29 October 2022



This day course is the second of a series of standalone courses which considers how our modern understanding of the world took shape. Following the early voyages of discovery, the Portuguese and Spanish powers had divided the newly discovered world between themselves with papal approval at the Treaty of Saragossa. This was to be contested by the emerging Protestant powers of northern Europe led initially by the Dutch and later the English. This day course compares the development of all the European mercantile empires to see how and why some prospered and others failed.

Tutor Mike Shaw
Price £63

Amenhotep III and the Sun Kings of Egypt's 18th Dynasty
31 October - 2 November 2022 (R)



This course will explore the fascinating second half of the 18th dynasty, from the reign of the pharaoh Thutmose IV to that of Horemheb (c1400-1295 BC); a period of some of Egypt's most intriguing rulers, notably Amenhotep III and Akhenaten, pharaohs who dared to do things differently. An era of Egyptian history when fabulous art and architecture reflected religious innovation, when the sun and king were combined to most dazzling effect. An innovative era ended by the traditionalist military leader Horemheb.

Tutor Lucia Gahlin
Price from £252

Watercolour for Beginners Plus Workshop
31 October - 2 November 2022 (R)



If you have already attended in introductory watercolour course and are now wanting to take the next step, this course would be ideal. We will look at the whole painting process from selecting and personalising material, mixing and testing colours, to working through the actual order of painting in the watercolour process such as what comes first and where do I start and why. By the end of the course students will have a working blueprint that should enable them to approach their painting with more confidence.

Tutor Claire DuVergier
Price from £290

Knitted Toys Workshop
1 November 2022



Spend the day working on a project selected from my Toys to Knit book. Choose from a traditional knitted ball which you can personalise, or a beautiful starfish. Following the pattern step by step with lots of helpful hints and tips along the way. The simple projects can be completed at home at your own pace. Suitable for those who can knit and purl confidently.

Tutor Tracy Chapman
Price £73 (includes materials)

The Dillington Book Club
1 November 2022



For this month's Book Club, we will be discussing North and South by Elizabeth Gaskell published by Wordsworth Classics. Includes coffee and lunch.

Tutor Elizabeth Rapp
Price £28

Autumn Delights Embroidery Workshop
3 - 6 November 2022 (R)



On this interesting, fun and informative course, we will cover a wide selection of hand embroidery stitches together with Stumpwork (raised work). You can choose to work in surface embroidery or a combination of the two techniques. Inspiration will be taken from lovely autumn colours, berries, rosehips, blackberries, rowan berries, acorns, autumn leaves etc. This course is suitable for all abilities, including beginners.

Tutor Annette Bolton
Price from £358

Memoir Writing: A Story of Your Own**4 - 6 November 2022** ®

Writing your own story is a wonderfully healing and fulfilling process. Whether it's for your family, publication, or just for yourself, a memoir can help make sense of your experience, and provide an opportunity to reflect on the deeper meaning of your life. In this safe, supportive workshop, you will learn ways to make your memoir the best it can be, reflecting on audience, purpose and inspiration; issues of structure, voice, tense, narrative, practice dialogue (and humour!); consider spiritual and ethical issues; and look at some contemporary memoirs.

Tutor Rosie Jackson**Price** from £252**An Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind****7 - 9 November 2022** ®

In this accessible introduction we will consider such questions as: What is the relationship between the mind and the body? Are the mind and the brain the same thing? What is consciousness and can it be disembodied? What does it mean to be a person and what gives me my identity? By looking at dualism, the contributions of neuroscience, as well as theories of consciousness and personal identity, we will explore the ways in which philosophy has attempted to answer these fascinating questions.

Tutor Darren Harper**Price** from £252**Botanical Illustration****7 - 10 November 2022** ®

Botanical Illustration is precise detailed work, a combination of art and science. The course will cover the use of basic materials and methods for beginners and will offer professional advice to advanced students. The emphasis will be on individual development. This studio-based watercolour course is for all ability levels: no experience of art or botany is required, just commitment. We aim to enjoy working in an atmosphere of relaxed industry. Students will work at their own pace on a subject of their choice.

Tutor Susan Hillier**Price** from £428**You the Jury - Casebook 9****7 November 2022**

We will be considering two different real-life cases of murder which occurred between 1900-1975. Participants will be expected to listen to the evidence, discuss the case and attempt to reach a verdict, based on what they have heard. The cases have been selected with an eye to the insight they can give us on various aspects of our judicial system and social history. **Please note.** These are the same cases that were studied in June 2022.

Tutor Diane Janes**Price** £63**Raphael, Leonardo and Michelangelo - A Fresh Look****11 - 13 November 2022** ®

Award-winning author and director comes to Dillington House to present a weekend of revealing talks and films exploring just who really were the great artists Leonardo, Raphael and Michelangelo. Each has been the subject of a highly successful cinema film produced/directed/co-written by Phil and with a mix of clips and images as well as fun & fascinating facts he will, during the sessions, peel back the myths and misunderstandings to reveal a fresh and moving account of their lives, their societies and, above all of course, their art. Phil Grabsky is unique: he had made three award-winning cinema films about Leonardo, Raphael and Michelangelo - and, in doing so, has learnt an incredible amount about their art, their lives and their societies. Each day will end with a screening of an entire film.

Tutor Phil Grabsky**Price** from £252

Understanding Handwriting: An Introduction to Graphology

11 - 13 November 2022 



There are many methods of profiling people. This course is an introduction to the psychological analysis of handwriting, an objective method of profiling. You will learn about outlook on life, signatures, relationships, motivations, drivers and dotting your i's and crossing your t's and so much more. This course gives you hands on practical experience in analysing writing and recognising aspects of health in handwriting, also including some discussion, individual supervision, and an understanding of why people "tick" as they do. No previous knowledge required.

Tutor Christina Strang

Price from £252

Won't Draw, Can't Paint!

11 November 2022



Drawing isn't a gift, granted to some but not others; it's a skill that can be acquired by anyone with reasonable hand/eye co-ordination and a determination to improve. It's also essential if you want to achieve the same fluency and ease in your work that is so admired in the paintings of the masters. In this one-day course, we look at the essential elements of drawing practise that will give you work the authority you desire the next time you pick up a paintbrush. All comers welcome.

Tutor David Chandler

Price £63

Festive Watercolour Fun! - Hand Made Cards. Two-day Workshop

12 & 13 November 2022



A feast of watercolour-based ideas for simple effective handmade cards. Techniques will include leaf printing, using cling film/tissue paper to create pattern, doilies for stencilling alongside traditional watercolour techniques and some little bits of sparkle to create some wonderful unique cards. Ideal for anyone who is interested in watercolour painting, crafting and card making. Accommodation can be booked, subject to availability.

Tutor Shari Hills

Price £136

Bookbinding - Optional Focus on Library Style Binding

14 - 18 November 2022 



The light and airy studio at Dillington has all the tools and equipment needed for binding books in the traditional manner. On this general bookbinding course participants may pursue their own rebinding or repair projects at their own pace under the guidance of our expert tutor, rather than following a particular programme.

However, for those who wish it, there will be a focus on binding books in the library style, with cloth-jointed endpapers and split board construction. This is suitable for large heavy books, or reference books which are heavily used, such as encyclopaedias.

This focus is not suitable for complete beginners, but if you are new to bookbinding the tutor can accommodate you on the course and will take you through the early stages of case-binding so you will have a good grounding in basic techniques. Students may also take time to concentrate on a particular aspect of binding or bring work for which they would like advice or instruction. No previous knowledge required.

Tutor Angela Sutton

Price from £476

Willow Angel Workshop

16 November 2022



Come and make a 4-foot-high willow Angel with wings - new for Winter Season for your home or garden with local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of Forged n Willow. Jo will guide you through each step to create an angel sculpture using local grown willow from the levels. All materials provided.

The wings will be detachable for transport! Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm!

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £113 (includes materials)

Friday Lunch & Lecture - The Ten Commandments of an Auctioneer
18 November 2022



This talk, intentionally light-hearted and informal in tone, comprises anecdotes in the form of 'Ten Commandments' derived from 35 years working as a picture specialist at Sotheby's, Phillips and (since 1999) Lawrences in Crewkerne. An ideal lecture if you have a general interest in antiques and auction rooms but no specific knowledge is required. The content is anecdotal, and it is not intended to be educational. Includes lunch. Lunch is served from 1pm and lecture begins at 2pm.

Tutor Richard Kay
Price £28 (includes lunch)

Studio Portraiture Photography
Two Day Workshop
18 - 19 November 2022



Portrait photography using natural and artificial lighting, suitable for anyone with an interest in the genre of portraiture photography.

Day 1: We will look at Metering, Shutter speeds & ISO. The use of depth of field techniques by reviewing examples of the photographic portrait. Students will then use their own cameras to take portraits putting into practice what they have learnt.

Day 2: We will be in a studio environment using artificial lighting with a professional model. Introduction to studio lighting equipment and how to build up lighting for different effects. Students will then have a professional model to take portraits of.

Tutor Nick Matthews
Price £126



An Introduction to Interior Design
18 - 20 November 2022 



This two-day course will guide you through the step-by-step process designers use to create practical and beautiful interiors that enhance the user's lifestyle and showcase their personal style. Learn how to write your own design brief, create a concept, draw a room plan and source what you need to furnish your space.

Tutor Jenny Quinlan
Price from £252



Elton John - Singing Workshop
18 November 2022



As Sir Elton retires from a 50-year music career, celebrate his amazing achievements by singing some of his best-loved songs in this fun, accessible group-singing workshop. Songs including 'I'm Still Standing' and a ballad mash-up will take us on a tour of his enduring rock and pop hits. There will be some harmony singing but you don't need to read music notation as we'll be using lyric sheets to learn our parts by listening and singing back.

Tutor Jo Sercombe
Price £75

Three Ways to Paint an Abstract

19 November 2022



Abstract art may be over one hundred years old as a genre, but it can still baffle and provoke as much as it intrigues and excites. This one - day, practical course in acrylics demystifies the art form by looking at the fundamentals of all painting from an art historical perspective, before guiding participants through the creation of three very different abstract works. Suitable for all abilities and attitudes (from doubters to the plain curious), this course is for anyone who wishes to gain more confidence with their colours as well as their brushwork.

Tutor David Chandler

Price £63

The Cathedral Builders

21 November 2022



This course looks at England's great medieval cathedrals, such as Durham, Salisbury, Wells, Lincoln, and Gloucester. As well as looking at their often breath-taking architecture, it explores how craftsmen with relatively basic tools could construct structures such as Salisbury's towering steeple, the amazing octagonal lantern of Ely, and Gloucester's dazzling vaulting. The achievements of the artists who adorned these buildings, from the glaziers who produced York's glowing stained-glass to the carvers of Exeter and Wells, are also covered.

Tutor Philip Wilkinson

Price £65

Learn the Art of Calligraphy

21 November 2022



In this introduction to the art of calligraphy, the basic elements of design and writing with a broad-edged/chisel pen will be explored. Calligraphy marker pens will be used initially while practising the patterns and individual strokes to form letters and numbers. Metal nibs and quills will then be introduced using liquid ink and gouache paint. A brief introduction to decoration and embellishment will also be introduced. Students take home their own piece of calligraphy work and ideally, students will have thought about what they wish to write before attending. Suitable for beginners - no experience necessary.

Tutor Alison Bellringer

Price £70

Frances Power Cobbe - Feminist, Journalist, Activist

21 November 2022



Frances Power Cobbe was a leading activist in the nineteenth century. She advocated for rights for women, was a prominent anti-vivisectionist and social reformer. This course will explore aspects of her life, work and writing, appealing to people familiar with the life and work of Frances Power Cobbe and those who wish to find out more about this remarkable woman. We will look at the many facets of Cobbe's diverse and energetic life and career.

Tutor Greta Depledge

Price £63

Architecture on Holiday: The Buildings of the English Seaside

22 November 2022



In the heyday of the seaside holiday, England's coastal towns were transformed to accommodate the millions of visitors and keep them entertained. Hotels, boarding houses, piers, lidos, beach huts, carousels, amusement parks, dance halls - all had their distinctive art and design. This course describes them all, as well as covering the traditional architecture of coastal towns and fishing villages. From garish to functional, brash to traditional, seaside architecture is fascinating - and. All comers welcome.

Tutor Philip Wilkinson

Price £65

Learn to Machine Sew Piped & Zipped Scatter Cushions Workshop

22 November 2022



Scatter cushions are used so much as decoration and for function in most people's homes, used to bring an accent colour into a room, as a design feature, also practically used for support. There are many shapes and sizes, from square, oblong and round, with the internal pads being made from polyester a synthetic base, suitable for those with allergies, or feather for a more luxurious look which will last longer and look good. This course is suitable for students with basic sewing skills, we will cover cutting out and making up a piped and zipped scatter cushion. You will need to bring your sewing machine to the course.

Tutor Jenny Harrison

Price £63

Festive Papercutting Workshop**24 November 2022**

A great way to ease into the festive season. With the help of predesigned sheets, some simple cutting exercises and lots of inspirational resources, you will cut out several panels and design your own festive themed paper art. You will pick up numerous handy tips for successfully completing your paper cuts to a high standard. Great fun, highly rewarding and a little bit addictive!

Tutor Christine Green**Price £73** (including materials)**Festive Patchwork Star Workshop****25 November 2022**

A great way to ease into the festive season. These lovely patchwork stars are the perfect introduction to the traditional, hand stitched, template technique of patchwork, also known as EPP, English paper piecing. Students will learn how to cut out the pre drawn templates, cut the fabric to size, cover the templates and join them together. Then stuff, finish off with a neat closure and add embellishments - these could be ribbons, beads, buttons etc.

Tutor Christine Green**Price £68****Three Lions (with Blue Tongues)****25 - 27 November 2022** 

History is not, as Alan Bennett once teased, 'Just one ***** thing after another' but rather a carefully crafted narrative of necessarily selective facts. The National Curriculum in English schools is unapologetic in setting out its aim to give children a history that traces the development of 'Church, State and Society' and Britain's 'place in the world' up to the crowning glory of 'the Second World War and the wartime leadership of Winston Churchill'. Other histories of England, however, are possible...

We will discuss the history of another England, the common people, the nonconformists, women, and the struggle for change against vested interest - the English history of EP Thompson, Asa Briggs and Raphael Samuel's History Workshop. As well as looking at the work of a new generation of historians who are trying to create a narrative that takes account of England's interaction with the wider world through migration and the grim centuries of empire.

Tutor Jonathan Rodell**Price from £252****Tragedy & Triumph: The Story of Polar Exploration****25 - 27 November 2022** 

This course will start with the search for the North-West Passage which had captivated the imaginations of explorers, merchants and adventurers as far back as the journeys of Frobenius and Davis, in Elizabeth I's reign. We will then move on to look at the discoveries of both the North and South Poles with reference to the Norwegians, Nansen and Amundsen, and the British, Scott and Shackleton. Their stories are a series of remarkable sagas, pitting leadership, courage, endurance and ingenuity against daunting hardships and threats. Films by expedition photographers will be included

Tutor Mark Cottle**Price from £252****Christmas Card and Gift Block Printing Workshop****28 November 2022**

A day to explore the craft of Indian Block Printing to create your own wrapping paper, cards and textile product. You will have the opportunity to use a collection of 60 hand carved Indian wood blocks to print onto a variety of materials to produce your own designs. We will experiment with colour mixing, design placement and combining blocks and layering to produce interesting results. No previous experience needed, a relaxing craft for everyone.

Tutor Clare Walsh**Price £78** (includes materials)

Mosaic, Chat, Create! 28 - 29 November 2022



No experience required - create a mosaic "masterpiece" in two days with experienced mosaic tutor, Emma Abel of abelmosaics. With demonstrations and her wildlife mosaics on display, Emma will guide you through the design, technique and creation of your mosaic with lots of tips along the way! You will be "snap happy" in no time at all! Materials and tools are provided with a wealth of colours and textures to choose from. We will grout your mosaic at the end.

Tutor Emma Abel

Price £138 (includes materials)



Festive Copper Foil Stained-Glass Workshop 30 November 2022



This course introduces students to the copper foil method of stained glass making. Often referred to as the Tiffany method, after Louis Comfort Tiffany. This method is used to make light-catchers, hanging decorations and the more familiar but detailed Tiffany lampshades. This workshop will focus on making a selection of festive hanging light-catchers. Students will learn how to follow a design, cut glass accurately and safely, apply copper foil and solder their creation to produce a beautiful piece or pieces that they can hang inside or out in the garden.

Tutor Kate Doig

Price £82 (includes materials)

Festive Knitting Workshop 1 December 2022



Add to your Christmas decorations at this fun festive workshop. Using simple techniques, knit up a mini stocking or bauble for the tree – you might choose to create a collection of stars into a Seasonal garland! Design sustainable heirlooms to decorate your home or use as gifts for treasured loved ones. Suitable for those who can knit and purl confidently.

Tutor Tracy Chapman

Price £73 (includes materials)

Ralph Vaughan Williams - A Life in Music

2 - 4 December 2022 (R)



Ralph Vaughan Williams, great composer and truly great Englishman, was born in Gloucestershire on October 12th 1872, one hundred and fifty years ago. Though an unusually late starter, he nevertheless composed an enormous amount of music in almost every genre - symphonies, concertos, chamber music, opera, ballet, songs, and music for the cinema. Many of these will be represented in this course, in which we trace his career from his early days at the Royal College of Music through to the still fruitful final years in the 1950s. Over the weekend, we shall hear and see performances by some of the greatest interpreters of RVW's music.

Tutor Gwyn Parry-Jones

Price £252

Christmas Card and Gift Block Printing Workshop 5 December 2022



A day to explore the craft of Indian Block Printing to create your own wrapping paper, cards and textile product. You will have the opportunity to use a collection of 60 hand carved Indian wood blocks to print onto a variety of materials to produce your own designs. We will experiment with colour mixing, design placement and combining blocks and layering to produce interesting results.

No previous experience needed, a relaxing craft for everyone.

Tutor Clare Walsh

Price £78 (includes materials)

Vintage Bear Needle Felting Workshop 5 December 2022



Love wool? Then you will love needle felting! Fibre artist Carla Taylor of The Mousehole Woolery will guide you step by step through the basic techniques of needle felting as well as sharing lot of tips and tricks. By the end of the workshop you will have created your own Vintage Bear out of beautiful wool ready for you to take home. This workshop is suitable for both beginners and those with some experience of needle felting. The price of the workshop includes all materials and a needle felting kit, that you get to keep, take home and carry on creating with.

Tutor Carla Taylor

Price £83 (includes materials)



Beginners Festive Pyrography 6 December 2022



This pyrography course is aimed at the complete beginner, everyone will leave with a small, completed piece on the day. As a beginner you will use drawings and carbon paper to transfer the picture to the item prior to burning, or simply work freehand. Ideal for any crafter who would like to try something different or anyone who has an interest in pyrography. Students would be required to bring with them a pyrography set which can be purchased from any local hobby stores (Please contact Dillington House for more info).

Tutor Julie Clifton

Price £81 (includes some materials)

Festive Copper Foil Stained-Glass Workshop 6 December 2022



This course introduces students to the copper foil method of stained glass making. Often referred to as the Tiffany method, after Louis Comfort Tiffany. This method is used to make light-catchers, hanging decorations and the more familiar but detailed Tiffany lampshades. This workshop will focus on making a selection of festive hanging light-catchers. Students will learn how to follow a design, cut glass accurately and safely, apply copper foil and solder their creation to produce a beautiful piece or pieces that they can hang inside or out in the garden.

Tutor Kate Doig

Price £82 (includes materials)

The Dillington Book Club 6 December 2022



For this month's Book Club, we will be discussing *On the Eve* by Turgenev published by Penguin Classics translated by Gilbert Gardiner. Includes coffee and lunch. Further details of novels to be discussed in 2023 will be published on our web site as soon as available. Includes coffee and lunch.

Tutor Elizabeth Rapp

Price £28

You the Jury - Casebook 9 6 December 2022



We will be considering two different real-life cases of murder which occurred between 1900-1975. Participants will be expected to listen to the evidence, discuss the case and attempt to reach a verdict, based on what they have heard. The cases have been selected with an eye to the insight they can give us on various aspects of our judicial system and social history. PLEASE NOTE: These are the same cases that were studied in June & November 2022.

Tutor Diane Janes

Price £63

Festive Lino Printing Workshop**9 December 2022**

This is a fun and relaxed workshop learning this traditional print making technique in the form of lino printing. Create your own unique Lino blocks that you will take home so you can keep printing! On the day, you will be shown how to create your festive design and carve the lino using specialist tools. You will then be taught how to roll out the block printing ink and print onto paper, gift cards and gift wrap using a relief print method.

Tutor Zara Emily Shepherd**Price £86** (includes materials)**Christmas with the Rat Pack - Singing Workshop****9 December 2022**

Try Christmas singing with a jazzy twist as we learn festive songs performed by Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jnr. Featuring classics such as Baby It's Cold Outside and I'll Be Home For Christmas, this fun and accessible group-singing workshop is suitable for all experience levels and is bound to give you the Christmas feel-good factor! We'll be doing some harmony singing but you don't need to read music notation as we'll be learning our parts by listening and singing back, using lyric sheets.

Tutor Jo Sercombe**Price £75****Beginners Crochet Workshop****12 December 2022**

Master the basics of crochet on this one-day workshop. Learn how to create a basic chain and simple crochet stitches. The day is very hands on and you will be encouraged to practise holding the yarn and hook correctly whilst working in rows. Part of the day will be spent looking at simple commercial patterns and charts. There will be an opportunity to explore further complex stitches and techniques throughout the day. If you are new to crochet or would benefit from a refresher day, this workshop is for you as we will be going back to basics. Suitable for complete beginners.

Tutor Tracy Chapman**Price £71** (includes materials)**Festive Copper Foil Stained-Glass Workshop****12 December 2022**

This course introduces students to the copper foil method of stained glass making. Often referred to as the Tiffany method, after Louis Comfort Tiffany. This method is used to make light-catchers, hanging decorations and the more familiar but detailed Tiffany lampshades. This workshop will focus on making a range of festive hanging light-catchers. Students will learn how to follow a design, cut glass accurately and safely, apply copper foil and solder their creation to produce a beautiful piece or pieces that they can hang inside or out in the garden.

Tutor Kate Doig**Price £82** (includes materials)**You the Jury - Casebook 10****12 December 2022**

We will be considering two different real-life cases of murder which occurred between 1900-1975. Participants will be expected to listen to the evidence, discuss the case and attempt to reach a verdict, based on what they have heard. The cases have been selected with an eye to the insight they can give us on various aspects of our judicial system and social history. PLEASE NOTE:- This is a new Casebook and has not previously been studied at Dillington House.

Tutor Diane Janes**Price £63**

Leatherwork - Make a Bag. Two Day Workshop

12 - 13 December 2022



Learn how to make your own Shoulder or Tote Bag from stunning Italian Vegetable Tanned Leather. You will learn how to attach the fittings and construct your bag using a traditional saddle-stitching technique.

Tutor Christina Charles-Bayliss

Price £172 (includes materials)

Willow Pig Workshop

9 January 2023



Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a 3-foot-long willow pig with a basic metal frame. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm! All materials provided and full guidance to make a lovely pig.

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £125 (includes materials)

Printmaking Taster Day

9 January 2023



This is a fun and relaxed workshop experimenting with a range of traditional relief printing techniques including monoprinting, block printing, collagraph and lino printing. On the day, you will be shown each technique throughout the morning. You will be given a range of materials and papers to experiment with. This will form a body of work that you can use in the afternoon to work back on top of using a mix of techniques and creating a collage of your prints.

Tutor Zara Shepherd

Price £89 (includes materials)

You the Jury - Casebook 10

10 January 2023



We will be considering two different real-life cases of murder which occurred between 1900-1975. Participants will be expected to listen to the evidence, discuss the case and attempt to reach a verdict, based on what they have heard. The cases have been selected with an eye to the insight they can give us on various aspects of our judicial system and social history.

PLEASE NOTE: This is Casebook was previously studied at Dillington House in December 2022

Tutor Diane Janes

Price £75

Master Watercolour in Three Centuries

13 January 2023



In this practical, one day course, we study three watercolours from the Tate archive (one from the eighteenth century, one from the nineteenth and one from the twentieth) that exemplify three key principles of watercolour practise that will help you to master the artist's most accessible yet challenging medium. Some previous experience with watercolours will be useful.

Tutor David Chandler

Price £75

Eric Ravilious, John Nash and the English Landscape

13 - 15 January 2023 



Eric Ravilious has enjoyed great popularity in recent years, culminating in a recent film that has been very well received. Briefly a student of Paul Nash, his watercolour depictions of the South Downs in the 1930s are a timeless evocation of the English landscape. John Nash was also taught briefly by his brother Paul but received no formal art education. He painted in oils and watercolours and in many locations, Bristol, Bath, The Chilterns, Essex, The Gower. Together they capture the essence of the English countryside. Suitable for all art enthusiasts.

Tutor Jan Cox

Price from £265

Napoleon III

13 - 15 January 2023 



He was Emperor of the French for longer than his uncle, Napoleon I, and arguably did as much to change the face of Europe. But the bones of Napoleon III lie in a quiet corner of Hampshire rather than a Parisian shrine. Who was this man who won and lost an empire and who created both Italy (intentionally) and Germany (by accident)? This course will examine the achievements and legacy of a man whose story confirms the old saying that every political career ends in failure.

Tutor Jonathan Rodell

Price from £265

Improv Patchwork Bag Workshop

13 January 2023



This one-day course is the perfect introduction to improv patchwork inspired by the quilts of Gees Bend and is suitable for beginners and intermediate level stitchers. You will learn how to create a unique, pieced design, use a rotary cutter and quilting rule, assemble 2 patchwork panels, make handles and stitch everything together to create a unique, useful bag. Ideal for anyone with an interest in patchwork, stitching, fabrics, creating an original design and recycling/reusing. Perfect for anyone happy to bust the rules and get creative with their sewing! Christine encourages using recycled fabrics, which is how patchwork started. You will need to bring your sewing machine to the course.

Tutor Christine Green

Price £80 (includes materials)



Papercutting Workshop

14 January 2023



A great way to ease into the new year. With the help of pre-designed sheets, some simple cutting exercises and lots of inspirational resources, you will cut out several panels and design your own inspiring paper art. You will pick up numerous handy tips for successfully completing your paper cuts to a high standard.

Tutor Christine Green

Price £85 (includes materials)

Dress Block Sewing Workshop

16 January 2023



A block is a basic starting point for pattern making. It is a fitted darted shape to fit the figure, from which paper dressmaking patterns are made. The course begins with taking measurements then constructing the block from the body measurements. Initially this will be made on pattern paper, then transferred to card or stronger brown paper once the block is confirmed as being the correct fit. This course would be suitable for students who would like to make paper patterns to fit themselves, have a keen interest in sewing garments and a good understanding of garment construction. Progression from this please see the workshop on the 6th March 2023 "Basic Pattern Cutting".

Tutor Jenny Harrison

Price £75

Willow Leaping Hares Two Day Workshop

16 & 17 January 2023



Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a pair of willow leaping hares with a basic metal frame. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm!

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £245 (includes materials)

Beginners Knitting

16 January 2023



Start your journey into the wonderful world of knitting. You will be guided through the basic techniques of cast on and cast off, the first knit and purl stitches and begin working on small swatches. We will discuss the technical things, like yarn and needle sizes and look at simple commercial patterns. The day is very hands on and continued practice is encouraged throughout. Suitable for complete beginners.

Tutor Tracy Chapman

Price £83 (includes materials)

Introduction to Indian Block Printing Workshop

19 January 2023



Learn about the traditional craft of Indian Block Printing with images of block printing around Jaipur, handling hand printed fabrics and hand carved blocks. You will print tissue paper, card and coloured papers in the morning using a large collection of Indian wood blocks experimenting with colour, design placement and repeats. After lunch, you will have the opportunity to choose a bag, tea towel or napkin to print using your favourite block. Suitable for beginners.

Tutor Claire Walsh

Price £95 (includes materials)

Contemporary Landscapes - Water Soluble Oil Painting

20 & 21 January 2023



This course is designed to help you to adopt a contemporary style in your practice of oil painting - to help you to create gestural, dynamic marks. Suitable for all abilities, for those new to painting, mid-range and established artists - Louise's aim is to share her process by demonstrating each step with clear instructions before you experiment. She will supply some oil paper for us to use as initial experiments leading to you using your prepared canvas or wooden panel. Ideal for anyone with a love of the landscape, big open spaces, coastal views. A desire to adopt a freer, expressive style in their art practice.

Tutor Louise Bougourd

Price £160 (includes some materials)



Plantagenet England: The Age of Chivalry

20 - 22 January 2023 ®



The Plantagenet dynasty spanned eight generations of English kings from 1154 to 1399. It produced some of England's greatest kings and some of its less able rulers. The period witnessed great turbulence and change including great cultural achievements in architecture, music, literature and art. The aim of this course is to look at the members of this dynasty in turn, their achievements and failures and to look at something of the cultural 'spirit of the age.'

Tutor Mark Cottle

Price from £265

Picture in Collage and Stitch

20 - 22 January 2023 ®



Do you want to create one of your own designs, using your own materials, and translate it into a picture using the combined techniques of fabric collage with both machine and hand embroidery? Then this is your course! At the start of the course, you will be guided through a project (a 'Learning Pack ') which your tutor has designed for you. Learn Richard Box's renowned combined technique of fabric collage with both machine and hand embroidery. Plans, patterns and materials will be provided free of charge in this 'Learning Pack'.

Tutor Richard Box

Price from £265



The Age of Discovery - The John Company and India

21 January 2023



This day course is the third of a series of standalone courses which considers how our modern world took shape. Of all the trading nations, the British were conspicuously the most successful. Much of the foundation of our national wealth was based on trade with India and points east. For over 250 years this was the domain of the East India Company, otherwise 'John Company' and its offshoots, originally granted Royal Charter by Queen Elizabeth I. The course will explore the development of the Company and its struggle for economic domination against French competition on the Indian sub-continent.

Tutor Mike Shaw

Price £75



Fair Isle Knitting

30 January 2023



Learn the secrets behind working with more than one colour. On this workshop we will look at the traditional method of Fair Isle knitting, and we will practice stranding and weaving yarns with both hands. We will work up small swatches using this method during the workshop - whilst discussing the use of colour and covering essential tips to improve the overall finish of your work. Suitable for those who can knit and purl.

Tutor Tracy Chapman

Price £84 (includes materials)

Lunch & Lecture; An Illustrated History of the Islands of Madeira

30 January 2023



This fascinating lecture will examine some of the key events in the 600-year history of the Madeiran archipelago and will be illustrated with examples of its art and architecture.

Tutor Angie Smith

Price £29 (Includes lunch)

Gospel Singing Workshop

3 - 5 February 2023



If you really want to let rip with your voice, there is no better way than by singing in a gospel choir. Spend a weekend with experienced gospel choir director Jo Sercombe learning how to create that special gospel vocal sound and having a go at the swaying and clapping, while exploring a variety of gospel repertoire including traditional 'call and response' structures, early spirituals and contemporary American gospel. No previous singing experience or ability to read music notation required, just a desire to make a joyful noise!

Tutor Jo Sercombe

Price from £265

The Dillington Book Club

7 February 2023



For this month's Book Club, we will be discussing *Silas Marner* by George Eliot published by Wordsworth Classics. Includes coffee and lunch.

Tutor Elizabeth Rapp

Price £29

Kingfisher Needle Felting Workshop

13 - 14 February 2023



On this exciting two-day needle felting workshop, fibre artist Carla Taylor will guide you step by step through both the intermediate and more advanced techniques of needle felting as well as sharing lots of tips and tricks. Carla will share with you how to make your sculptures come to life by looking in more detail at the proportions, shapes and details of our magical kingfisher including the feathers, the mixing and layering of different textured wools to create shine and the use of finer felting needles. The workshop will also cover the construction, covering of wire legs and beaks plus the technique of shingling.

Tutor Carla Taylor

Price £165 (includes materials)

Artists' Colonies in Britain & Europe

12 - 17 February 2023 (R) (S)



Artists' colonies flourished in the nineteenth and early-twentieth century in many countries across Europe, and in this course we will concentrate on Britain, France and Denmark. Artists fled the big cities in order to find fresh subject matter and exchange ideas, often based next to the sea or in the countryside. Attend all week or by the day.

Monday 13 Feb: France I - Barbizon, Cernay-la-Ville, Grez sur Loing

Tuesday 14 Feb: Britain I - St. Ives

Wednesday 15 Feb: France II - Concarneau, Pont-Aven, Arles

Thursday 16 Feb: Denmark - Skagen

Friday 17 Feb: Britain II - Newlyn, Walberswick, Staithes

Tutor Jan Cox

Price Per day - £75 Full week - from £352

Varieties of English Architecture

12 - 17 February 2023 (R) (S)



For many people, architecture means the grand buildings such as cathedrals and country houses. But the story of English architecture is not only about these spectacular places and their changing styles: it is also about smaller, less well-known buildings - such as shops, cinemas, markets, railway stations, factories and follies. This course explores both the showpieces, from Canterbury Cathedral to Blenheim Palace, and the less well-known structures, highlighting the fashions and social forces that brought them into being, and showing how they can be just as spectacular. Join us for a fresh perspective on England's diverse and fascinating buildings.

Tutor Philip Wilkinson

Price from £352

A History of Somerset & Somerset at War

12 - 17 February 2023 (R) (S)



Join Andrew Powell-Thomas for a compelling journey through the story of Somerset. Attend both parts or individually...

13-15 February: A History of Somerset

Explore the history of the county looking at well-known architecture, hidden gems, its industrial past, cultural history and understand the changing face of Somerset over the last 100 years. There will be a day trip out to Mells village and Wells city/Wells cathedral included. (Extra £30 supplement for travel costs)

Price £225

16-17 February: Somerset at War

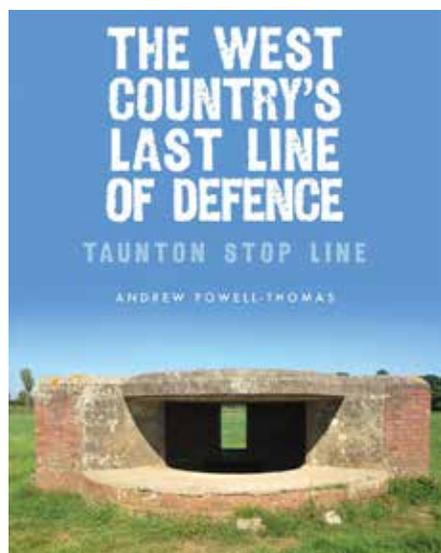
An in-depth dive into Somerset at wartime - From evacuees to factories; airfields to prisoner of war camps, defences to bombing raids and looking at how those lost have been remembered. There will be a day trip to the famous Taunton Stop Line included to understand the full fascinating story behind these defences.

(The Somerset at War segment will finish after lunch on 17th February). **Price** £127 (Extra £30 supplement for travel costs)

Tutor Andrew Powell-Thomas

Price Full week - from £352

Full week travel supplement of £60



Who's Afraid of Red, Yellow and Blue?

12 - 17 February 2023 (R) (Z)



Our response to colour is direct and emotional. The natural world is replete with it, we cover our homes in it, our TV screens and devices are a-dazzle with it and we even dress ourselves in it, but many of us don't actually think that deeply about colour at all. For the artist, however, colour has always represented an especial challenge. In this practical, five-day course, we will study colour's rich social and cultural history, its geography and its language. We will also learn how artists in previous centuries found ways to master it, explore our own personal perception of colour and most importantly, develop a meaningful relationship with its enduring mysteries.

Tutor David Chandler

Price from £352

Variations on a Theme

12 - 17 February 2023 (R) (Z)



Though one of the most venerable of musical forms, the Theme and Variations is still very much in use by today's composers. In its long history, it's been the chosen genre for so many great masterpieces, with examples from Bach, Beethoven, Elgar, Brahms and Britten, to name but a few. There are also fascinating special types of variation procedure, such as the Baroque chaconne and passacaglia; while some themes, such as the ancient Portuguese melody La Folia, or Paganini's famous 24th Violin Caprice, have given rise to countless sets. A feast of superb music awaits, experienced through excellent audio and video recordings.

Tutor Gwyn Parry-Jones

Price from £352

Discovering Photography

13 - 16 February 2023 (R) (Z)



Running as part of Dillington Discoveries-Winter 2023, this four-day course is a brilliant way to learn more about four key elements of photography. Open to all abilities, this course can be booked as an entire four-day block or as individual days.

Monday 13 February: Close-up Photography

Tuesday 14 February: Still Life Photography

Wednesday 15 February: Portraiture Photography

Thursday 16th February: Basic Photo Editing and Photo Books

Tutor Nick Matthews

Price from £300 four-day block/
from £75 per day



Willow Deer Workshop

13 February 2023 (Z)



Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a 4-foot-high willow deer with a basic metal frame. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm!

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £125 (includes materials)

Willow Owl Workshop

14 February 2023 (Z)



Join local Somerset artist Jo Sadler of 'Forged n Willow' to make a 4-foot-wide willow flying owl with a basic metal frame. Jo will guide you through each step to create your animal for your home or garden using locally grown willow from the Somerset levels. Wear older clothes as it can get grubby, bring your own secateurs if you like, and plenty of enthusiasm!

Tutor Jo Sadler

Price £125 (includes materials)



Barn Owl Needle Felting Workshop

15 - 16 February 2023 



On this exciting two-day workshop, fibre artist Carla Taylor will guide you through the basic techniques of needle felting. Carla will share with you how to bring your sculptures to life by looking in more detail at the proportions, individual shapes, colours and details of the beautiful, majestic barn owl. Suitable for both beginners and those with some experience of needle felting.

Tutor Carla Taylor

Price £125 (includes materials)

Lino Printing

15 February 2023 



This is a fun and relaxed workshop learning this traditional print making technique in the form of lino printing. Create your own unique lino blocks that you will take home so you can keep printing! On the day, you will be shown how to create your design and carve the lino using specialist tools. You will then be taught how to roll out the block printing ink and print onto paper, gift cards and gift wrap using a relief print method.

Tutor Zara Shepherd

Price £91

Stencil Screen Printing

16 February 2023 



During this course, you will learn the basics of textile screen printing using a stencil method. Inspiration for your hand cut paper stencil will come from exploring the beautiful grounds at Dillington House. Back in the classroom, Zara will guide you in hand cutting your paper stencils and then learn how to prepare the screen and print your stencil on to a tote bag. You will also be shown how to print multiple colours or a two-layered print. No previous experience needed. Zara is experienced with teaching all levels.

Tutor Zara Shepherd

Price £97 (Includes materials)

You The Jury - Casebook 9

20 February 2023



We will be considering two different real-life cases of murder which occurred between 1900-1975. Participants will be expected to listen to the evidence, making notes as they go, then discuss the case and attempt to reach a verdict based on what they have heard. The cases have been selected with an eye to the insight they can give us on various aspects of our judicial system and social history. **PLEASE NOTE:** These are the same cases that were studied in Nov & Dec 2022.

Tutor Diane Janes

Price £75

Making a Leaded Stained-Glass Panel: Two Day Workshop

20 - 21 February 2023



This two-day course will enable you to create your own stained-glass panel using the traditional method of combining coloured glass with lead. The panel that you choose to make can be displayed in your house or garden as a hanging panel or a standalone panel. Lead and lead solder will be used – these are toxic substances both to handle and to breathe in the solder fumes. This course is NOT therefore suitable for pregnant women.

Tutor Kate Doig

Price £193 (includes materials)

You The Jury - Casebook 10

24 February 2023



We will be considering two different real-life cases of murder which occurred between 1900-1975. Participants will be expected to listen to the evidence, making notes as they go, then discuss the case and attempt to reach a verdict based on what they have heard. The cases have been selected with an eye to the insight they can give us on various aspects of our judicial system and social history. **PLEASE NOTE:** These are the same cases that were studied in December 2022 & January 2023.

Tutor Diane Janes

Price £75

Classical Guitar Orchestra Weekend

24 - 26 February 2023 

A unique musical experience for classical guitarists of all ages and of varying abilities (but not complete beginners). The emphasis is on participation, with students working in a non-competitive and supportive environment. Parts of the orchestra range in difficulty from elementary (Grade 2) to advanced (Grade 8) and are allocated in accordance with each student's playing standard. The music required for the course will be made available one month before, to allow for some advance preparation.

Tutor Peter Rueffer

Price from £265

Beginners Crochet

27 February 2023 

Start your journey into the wonderful world of crochet. You will be guided through the basic techniques of the craft and begin working on small swatches. We will discuss the technical things, like yarn and hook sizes and look at simple commercial patterns. The day is very hands on and continued practice is encouraged throughout. Suitable for complete beginners

Tutor Tracy Chapman

Price £83 (includes materials)

Tickling the Ivories

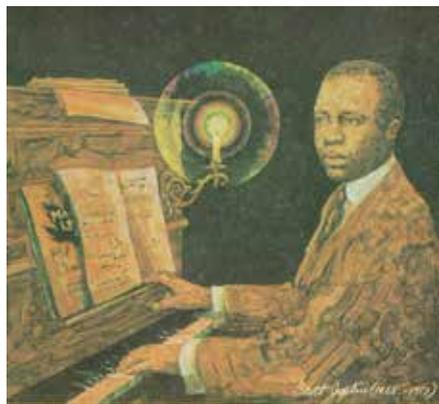
3 - 5 March 2023 

Come on a musical journey through the history of ragtime, blues, boogie-woogie and stride with renowned pianist Mike Denham and guest pianist Julian Phillips. Mike and Julian will illustrate at the keyboard and talk about what intrigues them about this music, plus find out more about influential titans of the genre such as Scott Joplin, Fats Waller and Jelly Roll Morton, to name but a few... On Saturday, there will be an opportunity to watch together the 1998 Italian movie (English soundtrack) "The Legend of 1900". This award-winning film stars Clarence Williams III, grandson of an early New Orleans jazz composer), as Jelly Roll Morton. It won Golden Globes for best foreign film and for Ennio Morricone's score.

PLEASE NOTE: This residential course includes both the 'Four piano styles of ragtime, blues, boogie-woogie and stride' day course content on 4th March and also entry to the 'Sunday Concert - Boogie-Woogie & Ragtime' on 5th March.

Tutor Mike Denham

Price from £287



The Four Piano Styles of Ragtime, Blues, Boogie-Woogie and Stride

4 March 2023



With plenty of illustration at the keyboard, plus audio recordings and rare film clips, Mike Denham compares the four piano styles of ragtime, blues, boogie-woogie and stride. These 'complete' styles were developed for solo piano in the first half of the 20th century, before the arrival of the ubiquitous piano trio with bass and drums. They still captivate the listener today. The primary exponents included Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton, Fats Waller, several Johnsons (for example Pete and James P), Willi 'the Lion' Smith, Teddy Wilson, Albert Ammons, Jay McShann and Art Tatum. Many of these magnificent, inventive keyboard masters were remarkable characters too, allowing for some entertaining diversions during the day.

Tutor Mike Denham

Price £75

Sunday Concert - Boogie-Woogie & Ragtime

5 March 2023



Pianists Mike Denham and Julian Phillips will play an alternating programme of solos and sometimes duos, taking the music from Ragtime through to Boogie-Woogie. The concert ticket includes tea and coffee served before the performance. There is also the option to book a Sunday carvery lunch, which will be served after the concert.

Price £22

Pre-booked two course carvery lunch available for £21.50 per person.

Exploring Colour with the Heat Press

6 March 2023



Enjoy an exciting new printing technique using the heat press and disperse dyes to create unique designs in this day course. After a demonstration of the heat press, you will explore colour and design using a variety of techniques. You will experiment with painting dye papers, cutting papers, using images, adding textures with lace and fabrics and printing with leaves to produce a range of fabric samples.

Tutor Claire Walsh

Price £95 (includes materials)

Stanley Spencer: A Life in Art

6 March 2023



Our subject for this study day is the idiosyncratic English painter, Stanley Spencer. Over the course of the day, we will survey his life and prodigious output as a painter and designer. One of the lectures will focus on the murals Spencer painted for the Sandham memorial chapel in Burghclere.

Tutor Angie Smith

Price £75

Basic Cutting Pattern

6 March 2023



This course is aimed at students who enjoy sewing and would like to learn more about making their own paper patterns, creating their own designs to suit their figure. During the day the course will cover, changing dart positions, incorporating seam lines, gathers and flared skirts. Students who have covered one of the previous courses where a block was drafted to fit themselves, can bring their own block. New students may use a standard size block copied from the tutor.

Tutor Jenny Harrison

Price £75

The Dillington Book Club

7 March 2023



For this month's Book Club, we will be discussing *The King Must Die* by Mary Renault published by Virago Modern Classics. Includes coffee and lunch.

Tutor Elizabeth Rapp

Price £29

Watercolour - A Fresh Take on Spring Flowers

10 March - 12 March 2023 [®]



Focusing on loose and lively wet into wet watercolour techniques and how to create natural looking foregrounds with depth and interest. We will experiment with techniques for achieving pattern, texture and the use of negative painting. All are welcome - if you have some prior experience with watercolour this course may open up some new ideas and approaches.

Tutor Shari Hills

Price from £265

Remaking the Past

10 - 12 March 2023 



From ancient DNA to space age survey technology exciting archaeological discoveries are rarely out of the news. Combining real world case studies, and hands on finds analysis, whether you're a complete beginner or have a longstanding passion for the past, this course will take you behind the headlines. From tiny fragments of stone, evidence from human remains, to entire landscapes, we will explore the techniques archaeologists use to unlock hidden secrets. Remaking our past, and changing our understanding of the world we live in.

Tutor Dr Nick Snashall

Price from £265

Blackwork Embroidery Inspired by Dillington House

10 - 12 March 2023 



Blackwork is a historical hand embroidery technique dating back to the 16th century. It is a counted thread technique using small back stitches to create geometric patterns, which can be built up into pictures. For this class, we take our inspiration from Dillington House itself – both its distinctive architecture and beautiful gardens. We will bring the technique up to date by incorporating flourishes of colour alongside traditional black thread. The course is suitable for all levels of stitching experience.

Tutor Clare Clensy

Price from £265

Chinese Brush Painting: Freehand Style of Flower and Bird on Rice Paper

13 & 14 March 2023



This practical course covers the basic skills of painting flower and bird in freehand style, such as: camellia, daffodil, wisteria and sparrow, the course will give students the chance to try out the techniques and materials used as well as looking at the culture behind the art. Kaili will help students learn how to hold the brush and mix different colours on to it. The course will also include some demonstration and individual supervision. No experience beginners and intermediates are welcome.

Tutor Kaili Fu

Price £181

The Cult of Gloriana: Art, Music and Personality at the Court of the Virgin Queen

17-19 March 2023 



Elizabeth I was the most remarkable woman of a remarkable age. Her reign was one of the great creative periods of English history – literature, music, art, architecture and overseas exploration all reached unprecedented heights. With reference to literature and architecture, this lecture will also focus on the portraits, miniatures and music of Elizabeth's court. The aim is to demonstrate great levels of artistic achievement and to recreate something of the energy, spirit, and confidence of this Golden Age.

Tutor Mark Cottle

Price From £265



The Age of Discovery - Trade and the Flag: The Spoils Divided

18 March 2023



Admiral Lord Nelson's real 'Bequest to the Nation' was the unchallenged domination of the world's seaways by the Royal Navy for over a century after the Battle of Trafalgar. In this day course we explore how Great Britain policed the globe and imposed Pax Britannica by means of the fast frigate when piracy and slavery were issues of the day and how the navy adapted in the new Victorian Age of steam. We will conclude by comparing how other nations adapted the model of the mercantile empire towards the end of nineteenth century.

Tutor Mike Shaw

Price £75

Renoir and Valadon: Artist & Model**20 March 2023**

Auguste Renoir is a great name in the Impressionist world, painting many iconic masterpieces. In his early works he used key models, one of the most famous being the ex-acrobat, Suzanne Valadon. She appears in 'Dance at Bougival' and 'The Umbrellas' and modelled for Toulouse-Lautrec. After giving birth to the artist Utrillo, Valadon became a fine painter in her own right, learning from Degas and Renoir among many. We learn of her fascinating life among the artists of Montmartre. Suitable for all art enthusiasts.

Tutor Jan Cox**Price £75****Singing Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons****20 March 2023**

One of the best-selling musical groups of all time, Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons have delighted audiences for over 60 years with their upbeat doo-wop songs, both in concert and through the Jersey Boys musical. Have a go at singing some of their classic 60s & 70s hits in this fun, accessible, group-singing workshop. We'll be doing some harmony singing but you don't need to read music notation as we'll be learning our parts by listening and singing back, using lyric sheets.

Tutor Jo Sercombe**Price £75****Indigo Shibori Dyeing****20 March 2023**

An introduction to a fascinating natural dye technique suitable for beginners. Indigo dye originates from the plant *indigofera tinctoria* and the dye is extracted from the plants leaves. In the workshop we will use a synthetic form of indigo and you will learn how the indigo vat dye bath is created. Zara will show you techniques in hand stitching, folding and clamping a range of natural fabrics creating a resist that makes beautiful patterns across the fabrics. You will produce a series of fabric samples exploring this ancient technique. You have the option to developing one of the samples into a wall pennant to hang at home.

Tutor Zara Shepherd**Price £95 (Includes materials)****The Lazy Philosopher's Guide to Atheism & Religion****20 - 22 March 2023**

Does religion still play an important part in Western societies? Taking inspiration from Alain de Botton's book, Religion for Atheists, this course will begin by laying down the foundations of the philosophy of religion before exploring what religion can still contribute to a modern society, from an atheist's point of view.

Tutor Darren Harper**Price from £265****Put the Right Colour in the Right Place****21 March 2023**

Composition is at the core of all picture-making, yet whenever we embark on a new painting, composition often comes very low on our list of priorities as concerns about colour-mixing, proportion, photographic realism and general technical competence dominate. But by just paying attention to where things are, rather than what they are, we can make the business of painting far simpler and finish our work in half the time! In this one-day practical workshop, open to all experience levels, we will look at seven of the principal elements of design and learn how to apply them to our paintings. This workshop focuses on abstraction, but the day will be useful whatever your chosen genre.

Tutor David Chandler**Price £75****Finishing Techniques - Knitting****27 March 2023**

Throughout this one-day workshop we will look at various ways to improve the overall finish of your knitting. From choosing the correct cast on for your project, to selvedge edges, buttonholes, picking up stitches, sewing up and finishing. Suitable for those who can knit and purl confidently.

Tutor Tracy Chapman**Price £83 (includes materials)**

Advance Booking



Botanical Drawing of Spring Flowers in Coloured Pencil

3 - 6 April 2023 (R)



Taking inspiration from the gardens at Dillington, on this studio-based course we will learn about drawing and colouring spring flowers of your choice in the popular and realistic medium of dry coloured pencils, or the versatile water-soluble pencils. Demonstrations will be given to those new to the mediums, and tuition will be individual making this course suitable for all abilities.

Tutor Susan Hillier

Price from £428

Diaghilev's Women - Tamara Karsavina & Bronislava Nijinska

5 - 6 April 2023



Day One: Tamara Karsavina & Bronislava Nijinska
Tamara Karsavina was beloved by all. A product of Russia's Imperial Ballet, she danced with Nijinsky in Diaghilev's Ballets Russes; as part of his inner circle, she created iconic roles in The Firebird and Petrushka. Ballerina/choreographer Bronislava Nijinska was another product of the Imperial Ballet and sister of the great Nijinsky; she created her masterpiece Les Noces for the Ballets Russes.

Day Two: Natalia Goncharova and Misia Sert
When Alexander Benois suggested Natalia Goncharova to Diaghilev as designer of Le Coq d'Or, she was already a rising star within Moscow's avant-garde, with acclaimed exhibitions to her name. Soon promoted to Diaghilev's inner circle, her designs included Les Noces for Nijinska.

A two-day course, however, each day can be stand-alone.

Tutor Bridget Vane

Price £80 per day, £160 both days

Watercolour Revision

11-13 April 2023 (R)



Some watercolourists get stuck in a rut and produce perfectly competent paintings that lack freshness and originality. Why is this? A major cause is the "too much syndrome". We use multiple pigments separately and in mixing. We also use too many brushstrokes, often in an attempt to include too much irrelevant detail. This course is designed to refresh your entire painting process and get you out of that rut. Suitable for intermediate and advanced students.

Tutor Clare Duvergier

Price from £296

From Sutton Hoo to the Wilton Diptych: A Journey Through English Medieval Art and Culture

14-16 April 2023 (R)



This course will take a journey through the English historical and cultural landscape, covering a period of time from the 7th to the late 14th centuries. As signposts, it will use examples of notable cultural output. These will include, in particular, architecture, manuscript illumination, music and literature. In all these areas the scale of achievement is quite remarkable and serves to capture something of the spirit of the age as well as speaking to us surprisingly powerfully today.

Tutor Mark Cottle

Price from £265



Beginners Photography

14-16 April 2023 (R)



A relaxed and fun day's experience of practice and theory to enable everyone to understand their camera and improve their photography skills. The day starts with a brief introduction of each participant and their favourite image. The aim is to take photographs around Dillington House, indoors and out (outdoor being weather dependant). This course will include a day trip out to photograph at a unique location.

Tutor Nick Matthews

Price from £295

The Poor We Always Have with Us

14-16 April 2023 

Sickness, age and bad luck have always left members of the community vulnerable to poverty and hunger. Equally constant, however, over many centuries, have been the efforts of the national and local communities of England and Wales to provide a safety net for neighbours facing destitution.

This course examines those efforts - medieval alms, reformation poor laws and Lloyd George's national insurance scheme - and asks what the history of our welfare provision tell us about who we are.

Tutor Jonathan Rodell

Price from £265



Deir el-Medina: A Very Special Ancient Egyptian Town

24-26 April 2023 

Explore archaeological evidence, architectural remains, and written sources to build up a picture of what it would have been like to live in the Ancient Egyptian town of Deir el-Medina, a community of tomb builders and their families during the New Kingdom (c1500 – 1000 BC). These were the artisans responsible for the extraordinary tombs in the Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens. We will explore their houses, their chapels and exquisitely decorated family tombs. All-comers welcome.

Tutor Lucia Gahlin

Price from £265

My Ancestor was Transported to Australia - Penal Transportation to Australia

15 May 2023 

These illustrated lectures will consider the phenomenon of transportation in detail and will be built around the experiences of various individuals including the lecturer's ancestor who was sent to Australia in 1830. We will examine the journey of transportees in detail and consider some of the many and varied record types that are available for researchers to use. The study

day will be of particular use to family historians and those with an interest in social history.

Tutor Angie Smith

Price £75



The Age of Discovery - In Search of the Northern Passages

20 May 2023 

From the beginning of our modern age navigators and their merchant backers balked at the long detours required to round the great Capes of Good Hope and the Horn and determined to find shorter passages in higher latitudes. Thus began the search for the Northern Passages, the central theme of this day course. What they found instead were prolific hunting grounds for marine species, which were exploited for 400 years. With the completion of the Suez and later the Panama canals, the world changed shape and interest waned. The race for the conquest of the Poles became a matter of national prestige rather than economic imperative.

Tutor Mike Shaw

Price £75

Country Hares & Foxes Needle Felting Workshop

5 June 2023 

Fibre artist Carla Taylor will guide you step by step through the basic techniques of needle felting.

By the end of the workshop, you will have created your own country hare or fox out of beautiful wool ready for you to take home or, if you can part with them, to give to someone as a special gift.

This workshop is suitable for both beginners or those with some experience of needle felting.

The price of the workshop includes all materials and a needle felting kit, that you get to keep, take home and carry on creating with.

Tutor Carla Taylor

Price £90 (Includes materials)

Disney at 100 - Singing Workshop

8 June 2023



Walt Disney transformed the world of entertainment, charming young and old alike with his fantastical stories, whimsical characters and catchy tunes. In its centenary year, let's celebrate Disney's extraordinary musical legacy through a medley of favourites spanning its history.

With so many great songs to choose from, it is hard to know what to leave out, but we're sure to recognise the tunes and have an uplifting time singing together in this fun, accessible group-singing workshop. There will be some harmony singing but you don't need to read music notation as we'll be using lyric sheets to learn our parts by listening and singing back.

Tutor Jo Sercombe
Price £75

Bobbin Lace

11-16 June 2023 

This course will suit all abilities of bobbin lacemakers from those just starting through to advanced. It covers English laces and many from the continent including Belgium, Spain and Russia. Many of the continental laces are taught with the aid of a colour-coded diagram to help students continue their work at home. Help and advice is available for the important related topics of thread choice, finishing and mounting lace.

Tutor Alison Thoburn
Price from £638

Watercolour - Beside the Sea - Pushing the boundaries

15 - 18 June 2023 

Focusing on all things 'sea-sidey' - fish, rockpools, beach huts, sand/water patterns, lobster pots, shells - whatever inspires. An opportunity to experiment with different techniques and media that work with your watercolours. Could be collage, crayons, pens - any interesting media that you have squirreled away in your art cupboard, bring it along! This course is best suited to those who have done some watercolour before and would like to experiment with different ways of developing a theme.

Tutor Shari Hills
Price from £354



Wet Felt Making & Silk Paper Workshop

29 June 2023 

A day exploring natural fibres to create felted fabric and silk paper, in the morning we will work with merino tops which are soft and delicate to make a strong felted fabric with the addition of water and friction- magic! In the afternoon we will work with fine silk fibres to create a light, delicate paper with inclusions that can be used as a basis of further textile projects, embroidery or displayed as artwork. Suitable for beginners - no experience necessary.

Tutor Clare Walsh
Price £95 (Includes materials)

An Introduction to Chinese Philosophy

3-5 July 2023 

Focusing on the two main schools of Chinese philosophy, Confucianism and Taoism, this course will explore their foundations, their key thinkers, including Lao Tzu and Zhuang Zhou, as well as Confucius, and Mencius, and then consider the possibility of their ethical application to Western society today. Ideal for anyone who is interested in philosophy, world religions, history and culture.

Tutor Darren Harper
Price from £265

Ancient Egypt's Theban Tombs of the Nobles

17-19 July 2023 

This sumptuously illustrated course will be a comprehensive exploration of the Tombs of the Nobles open to visitors on Luxor's west bank. We will examine the design and decoration of a fine range of well-known and little-known tombs in Western Thebes dating to the New Kingdom (c1500-1000 BC). Highlights will include the tomb of Thutmose III's Vizier Rekhmire (TT100), Sennefer's 'Tomb of the Vineyards' (TT96), and the tomb of Queen Tiye's Steward Kheruef (TT192). All-comers welcome.

Tutor Lucia Gahlin
Price from £265

Put the Right Colour in the Right Place

21 July 2023



Composition is at the core of all picture-making, yet whenever we embark on a new painting, composition often comes very low on our list of priorities as concerns about colour-mixing, proportion, photographic realism and general technical competence dominate. But by just paying attention to where things are, rather than what they are, we can make the business of painting far simpler! In this one-day, practical workshop, we will look at seven of the principle elements of design and learn how to apply them to our paintings. This workshop focuses on abstraction, but the day will be useful whatever your chosen genre. All-comers welcome.

Tutor David Chandler

Price £75

Highland Cow Needle Felting Two-Day Workshop

24-25 July 2023



Fibre artist Carla Taylor of The Mousehole Woolery will guide you step by step through the basic techniques of needle felting as well as sharing lots of tips and tricks. By the end of the workshop you will have created your own highland cow out of beautiful wool ready for you to take home. This workshop is suitable for both beginners or those with some experience of needle felting. The price of the workshop includes all materials and a needle felting kit, that you get to keep, take home and carry on creating with.

Tutor Carla Taylor

Price £170 (Includes materials)

Exploring Patterns with Blocks and Thermofax Screens Workshop

25 July 2023



Learn about the traditional skill of Indian Block Printing with images of block printing around Jaipur, handling hand printed fabrics and hand carved blocks. You will print tissue paper, card and coloured papers in the morning using the collection of 50 Indian wood blocks experimenting with colour, design placement and repeats. After lunch, you will print a cotton bag using thermofax screens and Indian woodblocks combined considering colour, placement and layering of designs. Suitable for beginners, no experience necessary.

Tutor Clare Walsh

Price £95 (Includes materials)



Indigo/Shibori Dyeing Workshop

11 September 2023



An introduction to a fascinating natural dye technique suitable for beginners. Indigo dye originates from the plant *indigofera tinctoria* and the dye is extracted from the plants leaves. In the workshop we will use a synthetic form of indigo and you will learn how the indigo vat dye bath is created. Zara will show you techniques in hand stitching, folding and clamping a range of natural fabrics creating a resist that makes beautiful patterns across the fabrics. You will produce a series of fabric samples exploring this ancient technique, having the option to developing one of the samples into a wall pennant to hang at home.

Tutor Zara Shepherd

Price £95 (Includes materials)



Landscape Photography

18 September 2023



A relaxed fun day's practical landscape photography experience. Join tutor Nick Matthews as he guides you through the techniques and styles of Landscape Photography. This course is open to all experience levels and includes a field trip to a local location to capture some further varied landscapes.

Tutor Nick Matthews

Price £105 (Includes trip)

Further Information

All details correct at time of print.

If you have any specific access or dietary needs, then please let us know at the time of booking.

Dillington House reserves the right to cancel a course for any reason. But where this happens, we will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible. In the event of a cancelled course your course fee and deposit will be refunded.

All fees and deposits are non-refundable and non-transferrable, unless Dillington House cancels the course. We recommend you take out your own insurance should you need to cancel through illness or unforeseen circumstances.

Fees quoted are per person unless stated otherwise. VAT is included where applicable.

Unless stated otherwise, course fees include tuition, refreshments and all meals.

Residential courses include en-suite accommodation.

For courses that require it, students should provide all their own materials, unless otherwise stated.

For more information

Courses and events are continually being added, so for the most up to date information on all courses and events visit www.dillington.com or scan the QR code.



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