



Course Title	Advanced Expressive Portrait Painting
Tutor	Susanne du Toit (6 wks) and Tim Benson (4 wks)
Day & time	Tuesdays 10am - 4.45pm
Dates	10 Jan. - 21 Mar. 2017 (no class half term 14 Feb. 2017)
Course Code	D1602P81
Level	Advanced
Cost	£495



What is this course about?

Working with two portrait painters who both work expressively, but in very different ways, this course will involve working with a life model to produce dynamic and painterly paintings using oils. Students will discuss the practice of portraiture in general, the channeling of inspiration, the relationship between artist and model, and helpful methods of preparation. The course will cover composition techniques and proportion and the relationship between canvas and the sitter, aiming all the time for a great work of art, rather than just a resemblance to the sitter. Students will be asked to consider painting with light and shadows, finding shapes and structure, using creative skin tones and making decisions about background. They will also explore the physical quality of the paint itself, and how to use mark making and colour expressively. The aim will be for students to learn to produce a likeness of the sitter but more importantly to produce an energetic, responsive and successful image that captures something of the sitter's character or mood whilst creating an interesting painting.

What topics do we cover?

- How to pose the model and prepare for a portrait painting
- Lighting
- Considerations of light and shadow
- Interesting mark making
- Using creative flesh tones
- Capturing a sense of space and making decisions about background
- Exploring the quality of paint

By the end of this course you will:

- Have a greater understanding of how the choice of marks, tones and colours utilised drastically alter the language of a painting;
- Know how to use composition, lighting, as well as colour and tone, to create a sense of mood and atmosphere in a painting;
- Understand how to introduce dynamism and energy into your work.

What level is the course and do I need any particular skills?

This course is suitable for more advanced students with experience of painting.

How will I be taught and what feedback and support will I get?

Your experienced tutor will support you throughout the course which is structured as a series of workshops and assignments. Individual tutor support will be available throughout the course and group discussions will aim to highlight themes and create a feedback system for each student.

About your tutor

Educated at Glasgow School of Art and Byam Shaw School of Art from 1998-2001, contemporary artist **Tim Benson** has received recognition with his election as Vice President of the Royal Institute of Oil Painters. As a practised figurative artist Tim not only creates a distinguishable likeness of a subject but moreover evokes the sitter's character and mood. He is never satisfied with simple representation, rather concentrating on bringing to his work an emotive and often visceral quality. Tim regularly exhibits in solo and group exhibitions around the UK. He displays fine art paintings that stand on their own as collectible works of art and accordingly has established a large following and collector base.

<http://timbenson.co.uk>

Susanne du Toit trained at the University of Pretoria, South Africa and obtained a MFA from Massachusetts College of Art, Boston. Her work has been included in numerous exhibitions including the BP Portrait Award where she won First Prize in 2013.

<http://susannedutoit.com>

Weekly breakdown

Courses at the Art Academy offer a structured approach to ensure specific subjects, skills and methods are covered. Below is a weekly breakdown of what will be covered. Please bear in mind that these classes will move with the pace of the class so a degree of flexibility of what will be covered on which day will be employed.

Week	Date	Topic/skills covered	Location	What to bring	Model
1	10 Jan.	Drawing Week 1 will focus exclusively on drawing, working in both pencil and charcoal. Exploring the anatomy of	Studio 3	Drawing materials, including pencils, Charcoal, putty-rubber.	Yes

		the face with charcoal and ink studies. You will work from the model and will be introduced to some of the technical aspects to drawing the anatomy of the face, such as thinking about proportion, tone and measurement.			
2	17 Jan.	Starting to paint After some preparatory drawing exercises to warm up, you will start to work in oil paint using a full palette. This week we will work from a series of short poses doing multiple paintings.	Studio 3	A number of surfaces to paint on - either small to medium boards, oil painting paper or canvases. Oil Paints (see Materials below) Canvas or canvas board approx. 90x60 cm Round Hog hair brushes 2, 4, 8, 12 stand oil and sketchbook	Yes
3	24 Jan.	Colour Mixing We will consider issues around colour mixing in more detail, focusing on using colour to make creative skin tones, once again undertaking a number of studies of different parts of the model	Studio 3	Oil painting equipment as above. Surfaces to paint on	Yes
4	31 Jan.	Finding Shapes In this session students will be asked to concentrate on 'finding shapes' - looking for shapes when painting and considering negative spaces, is an essential tool in figurative painting and drawing	Studio 3	As above.	Yes

5	7 Feb.	Considering composition This week we will look at composing our paintings, thinking about the relationship of the portrait head to the size of canvas and talking about how this relates to the background. We will do a series of drawings and painted sketches to experiment with composition, as well as starting working on a longer pose	Studio 3	As above.	Yes
Half term					
6	21	We will continue the long pose from Week 5 and complete the painting.	Studio 3		Yes
7	28 Feb.	After a demo by the tutor we will make quick oil sketches of approximately 45 minutes each. This will help to really concentrate on painting exactly what you see and not to dwell on supposed conventions.	Studio 3	At least 6 small primed boards or canvasses (12"x10" approx). Oil paints to include: Alizarin Crimson, cadmium red, lemon yellow, burnt umber, ultramarine blue and titanium white. Brushes to include square headed bristle brushes. A palette.	Yes
8	7 Mar.	A medium size painting of 1 head (continued)	Studio 3	1 primed board or canvas (30"x24") approx. Paints and brushes as above.	Yes
9	14 Mar.	A large sustained painting to include 2 heads.	Studio 3	1 primed board or canvas (40"x30") approx. Paints and brushes as above.	Yes
10	21 Mar.	A sustained painting (continued) culminating in a group critique to round off the course.	Studio 3	As above.	Yes

Preparation Requirements & Additional Costs

STUDENTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN MATERIALS.

The Academy is a white spirit and turpentine free environment and only odourless spirits, such as Zest-it or Sansodor, are permitted on the premises. Students must provide their own spirits, which can be recycled for longevity.

We request that you bring 2 small jars (one with a lid, one without) to hold your spirit, and a few cloths rags for brush cleaning (such as an old cotton t-shirt).

Students will need to bring the following:

Bristle brushes *

Charcoal, putty rubber

Canvas or board, plus small boards or oil painting paper

Only odorless spirits, Sansodor or Zest-it

Oil paints to include: Alizarin Crimson, cadmium red, lemon yellow, burnt umber, ultramarine blue and titanium white.

In the weeks with **Susanne du Toit**, she would like students to be using a wider palette and whilst it is not necessary you have all of the additional below colours, it would be helpful to have these:

Indian yellow

Yellow Ochre

Cobalt Violet

Paynes Grey

Sap Green

Burnt Sienna

Van Dycke Brown

Lamp Black

Please note that the colours in bold **are not** available from the Art Academy shop.

* A mix of flat and round brushes.

If you do not have your own materials, there is an option to order an **Oil Painting Pack** at the time of booking, which will be available when you arrive for your first class and can be stored at the Academy for the duration of your course.

An **Oil Painting Pack** (£50.00) contains:

A set of bristle brushes, both flat and round, suitable for either oils or acrylics

One tear off palette (9"x12")

One palette knife

One bottle Zest-it (250ml)

One 10"x 12" canvas board

One 10"x 14" canvas board

Two 12"x 16" canvas boards

6 Daler Rowney (*Georgian*) oil tubes: Titanium White, Cadmium Yellow, Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Red, French Ultramarine and Burnt Umber

Certain materials can also be purchased from the Academy shop during shop hours. Please check in advance of your class if the item you require is available, as the Academy may not have this in stock.

Part time students, some materials and equipment are available at the Academy, but you will most likely need to provide your own specialist materials or equipment.

Resources & Further Reading

Artists to look at:

Otto Dix and the New Objectivity

Oscar Kokoschka

Max Beckmann

Karl Schmidt Rottluff and the members of the Brücke group

John Bratby

Elaine de Kooning

Irma Stern

Van Gogh

Rembrandt (self-portraits)

Egon Schiele

Chaim Soutine

Lucien Freud

Galleries:

National Portrait Gallery (contemporary portrait collection)

Assessment

On attendance only, 80% of the course must be covered to pass. Feedback will be given throughout and verbal assessment will be given on the last week of the course.

Welcome to The Art Academy

We are looking forward to welcoming you to The Art Academy and wish you the very best for your course. If at any time you would like to speak to a member of the team please feel free to contact us using the details below.

We value feedback on all of our courses so please keep us posted on your progress.

Who can I contact for further information?

General information and advice on courses at The Art Academy is available from the main office, open Monday to Friday 09:00 – 17:00 during term time.

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7407 6969 or email our Administrator, Aimee Brigginsaw:
aimee@artacademy.org.uk

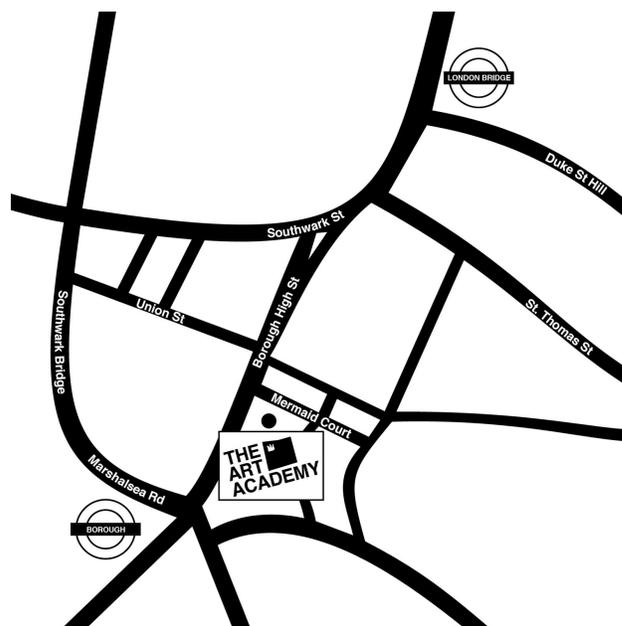
Location

The Art Academy is conveniently located minutes away from London Bridge (Northern and Jubilee lines, National Rail services) and Borough (Northern line) underground stations - follow signs for Borough High Street to exit. Please [click here](#) for a map.

Just moments walk from the Thames, the Art Academy is also ideally located for access to:

White Cube
Tate Modern
Jerwood Gallery

If you would like to make the most of the area a member of the team will be happy to advise you on areas of interest locally.



Refreshments & Facilities

All students have access to the common room located in the Barn, on the ground floor of the Mermaid Court building. Here you will have use of a fridge, kettle, microwave and eating area.

There is a wealth of supermarkets, shops and cafes in the area as well as the world-famous Borough Food Market, five minutes walk away.

Disabled Access

We make every effort to accommodate students' access requirements, but if you have mobility issues, please speak to a member of the Academy team before your course starts.

Further Details

- You will need to have paid in full for your class before the first session of your class, your place is not guaranteed until we have received payment.
- If you purchased a materials pack online this will be given to you on the first session of your course upon your arrival.
- Ensure that you wear old clothing, as you may get messy!
- All artwork at the Academy MUST be taken home at the end of the course.
- Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off, or is on silent, during the class.
- Please read the Health and Safety Guidelines carefully, provided at the beginning of

your course.

- If you wish to join any class for the next term please contact the office to re-book. Classes are becoming increasingly popular, so please book early in order to guarantee your place.
- If you have any further queries let us know and we will do our best to resolve them. Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to seeing you.