



Course Title	Portrait Sculpture Masterclass
Tutor	David Klein MRBS SPS
Day & time	Monday to Thursday, 10am to 5pm
Dates	10/04/2017-13/04/2017
Course Code	SC1603053
Level	Suitable for over-17s. Intermediate to Advanced students only please.
Cost	£275



What is this course about?

Portrait sculpture is an immensely absorbing and enjoyable discovery with every new sitter. This course aims to build upon your previous experience [Intermediate/Advanced] to further how to observe and translate your observation into a clay portrait sculpture from a life model. Refresh, renew or find alternative ways of looking through group and individual discussion with your tutor, David Klein, member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors (MRBS) and the Society of Portrait Sculptors (SPS). Whether setting out a portrait head from a structural point of view with a clear path of constructive method and/or searching for a more expressive manner of approach, you will benefit from exploring with a professional sculptor to help build upon your own sculptural experience.

David Klein hopes to impart a few of the tools he has learnt and explore on this course that wonderful tension between finely rendered form and unworked chaos. Portraiture is a search. This search for form, truth and personality requires tools. From the force of the neck into the weight of the head, which in so many ways defines and marks exceptional sculpture. This course will explore the structure, turning points of form, emphasis and simplification.

There will be the option to leave your finished sculpture for hollowing and firing for an additional fee.

What topics do we cover?

This course will explore how to search for form and develop tools to create tension between fine rendering and unwork chaos.

- Set-up a life-size portrait from the force of the neck into weight of the head
- Set a datum for all measurements to be based
- Discover the contrast of worked and unworked elements to heighten

- Explore the structure, turning points of form, surface manipulation, emphasis and simplification
- Discussion on 'when to stop'

By the end of this course you will have:

- Built-up one life-size portrait head in clay
- Gained confidence in using a basic measurement system to set up the form of the head
- Explored the tension between finely rendered form and unworked chaos

About your tutor

David Klein MRBS SPS was born in 1962. He started his working life in engineering, during which time he was fortunate to meet the sculptor John Jennings, and later become his assistant. This experience led him to make the bold step to further realise his passion for sculpting, by doing a Fine Art degree at Staffordshire University, from 1992-1994.

He continued his studies with a further two years at the Frink School of Sculpture doing a postgraduate course in figurative sculpting, from 1994-1996.

David now lives and carves on the South Coast of England, close to the quarries where he personally sources his materials.

'David's core belief is in form, and form is the beating heart of sculpture. His works is filled with life and bursting with energy. He has anchored his understanding in the things that matter and joins the select company of young sculptors who will make a real difference.' (Martin Jennings FRBS, 2007)

David says of his work "Carving limestone is like carving through time, slowly revealing the sedimentary layers of this Jurassic rock which was laid down 600 million years ago under the sea."

David has now had 6 solo exhibitions at the Thackeray Gallery and in 2007 showed his work at the V&A. In 2010 he was elected a member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors (MRBS) and the Society of Portrait Sculptors (SPS). With the superb mentoring by Brian Taylor, David won the 'Freakley Prize' for outstanding portraiture and the masterclass prize at the Cork Street show. [David Klein's website](#)

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

Intermediate and Advanced. You will have experience in portrait sculpture and working from a model. Please get in touch with the office if you would like a discussion on this.

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

During the five days you will be sculpting a live sitter. Concentrated modeling will be interspersed with exercises - with clay and without - to help train up the eye and hands. Your experienced tutor will support you throughout the course in both group sessions and one-to-one support providing daily feedback, critique and constructive advice. Each course ends in a final round-up session and should you wish for any specific feedback or support, please speak with your tutor at the start of your course.

When I've finished, what course can I do next?

There are a variety of courses available as short courses over the Easter and the Summer holidays, also a wide range of evening classes, such as creative sculpture, stone carving,

ceramics, figure sculpture etc.

If you have more time available, huge development can be made in your practice by attending one of our part time day classes in drawing and painting, or our certificate and diploma programmes. Please see all the options available on our web site.

<http://artacademy.org.uk/short-courses/>

<http://artacademy.org.uk/part-time/certificate>

<http://artacademy.org.uk/part-time/>

What else should I bring each lesson?

You should bring as much from the below list as possible. In some cases we can provide selected equipment:

- Wooden and/or metal modeling tools
- Callipers for measuring (medium-sized)
- Metal ruler and/or tape measure
- Wire cutter
- Water spray bottle
- Cocktail sticks
- Barbecue sticks
- Masking tape
- Hand-held mirror
- Black bin liner
- Drawing implement (pencil, pen, or charcoal)
- Sketchpad / loose leaf paper
- Apron or old clothing
- Camera for documenting your progress

Note: you will need to bring your own life-size bust-peg/armature if you wish to take away your work and are not leaving it to be hollowed out and fired.

Are there any other costs?

Hollowing and Firing

At the end of the course students are given the option to leave their sculptures for hollowing and firing. There is a charge of £20 for hollowing and £20 for firing. Hollowing is necessary before a piece can be fired and the piece should normally be ready for collection about 6-8 weeks after the course ends. This is payable by cash or cheque only before leaving the course. A form will need to be completed. There is a cashpoint nearby at Sainsbury's.

Students wishing to take their sculpture away **must bring their own bust peg please.** The Art Academy provides bust pegs for the course, which cannot be taken away as these are needed for future courses. There will not be an option to purchase these. You would need to decide how you are going to take your sculpture home (if you are not leaving for hollowing and firing). The best way is to carry in the boot of a car with ballast to weigh-down the base (bags of clay are ideal) or on the backseat with a pillow between the sculpture and car seat.

Daily breakdown

Courses at the Art Academy offer a structured approach to ensure specific subjects, skills and methods are covered. Below is a daily breakdown of what will be covered. 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.

Day	Date	Topic/skills covered	Location and Tutor	What to bring	Model
1	10 April	<p>AM: Demonstration of specific form of simple amature construction developed by David, allowing the versatility of hollowing out and firing the clay or casting. Also setting a datum for all measurements to be based - a technique learned from Brian Taylor. (An hour and a half). Followed by a quick description of the approach allowing the contrast of worked and unworked elements to heighten. David will be doing his own portrait to demonstrate techniques and bring to life the philosophy.</p> <p>PM: Commence work with the model proper including basic instruction of the dynamic nature of clays properties and possibilities using drying techniques.</p> <p>Discuss option to have work hollowed and fired by The Art Academy after the course - Fees apply £20 hollow, £20 firing - total £40.</p>	Studio 1 David Klein	<p>Bust-pegs are provided [please bring your own if you wish to take it away at the end of the course if not leaving for hollowing and firing at The Art Academy].</p> <p>See also list above</p>	Model A
2	11 April	AM/PM : Working into the portrait with specific attention to turning points in the form, the structure and the concepts of simplification and emphasis, including demonstrations of tool work measurement and surface manipulation.	Studio 1 David Klein	See list above	Model A
3	12 April	Consolidation of principles with further work into portrait	Studio 1 David	See list above	Model A

			Klein		
4	13 April	AM: further work PM: portrait finish with discussion of casting and firing options and `when to stop` discussion Hollowing out and firing procedure discussed Select option to have work hollowed and fired by The Art Academy Fees apply £20 hollow, £20 firing - total £40.	Studio 1 David Klein	See list above Sculpture can be left for hollowing and firing If not, document with photos and dismantle clay from bust peg. Sculptures can only be taken home if you have provided your own bust peg.	Model A

Resources & Further Reading

Relevant artists for research: Michelangelo, Rysbrack, Roubiliac, Rodin, Claudel, Frink, Epstein, Messerschmidt, Dobson, Brancusi, Dora Gordine and other contemporary artists like Mark Quinn, Ron Mueck, Suzie Zamit, Brian Taylor and Etienne Millner.

Also recommended:

- The Society of Portrait Sculptors has a useful website (www.portrait-sculpture.org) and a new DVD that documents the techniques of four of the Society's senior members (Paul Fletcher, Neal French, Vlasta Prachaticka, and the late Brian Taylor). Note that Society's Annual Open exhibition includes the Tiranti prize for young sculptors (under 30s)
- The National Portrait Gallery (<http://www.npg.org.uk/>) has some very interesting portrait sculptures in its collection
- Look at the Royal British Society of Sculptors website www.rbs.org.uk

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. To help ensure you are fully prepared and make the best of your time with us you will find lots of information in this pack that will help. 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) 207407 6969

Email: info@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. Please 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.

Mermaid Court
165A Borough High Street
London SE1 1HR

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.

Should you have any access requirements please speak to a member of the Academy team before your course starts.

Further Details

- o 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.
- o Ensure that you wear old clothing, as you may get messy!
- o All artwork at the Academy MUST be taken home at the end of the course.
- o Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off, or is on silent, during the class.
- o Please read the Health and Safety Guidelines carefully, provided at the beginning of your course.
- o If you have any further queries let us know and we will do our best to resolve them. Thank you for your co-operation, we look forward to seeing you on the first day of term.

