

Elective Skills Workshop Course

Course Title	Self Portrait
Tutor	Clae Eastgate
Studio Session Dates	Tuesdays; 19th April - 14th June 2022 No Reading Week
Session Times	10:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Course Code	E2103P27
Studio	Studio 2
Materials Fee	£10* (See below)

Course overview

This course explores painting using ourselves as subject matter, from direct observation, photography or other mediums. You'll generate images by examining different aspects of yourself; through ideas of identity, gender, social and familial connections, memories, aspirations and even through the use of costume and allusion. You'll start with the technical aspects of painting, looking at the complications that arise and possible solutions, from which you can begin to adopt approaches that best suit you.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

Analyse the work of others and apply findings to their own work.

Create self portraits from observation and photographs.

Explore colour, tone and mark making through the creation of self portraits.

Describe how the quality of paint, colour, tone and mark making can affect an image and it's potential reading and apply knowledge to their own work.

Design composition through controlled staging.

Create narrative in portrait painting through the incorporation of costume and symbolism.

Research, plan and realise a self initiated project

Apply safe-working practices at all times.

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

This course is suitable for intermediate students with some experience of painting.

About your tutor

Clae Eastgate is a portrait painter who lives and works between Shropshire and London. She has over 18 years experience creating projects and commissions for private clients, collectors and institutions. Her portraits have been included in the BP Award exhibition and Ruth Borchard Self Portrait exhibitions. Noted subjects are former Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy, former Scotts Makar Jackie Kay, Dame Jane Goodall and her Majesty the Queen commissioned by the Kennel Club. Her work is in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery permanent collection with another portrait currently in acquisition for a permanent collection. Her current projects are Painting the Poets - a series of painted portraits featuring some of the UK's finest contemporary poets to be shown in various venues and galleries around the UK and The 4th Age – a collection of portraits featuring people of note now in their 80+ years. She has run portrait painting workshops for several years in collaboration with Cass Art as well as privately, both online and from her London studio.

Weekly breakdown

Below is a weekly breakdown of what will be covered. Please bear in mind that these sessions will move with the pace of the group, so a degree of flexibility of what will be covered on which day will be employed.

Wk	Date	Topic/Activity	Location & Tutor	What to bring
1	19th April	<p>Introduction to self portraiture - why artists paint themselves.</p> <p>You will be asked to make a painted representation of yourself during the day so your tutor can assess your level and establish what narrative or formal concerns you will be exploring in the course. We will discuss the images and talk about what will be needed in the following weeks.</p>	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	<p>Canvas or board 12"x 10" AT LEAST, painted a mid grey ground.</p> <p>Oil painting equipment (see below)</p>
2	26th April	<p>You will be working with mirrors in order to create small studies from unfamiliar angles. We will discuss how we can depict ourselves in unexpected ways, using colour and tone suggestive of atmosphere, character and intent.</p>	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	<p>6 pieces cut canvas 12" x 10" from roll, provided for all students £10</p> <p>Mirror</p> <p>Oil painting equipment (see below)</p>
3	3rd May	<p>You will be making a painting from a "found" image of yourself, adapting to working from photographs and playing with the feel of the historic, nostalgic or a specific time in your life. Introducing the idea of narrative and different use of other reference material.</p>	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	<p>As Week 1 above (plus photographs) or sheets of cut, primed canvas</p>
4	10th May	<p>AM - Slides showing artists self portraits. Discuss their approach and ideas.</p> <p>PM - We will work with the camera to create scenarios, exploring narrative and compositional layout to use as templates for painting. You will be advised on lighting composition and ideas and start a two week painting.</p>	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	<p>Camera</p> <p>Sketchbook, drawing equipment.</p> <p>Larger size canvas or board</p>
5	17th May	<p>Develop the idea for the self portrait from last week's photographic exploration, laying out composition.</p>	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	<p>Oil painting equipment (see below)</p>
6	24th May	<p>Complete the self portrait from last week.</p>	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	<p>As above</p>

7	31st May	<p>AM - Looking (virtually) at a series of works from the collection of the National Portrait Gallery to look at/draw work picking one example to reinterpret. We will discuss context, composition, technique and intent of the artwork, better understanding the choices made and further exploring ideas and narratives.</p> <p>PM - You will sketch out a composition for a self portrait using a larger scale than previously, covering the areas discussed. You may draw on ideas from NPG collection choice or previous weeks photographic references old and new.</p>	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	<p>Sketchbook, drawing equipment</p> <p>Larger size canvas or board and oil painting equipment</p>
8	7th June	Continue the artwork started in last week's session. Developing technique and handling of paint to support the key elements of intent within the artwork.	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	Oil painting equipment
9	14th June	Conclude the artworks. Assess and discuss the course work	Clae Eastgate Studio 2	As above

Preparation Requirements & Additional Costs

YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN MATERIALS

*The course incurs a small fee for 6 cut canvases at £10, payable at the start of the course.

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. You must provide your 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).

You will need to bring the following:

- 1 canvas or board 20 inches x 18 inches approx. - The canvas if shop-bought and ready primed should be prepared with a ground of turps thinned, warm-grey, oil paint, which should be dry and ready for use. If bringing a gessoed board, this should have a similar ground applied.
- A mirror
- Oil paints which the student are used to working with
- A palette - at least A4 in size
- Palette knife
- Brushes:
 - A range of flat or filbert hog hair bristle brushes (small to large)
 - Synthetic, (as above) if preferred
- Digital (SLR) camera if possible
- Only odorless spirits, Sansodor or Zest-it (the Academy is a white spirit free environment)
- Jam jar x 2 or receptacle for turps/linseed oil
- Old newspaper and protective clothing
- Pencils/charcoal/pen and ink etc... any drawing equipment the students usually use.

Oil paints: Titanium White
Lemon Yellow or Cadmium Lemon
Yellow Ochre
Cadmium Red
Alizarin Crimson
Manganese Violet

Ultramarine Blue
 Cobalt Blue
 Sap Green
 Viridian Green
 Raw Umber

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** (£75.00) 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.

Resources & Further Reading

Please note reading lists are suggested, not required.

Author	Year	Title	Publisher	Location

Other useful resources (websites, galleries etc)

National Portrait Gallery www.npg.org.uk

BP Portrait Award. Good collection past and present and a well stocked bookshop.

Scottish National Portrait Gallery

[Link to their self-portrait collection here](#)

British Museum www.britishmuseum.org/reference

The museum has a vast collection of drawings from Michelangelo to Antony Gormley. Any image can be viewed from the database and printed off. Fantastic Print Study Room where you have access to a vast collection of drawings. Opening times: Mon – Fri 10.00-13.00 and 14.15-16.00

National Gallery www.nationalgallery.org.uk

Look for the wonderful Rembrandt self-portraits

Artists to look at for drawing: Kathe Kollwitz, Albrecht Durer, Egon Schiele

Artists to look at for painting: Rembrandt, Helene Schjerfbeck, Stanley Spencer, Frida Kahlo,

Artists to look at for photography: Cindy Sherman, Claude Cahun, David Uzochukwu, Francesca Woodman