

Abstracting Nature - Watercolour and Mixed Media

Tutor : Lynne Brown

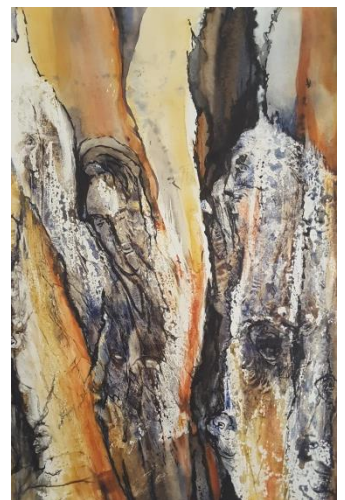
Saturday 20 Feb 9:30-3:30

Nature is full of fascinating patterns, shapes and textures which can form the basis for wonderful semi-abstract and abstract works of art. Think lichen on rocks, bark on trees and kelp waving in water: the possibilities are exciting and endless!

In this one-day workshop we will explore ways to use watercolour and mixed media to capture the essence of our subject in a more abstract way and produce artworks that are vibrant and exciting.

In this workshop we will:

- aim to produce one or two finished paintings to take home by the end of the day
- cover the basics of composition, abstraction, design and colour
- look at the creative use of photos and the importance of your own interpretation. This will include how to take photos with abstract qualities in mind and how to manipulate them in apps such as Snapseed and PicsArt to help you compose effectively and see abstractly
- look at ways to simplify and avoid overworking
- have fun incorporating other media into watercolour such as acrylics, ink, pastel and charcoal
- try lots of techniques to add texture and surface interest.



What to bring:

The tutor will supply lots of the materials needed to try different techniques, however please bring:

- Artist's quality watercolour tube paints (dry pans will not work for this workshop). I use Ultramarine Blue; Phthalo Blue; Permanent Alizarin Crimson or Permanent Rose; Burnt Sienna; Raw Sienna or Yellow Ochre; a warm yellow such as New Gamboge or Quinacridone Gold; Indigo or Payne's Grey.
- A white pigment ink/ gel pen such as UniBall Signo broad
- Brushes – A selection of watercolour brushes plus several old brushes including bristle and gesso brushes if you have them
- Good quality 300gsm cotton watercolour paper, medium (cold press) texture. We will be working large so you will need at least two half-sheets (approx. 58 x 38cm). The cheapest way to buy this would be to purchase a full sheet (rather than a pad) from Artery or AdArt. Ask the staff for advice if you are not sure.
- Plenty of scrap drawing paper and pieces of watercolour paper to try things out
- Scissors
- At least two small dishes for mixing

- Your usual watercolour painting kit
- Backing board for your paper
- masking tape
- A large white palette, tile or plate
- A 2B pencil and eraser
- Tissues or bamboo cloths
- An apron - or wear old clothes!

