



mission
RESTAURANT & BAR

A NEW DIMENSION IN ART WORKSHOPS

NG Art is excited to present a dynamic series of artist workshops taking place in the NG Art Gallery, 3 Little Queen Street, Chippendale.

Increase your creativity and imagination with some of Australia's most established and talented artists. Explore a variety of mediums, and become exposed to a diverse range of artistic styles in a comfortable and relaxed gallery setting.

These workshops suit all levels of experience, beginners welcome! HSC students also welcome.

Evening workshops commence at 6pm & run for 2.5 hrs. Following there will be a 2 course dinner downstairs at Mission Restaurant Bar which includes a glass of wine. Cost: \$85

Saturday workshops commence at 12pm & run for 2.5 hrs*. Following there will be a 2 course lunch downstairs at Mission Restaurant Bar which includes a glass of wine. Cost: \$85*

Mission Restaurant Bar is included in the 2009 Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide.

Street parking available with no time restrictions.

No materials needed - just bring yourselves - all art supplies, easels, equipment and model fees are included in the cost. We suggest that you wear an apron and or a big baggy shirt to protect your clothing.

Workshops generously sponsored by
Winsor & Newton Finest Artists' Materials



WORKSHOP CALENDER 2009

Wednesday 15 July 09
6pm start

Eric Lobbecke
DON'T FEAR THE BLANK PAGE!

This workshop will focus on observation, structure and drawing quickly, so the time will be used mark making and rendering a subject without stressing about the result. The emphasis will be on figure drawing with pencil and charcoal, and the techniques shown will be useful to break away the fear of standing in front of a blank page.

Eric Lobbecke has been a political cartoonist for the last 20 years for publications including The Australian and the Daily Telegraph, with his first solo exhibition in early 2009, with a collection of works on canvas at NG Art Gallery. Eric is the winner of several prestigious drawing prizes, has illustrated childrens books and his work is held in major public collections in Austrailia. Eric Lobbecke is represented by NG Art Gallery.

Saturday 18 July 09
12 noon start

Kerrie Lester
INTEGRATING MIXED MEDIA & COLLAGE

Interpret the landscape through the joy of collage, working with a diverse range of craft materials and inspiring found objects. Students are encouraged to bring a collection of items to work with. Kerrie will show you how to work with unorthodox materials to represent the landscape from new perspectives, to create new interpretations and forms.

Kerrie Lester is renowned for her distinctive stitched canvas paintings, offering a unique perspective on her immediate environment and surroundings. Kerrie has been a finalist for multiple years in the prestigious Archibald Prize, her work is held in collections across the country and she regularly lectures at colleges and universities. Kerrie Lester is represented by Australian Galleries.

Wednesday 22 July 09
6pm start

Ann Cape
DRAWING THE FACE

Ann will help develop your understanding of the structure of the face and head, assisting you in exploring the art of portraiture. Exercises and technique studies are

designed for you to increase your understanding of the human face.

Ann Cape is an acclaimed figurative painter, has exhibited widely in Australia and has been selected a number of times as a finalist in the Archibald Prize, Salon de Refuses, the Portia Geach Portrait Award and Blake Prize. Her work is held in private and corporate collections in Australia and overseas. Ann Cape is represented by NG Art Gallery.

Saturday 15 August 09
12 noon start

Lydia Miller
COASTAL INSPIRATIONS

Participants will need to bring a favourite photo(s) of an Australian or overseas coast, along with an open mind. Lydia will first discuss the various approaches and compositions you could consider, before showing the class how to create a 'traditional', 'semi-abstract' or 'abstract' painting using acrylic paints and various brushes and palette knives.

Lydia has been painting professionally for over 20 years. Much of her work is inspired by the landscapes of Asia and the Australian outback. She has completed portraits for several leading political and academic figures and her work is held in private collections in Australia and overseas. Lydia Miler is represented by NG Art Gallery.

Wednesday 19 August 09
6pm start

Rachel Fairfax
INTERPRETING THE AUSTRALIAN LANDSCAPE

Paint from your favourite photograph, painting, or drawing of a landscape. Learn about composition, form, light and colour, referencing the Australian masters including Ian Fairweather, John Passmore, Arthur Streeton, Grace Cossington Smith and Tom Roberts.

Rachel Fairfax is an expressive figurative painter who has exhibited across Australia. Her work is held in a number of important collections, including ArtBank, Ray Hughes Gallery and Tetsuya's restaurant in Sydney. She currently teaches at the National Art School and other private colleges. Rachel Fairfax is represented by Ray Hughes Gallery.

Wednesday 2 September

6pm start

Bernard Ollis **TRAVEL IMAGES**

Sketch books and visual diaries are great places to record moments in time. Working in crayons, pastels and coloured pencils, this workshop will show you how you can make observations about your environment whilst on the move. Students are asked to bring photographs or magazine reproductions of their favourite places, local or international.

Bernard Ollis has held over 40 solo exhibitions throughout Australia and internationally. He has been a finalist in both the Sulman Prize and Dobell Drawing Prize and his work is held in numerous public collections. For ten years he was the Director of the National Art School before he decided in 2008 to concentrate full time on his own art practice. Bernard Ollis is represented by NG Art Gallery.

Wednesday 30 September 09

6pm start

Yaeli Ohana **SECRETS OF COLOUR MIXING**

Bring along two photographs of landscapes, that have colours you particularly enjoy. Learn about choosing and applying colour to canvas, whilst learning aspects of basic colour theory, how to create convincing colour matches. Have fun in the process and end up with a finished painting to hang on your wall.

Yaeli Ohana is known for her delicate approach to the canvas, works enriched with ancient texts and poetry. She has exhibited throughout Australia and New York. Her work has been selected for multiple major prizes and she currently teaches at universities and colleges throughout Sydney. Yaeli Ohana is represented by NG Art Gallery.

Saturday 17 October

12 noon start

Moshe Rosenzweig **WHAT MAKES A WINNING PORTRAIT? HOW TO TAKE ONE**

Starting with an exploration of personal family photos taken by well known photographers, renowned photographer Moshe Rosenzweig will work through the artistic and technical features of a winning portrait.

Moshe Rosenzweig is a photojournalist, commercial photographer, educator and an award winning television producer/director, whose career in the visual arts and the media spans over 30 years. He is also the curator and founder of the prestigious Head On Portrait Prize, one of

Australia's major innovative annual photographic portrait competitions.

Saturday 31 October 09

3pm start

***This is a special 4 hour workshop, cost \$120**

Mai Long **MONGREL KOSMOS**

The work is produced as a time-based ritual designed to free the participants from pre-conceived ideas of aesthetics and perfection by working with the specific materials provided. The process involves the 3D reconstruction and modeling, painting and decorating of a supplied calico bear, creating a cheeky second identity as a mongrel dog.

Australian sculptor and installation artist Mai Long makes bold, fresh work that questions many of the multi-cultural stereotypes that she has encountered throughout her life. Mai works primarily in papier mache installations and her work has been exhibited throughout Australia and is held in the Casula Powerhouse collection. Mai Long is represented by NG Art Gallery.

Wednesday 4 November 09

6pm start

Steve Lopes **PAINTING NATURALLY**

By utilising a selection of natural history specimens, bones, fossils and other objects, Steve Lopes will offer participants tips on how to approach the process of painting imaginatively and create interest in their work. Participants will explore the particular patterns, rhythms, shapes and colours of the objects, learn how to combine these elements and develop images in their own individual styles.

Steve Lopes is regarded as one of the country's most promising figurative artists working with paint and print processes. The inhabitants of Lopes' landscapes come filled with hope, often in the processes of regenerative cathartic actions in various symbolic meditative states. He has shown his work internationally and is represented by Stellar Downer Fine Art.

Wednesday 11 November 09

6pm start

Johnny Romeo **POP, SYMBOLISM & STENCILS: Pure Pop Painting**

This workshop utilizes rhythmic blending of word, symbol

and image to create pure pop images from daily life. It fuses acrylics, spray paint, stencils and lettering to create works that have an urban street feel with intensity.

Acclaimed as a bombastic neo expressionist pure pop painter with a lot to say about modern life, Johnny Romeo's work deals with the way we construct our identities via the array of images that make-up popular culture. His work is held in numerous public and private collections. Johnny Romeo is represented by NG Art Gallery.

Wednesday 18 November 09

6pm start

Juliet Holmes a Court **GLORIOUS COLOUR**

The freedom, the movement, the cacophony of colour, are the celebration of Kandinsky who painted in the early 1900s, still throw challenges us today. Join Juliet Holmes a Court and create an abstract painting, that happily embraces a figurative beginning, and glows in glorious colour.

Juliet's work is marked by a preoccupation with the figure and landscape as essential ingredients of complex allegories that expose the frailties and excesses of the human condition. She lectures at the Art Gallery of NSW, amongst other private colleges and her work is held in multiple collections across Australia. Juliet Holmes a Court is represented by Australian Galleries.

SPECIAL OFFER

Purchase 10 workshops and receive a 10% discount.

Purchase 5 workshops and receive a 5% discount.

10% discount for all students.

Gift vouchers also available.

Bookings and pre-payment essential.

Phone **02 9318 2992** and book yourself a spot in one of these very special workshops.

Please note that all workshops are subject to minimum student numbers in order to proceed. If a scheduled workshop does not reach the required enrolment numbers, it will not be able to go ahead.

NG Art Gallery & Mission Restaurant Bar

3 Little Queen Street
Chippendale NSW 2008
Phone. 02 9318 2992/0815
www.ngart.com.au
www.missionbar.com.au



Imitating life ... students focus on model Tania Castaing; and (below) artist Wendy Sharpe, on floor, with the class.
Photos: Edwina Pickles

PERFECTLY AT EASEL

LOUISE SCHWARTZKOFF MAKES A FEW SMUDGES IN A BID TO UNLEASH HER INNER ARTIST.

ARTISTS, as a rule, are a grubby lot. Their studios are cluttered, their fingernails a disgrace and their clothes invariably spattered with paint.

When I sign up for a figure-drawing class with artist Wendy Sharpe, I want to look the part. An old business shirt I used to wear in high school art class fits the bill. It is still flecked with dried paint and glue.

There is not much to be done about my clean, straight-from-the-office hands but if I shove them into my pockets I look as though I spend my days in the studio and my nights drinking cheap red wine and discussing post-colonial relativism.

The NG Art Gallery in Chippendale is crowded with 15 easels, ready for a mixed bag of pupils from beginners like me to professional artists.

I am pleased to see Sharpe's hands are black with charcoal. She is relaxed and friendly as she introduces herself and model Tania Castaing but it is impossible not to feel a little awed. This is an artist who has won the Archibald Prize, the Sulman Prize and, twice, the Portia Geach Memorial Prize. She paints all over the world and once worked in East Timor as a war artist. If she can't teach me, no one can.

For the next 2½ hours Tania will pose in various positions for the class to sketch. But first, a demonstration.

In pink, yellow and green pastel, Wendy creates a vaguely Tania-shaped figure. The trick, she tells us, is to focus on the whole, rather than individual body parts. "What we are not doing is starting with one bosom,

then attaching the rest," she says. "Get all the shapes blocked in, then you can start to build up and put in a bit of tone and shading. Gradually work around and around, slowly building it up."

It is convincing advice because in a few minutes the drawing has grown from a few indistinct blobs into an excellent likeness. "A weird, rather clown-like Tania" Wendy calls it but to me it looks pretty damn good.

One more lesson before we hit the easels: how to measure proportions. Holding a pencil vertically at arm's length, Wendy measures Tania's height (two-and-a-bit pencils), then turns it to take her width (about a third of a pencil).

"We are trying to look at everything in relation to everything else," she says. "How wide is Tania compared to how high? How big is this compared to that?"

It makes sense in theory but I am not quite clear on the pencil thing. When Tania strips down to a long green skirt, black bra and glittering green mask with feathers, I take her dimensions with a stick of charcoal. Nevertheless, after five minutes of drawing, my pastel sketch has turned Tania's curvy body into an elongated skeleton, as angular as an Indonesian shadow puppet.

There is no time for mortification because Tania has changed into a yellow skirt and Arabian-style headdress with a pink veil.

Somehow, her tranquillity eases my nerves. If she can strip in a crowded room, surely I can cope with the exposure of my artistic shortcomings?

This time, I forget about measuring and estimate the proportions. The skirt flows over the knees in a wonky yellow triangle and the veil is a long swathe of pink. There is

nothing resembling a skin colour in my box of pastels, so I make do with orange and hope for the best. Wendy wants us to avoid line, building detail with blocks of colour and shading. It's tricky.

I cheat and use line to show the toes, legs and folds of material. It doesn't look much like Tania but at least it looks human.

"Good," Wendy says over my shoulder. "Just make that leg a little thicker – there. Yes, very nice."

Several sketches later, it is time for the evening's final task: a half-hour drawing of a seated Tania in red and black trousers.

Things are not going well at my easel. Tania's buttocks have inflated alarmingly. Thickening the thighs makes it worse. Her derriere looks like a beach ball perched on a plinth. Sorry, Tania. When Wendy asks us to lay our work on the floor, I am not the only one avoiding her eyes.

Once I overcome my embarrassment, though, it's fascinating to see so many different versions of the same sight. There is a beautiful soft Tania, a hazy Tania, a very realistic Tania and a stylised Tania. And a fat Tania, of course. Sorry again.

Wendy has something nice to say about them all. I'm chuffed to hear mine called "a nice, strong drawing".

The evening ends with a meal and a glass of wine at the gallery's restaurant.

As I wash my hands to eat, the water turns a satisfying shade of brown. My shirt is dirtier than ever and there is a smudge of charcoal on my forehead.

Perhaps I am an artist after all.



you try it

There are four classes left in the workshop series at NG Art Gallery, 3 Little Queen Street, Chippendale. They are with artists Ann Cape (Wednesday, 6pm), Kerrie Lester (May 20, 6pm), Johnny Romeo (May 23, 12.30pm) and Rachel Fairfax (May 27, 6pm). Evening workshops and dinner, \$75; afternoon workshop and lunch, \$35. Book on 9318 2992. See ngart.com.au.