

Start-Up: Introduction to Oil Painting *with Matthew Carter*

Topics/ Skills covered

Handling oil paint: Students will learn about the essentials of the materials and tools; oil paint, how to mix it, your palette and palette knife, mediums, supports and grounds.

Tone: Working with a limited tonal palette, students will practice mixing and applying paint. Working from the still life, students will learn how to draw the forms for painting and develop a basic tonal underpainting.

Tonal Portrait: Working with a limited tonal palette, students will practice mixing and applying paint. Using a photograph, students will learn how to draw out the forms of the portrait and develop a basic tonal underpainting.

Colour: After a basic introduction to mixing colours, students will work from a simple still life. The focus will be on developing an understanding of how colour works; looking at colour relativity, complementary colours, mixing neutral colours.

Interior: For this project students will expand their view to a larger interior within the studio. We will practice sighting and other skills that artists use as well as continuing our discovery of the nature of oil paint.

Colour, Texture, Paint Application: Using a still life students will be encouraged to think about mark making and the application of paint. We will explore how these approaches can be used to give a sense of what an object both looks and feels like.

Landscape/ Urbanscape: For this project students are asked to bring in printouts of a landscape or cityscape that appeals to them. These can be photographs you have taken or images taken from the internet. Included in this project will be to gain an understanding of perspective and creating a sense of space and depth within your painting.

Portraits: Looking at varied examples of portrait paintings and the use of tone, colour and mark-making to paint a convincing and exciting image. Selecting an example to copy to practice mixing flesh colours and gain confidence painting a head.

