

I d e a s t h r o u g h W a t e r c o l o u r

In this online course series, watercolour is used as a vehicle to explore themes, ideas and artists relating to landscape and nature as well the physical properties and possibilities of the material itself. (Course structure explained below)

19 April – 21 June 2021

S p r i n g

Aligning the course with the exuberance that is Spring.



'This spring as it comes bursts up in bonfires green...'

D H Lawrence

1. 19 April

Colour configurations 1 – edges and boundaries

The first session is always a return to pure watercolour. In this instance, a playful and explorative look at the impact of what happens at the edges and boundaries. How colours can be distinct, overlapping, merging and blending, or separated by a ray of white.



2. 26 April

Optimisms - the love sunrises of Maggi Hambling

Studying the exhilarating energy, colour and technique of these sunrises made while the artist was in love.



Hambling

3. 3 May BELTANE

Getting out into spring - outside drawing and painting.

Loose exercises to capture the exuberance of spring encountered first hand.



Bonnard



Dufy

4. 10 May
Wax transfer technique

Looking at the subtle use of wax pastel in watercolour including via transfer.
Referencing the work of Henry Moore.



Moore

5. 17 May

Painterly blossom, Trees in Bloom - The Life Force of Van Gogh and Monet

Considering their vital energy when faced with spring trees in early leaf or bloom and ways to express this in watercolour.

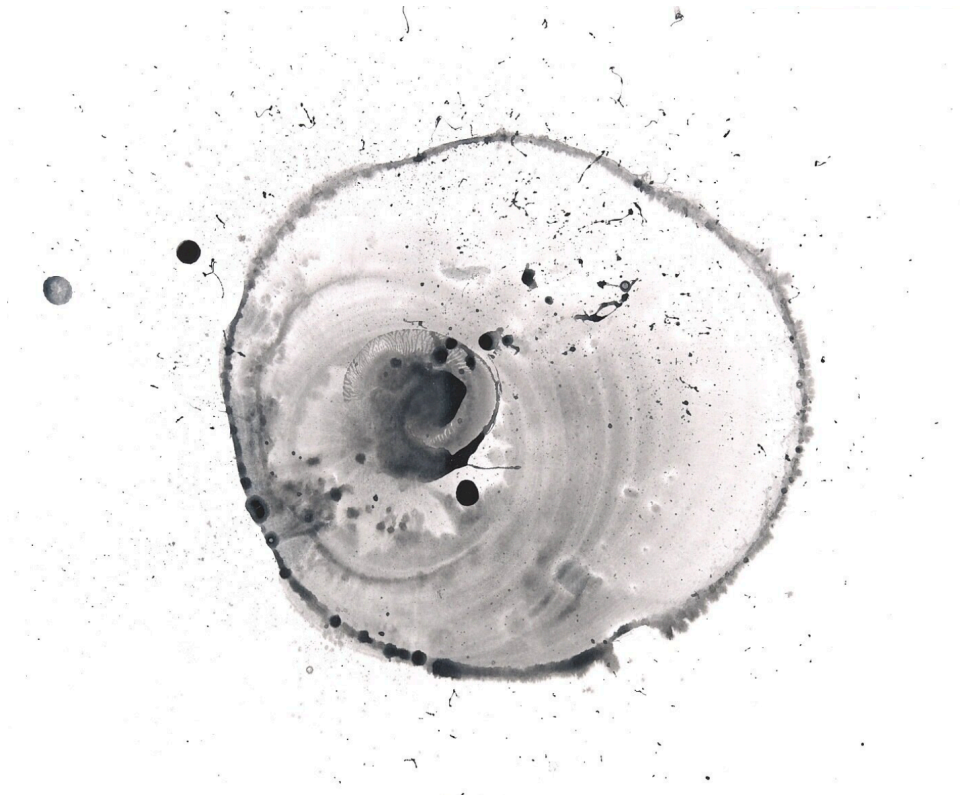


Monet

6. 24 May

Watercolour blooms, referencing new work by Jo Lewis

How watercolour has its own way of blooming and unfurling.

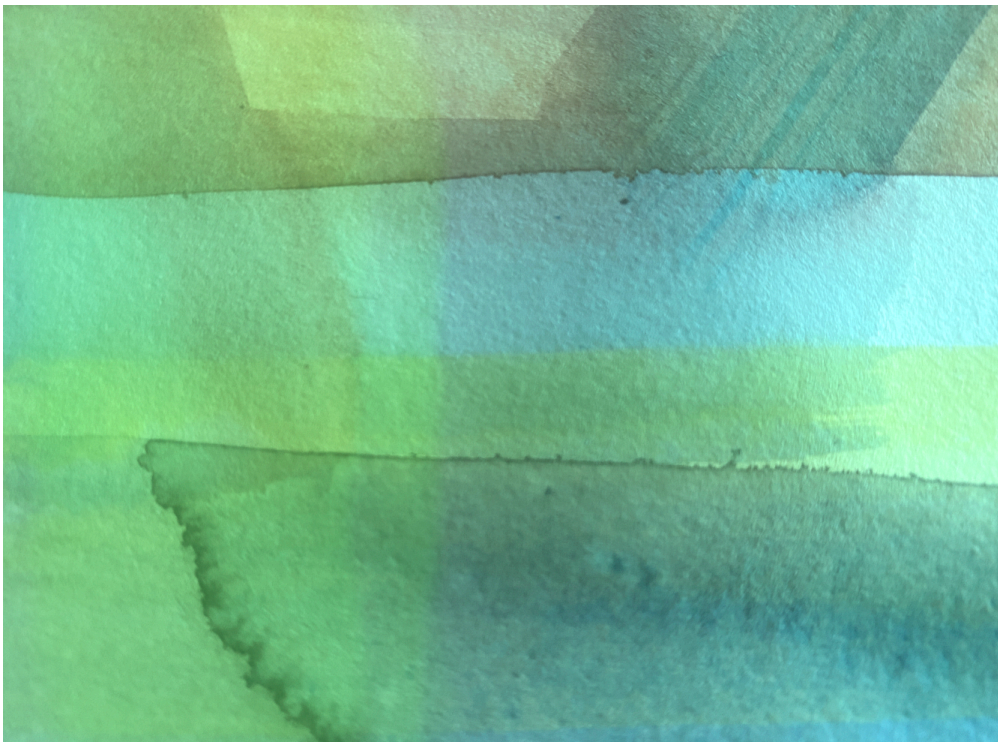


Jo Lewis

7. 31 May

Colour configurations 2 - All manner of Green

Looking at ways of observing and mixing the riot of greens we will be seeing outside.



8. 7 June

Strange blossom - desert trees

Shifting our gaze and thoughts to another side of the world to witness the juxtaposition of trees blooming in the desert.



Yemen, Socotra Bottle trees - photograph by irinaball18

9. 14 June

Personal project

10. 21 June SUMMER SOLSTICE

Curation and presentation of personal project

Course Structure

The course runs on Mondays with possible sessions on Wednesday morning depending on numbers.

The overall group is split into smaller groups of up to seven people and Zoom sessions of 1.5 hours run throughout the day. The exact timings and groups are arranged once all the enrolments are in. Each Zoom session of 1.5 hours has up to six people from the overall group, a good maximum number for sharing feedback with sufficient participation time. It is also a small enough group for people to get to know each other. The 1.5 hours zoom sessions start with students sharing work from the previous week (50-60 minutes) and then after a short break, I introduce the theme and study for the next.

Students send photos of their work to me during the week and I assemble them to present in the following sessions where students talk through their contributions and discuss with the group.

After the session I send through handouts and images for the coming weeks study as well as a pdf with the whole groups work from the previous.