Weaving in and out of abstract, through Landscape

20th July - 23rd September 2020

Looking at artists: Lucy Jones Gerhard Richter Bernd Koberling Barbara Nicholls



Ways into abstract through landscape - and back again.

- A journey into your own abstract language through looking at landscape, and the relationship that these four artists have with landscape and abstraction. On the way we will explore watercolour processes including working with watercolour and crayon, pipette, and puddles that dry over stretches of time.
- Artists frequently abstract landscape, but also find landscape in abstraction.
- We will compare watercolour processes with natural processes in the landscape.
- We will note how landscape already contains abstract patterns and elements.
- Where you elect to sit on the continuum between landscape and abstraction will be your discovery and your choice. Although everyone will try all approaches, some of you will gravitate more towards full abstraction and others will prefer to stay within a recognisable landscape space.

20th (or 22nd) July Lucy Jones

Gestural and expressionistic, Lucy Jones tends towards abstract in her landscapes. She uses mixed media with watercolour including crayon. We will explore this approach.

Zoom session will consist of: presenting the course and this weeks project (as above) with discussion. Students can also show other work and continuing personal projects.



27th (or 29th) July Your landscape - expressionist interpretation

Taking this a step further we look at photographs of landscape from various contributors, myself, yourselves and others to find how we can engage these methods with landscapes we are drawn to.

3rd (or 5th) August Gerhard Richter

Gerhard Richter has a longstanding involvement with landscape and works with it frequently in his large scale oil painting but his watercolours focus more on the abstract concerns of the medium itself. We will look at his layering, runs, drips and use of crayon from a purely abstract point of view.

Zoom session will consist of: Looking at students work from the previous week and presenting this weeks project (as above). Students can also show other work and continuing personal projects.



10th (or 12th) August

The move into abstract

Looking again at photographs of landscape that engage us, try ways to explore them in watercolour using methods learned from Richter that are now yours.

17th (or 19th) August Bernd Koberling

His works are abstract and yet he immerses himself completely into the landscape in order to make them. We will look at this approach and the way he uses watercolour puddles and drawing with a pipette.

Zoom session will consist of: Looking at students work from the previous week and presenting this weeks project (as above). Students can also show other work and continuing personal projects.



24th (or 26th) August Abstract through nature

Although in the previous week you worked totally in the abstract you will chose how you will now proceed, integrating this methodology into landscapes looked at, chosen and and gathered through photography.

31st August (or 2nd September) Barbara Nichols

She works, often very large scale, using puddles that dry over long periods of time. The striata at the edges of the dry puddles echo geological formation in the landscape. We will explore her methods of employing natural processes themselves and discuss the function of time, both in landscape and watercolour.

Zoom session will consist of: Looking at students work from the previous week and presenting this weeks project (as above). Students can also show other work and continuing personal projects.



7th (or 9th) September Landscape process in painting

Looking at landscape images through photography and also discussing natural processes, take this approach into an arena of our own choice.

14th (or 16th) September Personal project

Based on your interpretation of themes presented on the course, bringing in your own ideas and themes to develop a personal project.

Zoom session will consist of: Looking at students work from the previous week and presenting this weeks project (as above). Students can also show other work and continuing personal projects.

21st (or 23rd) September Curation and presentation of personal projects

Zoom session will consist of: Show and tell of personal projects with discussion.

