

# *Josie Brown*

*Calligraphy · Heraldry · Illumination*

## **WORKSHOPS**

**Introduction to any of the major hands** including Foundation, Uncial, Anglo-Saxon Minuscule, Carolingian, Gothic Transitional, Black Letter, various cursive Gothics, a contemporary Legende, formal Humanist, Italic and the many variations of any of these.

**Developing & refining a major hand** – analysing common characteristics and identifying aspects of the script that can be varied, to result in personalised versions of any of the above scripts.

**Traditional techniques** – cutting & curing quills, stretching and preparing vellum, ancient methods of laying gold, painting with egg tempera & decorative elements for manuscripts.

**Designing broadsheets / panels** – the principles and pitfalls, working processes and design elements involved with a large or complex piece of work.

**Brushed lettering for working on fabric** – using broad edged and pointed brushes, FW inks, acrylic & fabric paints.

**Lettering on objects** such as papier mache boxes, terracotta pots or plaques, wood, glass, china etc. This includes developing appropriate lettering for use on these materials.

**Gilding techniques** – many & varied, ancient & modern using loose leaf and transfer leaf gold, flat and raised gilding. Also techniques using copper, aluminium & imitation gold as backgrounds and writing over these.

**Eastern gilding** – an ancient Persian method of preparing gold and how to paint with it in a style not used in Western gilding.

**Simple bookbinding** – a wide range of bindings, mostly using non-adhesive methods, including flat-back single section books; a multitude of different concertina books; multi section Coptic binding; Japanese stab and butterfly bindings, as well as wraps, boxes & slipcases.

**Origami for calligraphers** – a range of tiny books, covers, boxes or envelopes for calligraphy.

**Paper frames** – a really useful workshop showing how to make and decorate frames for pieces of work made from paper covered boards.

**Dptychs & Triptychs** – an alternative presentation for calligraphy: some are entirely non-adhesive using paper, ribbon or piano hinges, whilst others use covered boards.

**Introduction to Heraldic Design** – basic principles for personal use – includes the punning of participants' surnames.

**Decorated Letters** – historical overview related to contemporary techniques and usages, to result in individual approaches to decorating initial letters, using watercolour, gouache and egg tempera.

**Dressed Letters** – this is a whirlwind tour of all sorts of contemporary letters, dressed up in a variety of finery – using lots of different tools, colour mediums and processes to result in a bank of ideas for future use.

**Colour and colour theory** – stepped exercises to really get to grips with using colour with confidence, in any medium.

**Artistic Inspiration for calligraphy** – uses artists' paintings as reference points for style, proportion, colour and ambience in order to kick-start the creative process, offering inspiration for calligraphic interpretation.

**Layering techniques using pastels** – a quick and easy method for sinking lettering behind background colours or other layers of lettering, to create textural & highly atmospheric calligraphy.

**Working Inside-Out Activity** – a workshop to synthesize skills and techniques with instinctive responses, to create work that 'does what it says'.

**Working Backwards Activity** – a musical workshop to break the creative barrier and to utilize the sub-conscious to gain personalised calligraphic scripts.

**Free-Penning** – not for beginners, this workshop teaches skills in advanced penmanship and manipulation techniques in order to achieve free-flowing and individualised scripts.

**Penning a Rainbow** – how to run from one colour to another so that they mix in the pen and on the paper in a fluid manner. This workshop uses both watercolours and gouache and ends with a funny folding thing too!