

Josie Brown

Calligraphy · Heraldry · Illumination

Summer Schools, Spring & Winter Breaks

Josie has tutored summer schools in various locations in past years including South London, Gloucester Arts & Crafts weeks, Marlborough College, at the CLAS Festival, Art in Action Art Courses and Ammerdown Centre. As well as teaching for other organisations, she currently runs her own summer schools at Highnam, just outside Gloucester. The latter have been running annually since 1989 and incorporate an introduction to basic techniques for beginners and more developmental content for those with some experience. Previous titles have included:

Addictive Alphabets & Cavorting Capitals
Colour Conventions & Connections
Animal, Vegetable, Mineral & Metal
Intrepid Italic
Taking a Boardwalk
Between the Covers
Uncials Unravelling
Eastern Enterprises and Exploits

These summer schools tend to have content that can't be crammed into shorter classes, for instance making silk papers; all sorts of different bindings; making screens and triptychs, or our own gesso and paints using local pigments. Visits to local sites of interest or artists' studios are arranged after sessions on two days each week.

For further information contact Josie at josie.brown53@gmail.com

2018 Dates:

11 to 14 June 2018 – Ammerdown Centre: **French-stitch journals and tunnel books.** Suitable for all levels. Beginning with binding soft-back artist's or writer's journal using an attractive French stitch on the spine and then how to make a simple tunnel book. There will be an introduction to Mouse Roman, a fun and easy script suitable for journals, for those who've not yet done it and an exploration of design options for the tunnel books.
See www.ammerdown.org or contact 01761 433 709

9 to 13 July 2018 – Marlborough College Summer School: All levels welcome. Beginners will be introduced to using a broad-edge pen, letterform, layout and using colour. There will be an opportunity to learn about background techniques and how to bind a simple book. Content is

agreed with individuals who already have some experience, for instance - developing a favourite script, learning new techniques such as illumination or embossing, various bindings or lettering on other surfaces. See www.mcsummerschool.org.uk or contact 01672 892388

30 July to 3 August 2018 – Highnam Summer School – Improvers & Advanced levels only. **Calligraphic Cymatics** – using expressive lettering and various painterly techniques to interpret how colour and music resonate closely with each other – exploring interpretation of sound, mood, lyrics and timbre. There will be external visits on two late afternoons for those who wish to participate. Cost: £160/week (bring your own lunch). Details of local B&Bs and other accommodation can be provided on request.

6 to 10 August 2018 – Highnam Summer School – Beginners & Improvers. **Calligraphic Cymatics** – Beginners will be introduced to writing with the broad-edge pen, using colour, learning layout and design skills, and trying out different backgrounds for final pieces of work. Those with previous experience will be using expressive lettering and various painterly techniques to interpret how colour and music resonate closely with each other – exploring interpretation of sound, mood, lyrics and timbre. There will be external visits on two late afternoons for those who wish to participate. Cost: £160/week (bring your own lunch). Details of local B&Bs and other accommodation can be provided on request.

12 to 18 August 2018 – CLAS Festival of Calligraphy, Elim College, Malvern – suitable for all levels. Session 1: Pick ‘n Mix - We often go to pick up our favourite colour medium simply because we like it and tend to know what it does, but is it always the right thing for what we’re trying to achieve? This highly practical session will begin by exploring the properties of a range of mediums at our disposal, their strengths and drawbacks and how their effects have such a bearing on the final artwork. Everyone will create a bank of diverse trials in order to come to conclusions about which work best for a particular desired effect and complete a finished piece using a suitable combination. This will form an invaluable reference for the future to enable fully informed, quick and confident decisions about which medium to pick and which to mix. Session 2: Mix ‘n Match - This session is all about breaking conventions of ornamentation. It’s a safe bet to put together Medieval-like ivy leaf decoration with Versals and a Gothic script; or red dots and Celtic knotwork with a Half Uncial, but is there anything to say that we can’t mix William Morris-style floral patterning with multi-stroke Cadels, or cross continents by matching Islamic arabesque patterns with Neuland lettering? What goes together and what doesn’t? Can stylized ornamentation be mixed with naturalistic? How do we know what looks right or wrong? A series of exercises and discussions will enlighten us all with some of the answers and in undertaking a finished piece, the session will offer a chance to try something quite out of the ordinary and the confidence to mix and match styles of decoration more bravely and imaginatively in the future.

22 to 26 October 2018 – Ammerdown week: All levels welcome. Beginners will be introduced to using the broad edged pen, letterform, layout and using colour. There will be an opportunity to learn about background techniques and simple bindings. Content for those with some experience will be agreed individually through discussing what interests and excites, while concentrating on what is necessary to develop skills and confidence. Contact: www.ammerdown.org or 01761 433709