



“WICKEDLY” SIMPLE WAYS OF WORKING WITH WATERCOLOURS

Welwyn Watercolour Specialist and art correspondent, Fiona Pruden, brings more of her individual – but popular - style of teaching to some brand new audiences in Hertfordshire from September onwards. Over the years Fiona has developed her own ‘wickedly’ simple brand of helping students learn to paint with watercolours.

“.....There is a common misconception that watercolours is the hardest medium to paint with. We work from light to dark, adding more water, not white paint, to lighten a colour and that often creates problems of control.” says Fiona “.... If you learn the basic steps well and practice as much as you can then things start to make sense right from the start and you learn the control you need quickly. There are a few guidelines and phrases that I use to remind students but the way I teach is to simplify everything as much as possible then make sure we all know the brushstrokes and techniques needed to complete the painting. We have a few minutes discussion at the beginning of the class to work out our colours and approach which mainly means agreeing the danger areas and what it is we DON’T want to do to ensure that we end up with the painting that we DO want at the end. Mostly, what we need to ensure is that we retain the transparency of the medium with as much white paper as possible reflecting light through the paint.

I demonstrate sections for students to practice on a bit on rough paper first to build up some confidence and then put everything together for the final painting.....” She explains.

“.....That means everyone has a good idea of what they have to do, in what order and also what not to do. By doing this we tend to end up with fresher, more lively paintings that are loose in approach, harmonious in colours and light in effect, with no over-painting or muddy layers.....”

Fiona teaches three levels of painting:-

- **“Starting Out”** classes are for complete beginners frequently who haven’t painted since school.
- **“Splashing Out”** classes are for people who have mastered the basics and are ready to splash out learning new techniques and building up their knowledge and confidence.



WATERCOLOUR CLASSES

**MEDIA
RELEASE**

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- **“Stretching Out”** classes really are for the more advanced painters who are comfortable with their style and work but want to take on new challenges and learn to ‘break the rules’ of watercolours.

For the September term Fiona has been persuaded to add two new classes at Ware and St Albans to the classes she already holds in Welwyn village, Welwyn Garden City and Harpenden, so it will now be even easier than ever to find a class near you at a time to suit.

To make life easy for students and ensure everyone has the right equipment for the job, Fiona supplies all the materials you need at better than high-street prices including her exquisite ‘Wicked Watercolour’ brushes – hand made in Hertfordshire .

Class schedules for all three levels are being finalised right now with details of all the subjects that will be covered throughout the term and these will be available from Fiona directly on request.

She extends an open invitation to anyone who would like to find out more to come along to one of her **“Taster Session”** dates during the first week of September to see for yourself just how addictive, how compulsive, how rewarding and how relaxing watercolour painting can be.

“Hard ???”

“Hardly!!!” Fiona laughs.

“.... After all, it’s only some paint and some water, a brush and a bit of paper. What’s hard about that?”

“.... Let me show you how ‘wickedly’ simple it can be....”.

For more details or to register for a place on one of Fionas classes telephone her on 07956 537140 or email on fiona.pruden@btopenworld.com .

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