

Ottawa Watercolour Society

Expressive Portraits with Watercolour Workshop

Level: Introductory/Intermediate
Sunday 27th November

This workshop will explore the joy of creating free and vital portraits with watercolour. David's approach balances control and technique with immediacy and spontaneity and shows how these can be woven together to capture personality as well as likeness. The workshop will review useful drawing foundations along with exploring the watercolour portrait as a means of expression, working from both the live model and reference materials.

<i>Session</i>	<i>Focus</i>	<i>Description</i>
9:30	Drawing foundations	Sound drawing practices as they apply to portraits. Structure of the head and handling perspective. Working from reference materials and live model.
10:45		<i>Break</i>
11:00	Rapid studies and sustained observation	Portrait studies in dry media and wash. Combining observation with expression. Demonstration: Starting a watercolour portrait.
12:30		<i>Lunch</i>
13:30	Painting from the model	Head and shoulders composition. Limited palette study. Demonstration: Modeling values.
15:00		<i>Break</i>
15:15	Painting from the model	Contemporary composition. Developing the portrait and obtaining an accordant finish. Demonstration: Obtaining a likeness.
16:30		<i>Finish</i>

Suggested Course Materials:

2 sheets of 140 lb cold or hot pressed watercolour paper (15" x 20" approx), 90 lb watercolour paper pad (11" x 15" or larger), selection of tube or block watercolour paints (cerulean blue, ultramarine blue, cadmium red, alizarin crimson, cadmium yellow, lemon yellow, burnt sienna, yellow ochre, Paynes gray).

A selection of dry media: graphite pencils, willow or soft vine charcoal, kneadable eraser. Sketch pad or cartridge paper. Small mirror, plumb line, viewfinder.

Participants are welcome to use alternative media and materials to support their individual artistic goals.