

NORTHLAND SOCIETY OF ARTS
CALENDAR FOR WORKSHOPS - SUMMER TO AUTUMN 2020.

NOTE: If you have not received all of this document by email please refer to the Reyburn House web site – www.reyburnhouse.co.nz

All workshops are held in **the Society's Studios, Reyburn House Lane, Whangarei** – just across the lawn from Reyburn House Gallery.

All workshops in this series are conducted by Elena Nikolaeva. Please contact her directly to enrol, or make enquiries:- enikonzealand@gmail.com or phone(09)431 4741, mob: 021 157 1730

When your enrolment is confirmed, please mark the date in your calendar so you don't forget. If, later, you find you cannot attend, please contact Elena well in advance of the course so someone on the waiting list can be invited to come.

PAYMENT FOR EACH WORKSHOP TO BE MADE TO THE TUTOR, IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE, ON THE DAY OF EACH WORKSHOP.

1. USING GOLD DUST (POWDER) TO ENHANCE YOUR PAINTING

One-Day Workshop – Sunday 1st March, 2020 10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Fee \$50, NSA Member \$45

If we are going anywhere in our artistic journey, we must keep broadening our artistic horizons and knowledge of painting and its creative techniques. Following last year's GOLD LEAF workshop we'll explore what we can do with gold **powder** in our art.

A number of contemporary artists use gold powder in their paintings. You'll explore different ways to apply gold dust on your canvas, and learn ways to mix the gold powder with your acrylics and other media. You'll enjoy visual boldness, vibrant colours, rhythms, movement and "a touch of gold", combining all these to create a vibrant landscape, or an outstanding abstract piece.

NB. You may combine Gold Powder technique with Gold Leaf Technique (optional). If you didn't make it to that earlier gold leaf session, you will love experimenting. The dust and leaf are harmonious and work well together.

Materials:

- Gold dust **NB: You will also need a dust mask.**
- Gold leaf and sizer (optional)
- Medium to big canvas
- Acrylics
- painting medium or liquid varnish
- brushes, a palette and cleaning materials
- spray varnish
- masking tape, stencils and other masking aid you may have.
- chalk or a pastel stick for drawing your composition on canvas
- hair dryer

2. COLD ENCAUSTIC PAINTING. (Simple and without health hazards)

One-Day Workshop – Sunday 8th March, 2020 10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Fee \$50, NSA Member \$45

Encaustic: the ancient method of painting with wax colours and fixing by heat.

Traditional encaustic technique has been known for centuries, before Roman times. A number of artists practise it now, developing it in accord with the needs of contemporary visual art. But it is a complicated technique which involves working with hot wax, a known health hazard.

Recently though, an alternative to the traditional encaustic technique was invented. It is based on cold wax usage. Some artists now use an alternative heavy matt gel, which is very similar to cold wax. This technique is simple and cheaper than cold wax. The matt gel is available in any art supply store.

In this workshop you'll learn how to use the heavy matt medium to create the visual effects of traditional encaustic painting, without its complications and hazards.

You'll paint **several small pictures** exploring the different, simple, versatile techniques of cold wax encaustic painting. You'll combine heavy matt gel with acrylics, collage and dry natural elements – leaves, shells, twigs, etc.

Materials:

- several small to medium sized boards (hard boards, MDF, ply).
(If you don't have any, please let Elena know and she will provide boards for you for an additional cost)
 - your favourite brushes and palette knives
 - acrylics
 - heavy matt gel medium
 - black and white images of landscape, or elements of landscapes - trees, birds, buildings, people, etc. These images should be printed on normal printing paper, not too heavy. Better to use 80 gr A4 paper.
 - dry leaves, pods, twigs, dried flowers, any bits and pieces you have for mixed media collage.
(NB. These elements should not be too thick)
 - PVA glue or matt medium for attaching collage elements to boards
 - hairdryer
 - palette and cleaning materials
 - your creative genius
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3. AUSTRIAN ARTIST – FRIEDENSREICH HUNDERTWASSER

One-Day Workshop – Sunday 22nd March, 2020 10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Fee \$50, NSA Member \$45

Hundertwasser was a renowned European artist of the 20th century. Austrian born, he came to love New Zealand, - Northland in particular – and lived for a large part of his later life here in Northland.

His original and unruly artistic vision expressed itself in visual art, architecture, philosophy and design. His

visual language is complicated, unique, distinctive, modern-looking and recognisable. He was fascinated by spirals, curvy lines, irregular shapes, bright colours; and over-arching all, the reconciliation of humanity within the world of nature. What can we learn from this multi-talented artist? Dominantly, his visual language based on biomorphic, organic forms.

In this workshop we'll study Hundertwasser's art and you'll draw inspiration to create a painting of your **own**. **You will not copy**, but interpret Hundertwasser's approach to his art through **your** unique personality and evolve **your own** composition. We are **not** looking for reproductions of Hundertwasser's distinctive imagery. Come prepared to plumb your own connections to, and feelings for, the natural world. How and what do you relate to in that world? Look closely. Its forms, its moods. How could you interpret those connections you feel, in **your** painting? The subject matter is as broad as it is long.

Materials:

- medium to big sized canvas
- acrylics/oils, including metallic paints
- paper and pencil for sketching
- your favourite painting gear.

4. COMPOSITION. "BUSY – EMPTY" CONTRAST (Simplicity and complicity).

One-Day Workshop – Sunday 29th March, 2020 10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Fee \$50, NSA Member \$45

Composition. Composition. At the heart of every painting! Again and again we address this important subject, and the necessity to think analytically about how to approach a painting, to ensure that all the elements of it are in harmony and balance. There are still some important issues we have yet to address

This workshop will be devoted to a study of a very important type of contrast – a contrast of "busy" and "empty" parts of a composition. We'll explore ways different artists work with the "busy" and "empty" elements, define the roles of each in a painting, and the balancing relationship of one with the other.

You'll learn how to make the "empty" parts of a painting attractive and valuable. And then you'll experiment with types and sizes of "busy" and "empty" parts of compositions of your own.

You'll create 2 medium sized pictures (abstract, abstract landscape, floral, your choice). The first one will have an emphasis on simplicity and the "empty" element and the second picture will be full of various elements and detail and have more emphasis on the "busy" qualities.

Materials:

- 2 medium canvases or boards of the same size
 - acrylics/oils
 - your favourite brushes and all your favourite painting gear
 - paper and a pencil for sketching
 - palette and cleaning materials
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5. ACRYLIC INKS (OR LIQUID ACRYLICS) PLUS HEAVYGLOSSGEL MEDIUM

(Either one will do. There is a slight difference of viscosity, but it doesn't matter.)

One-Day Workshop –Sunday 5th April, 2020 10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Fee \$50, NSA Member \$45

In this workshop we continue our exciting exploration of acrylic inks.

If you attended last year's workshop on Acrylic Inks, you had a first glance at the amazing world of this contemporary medium. If you are a beginner in the acrylic inks territory, don't worry. This workshop will be a starting point and you will be amazed by the unlimited possibilities of acrylic inks.

This time round we explore how to combine acrylic inks and heavy gloss gel, and consider the advantages and limits of this magic mixture.

The beauty of this combination is the transparency of inks and a heavy body of gel medium. It gives an artist an opportunity to create a number of transparent layers of different colours on canvas or board, resulting in amazing visual depths of colours and hues.

In this workshop you will learn how to mix liquid acrylics and gel on canvas or board (pouring technique is not included) and experiment with mixing liquid acrylics, gel and elements of collage as well.

Materials:

- 2 medium sized canvases or, better, boards (because you need firm surface for this technique)
- liquid acrylics or acrylic inks (bring metallic liquid acrylics if you have them)
- "normal" acrylics
- heavy gloss gel
- various brushes
- palette knives of various sizes
- images: colour or black & white photocopies of landscapes, elements of a landscape, flowers, etc - (optional)
- your usual artistic gear.