

WEEKEND AND DAY COURSES IN THE STEEPLE IN MARCH 2008

WORKING WITH PAINT - SATURDAY 29 AND SUNDAY 30 MARCH

An introduction to the fascinating history of earth colours and their transformation into paint and images

Day 1

An introduction to paint and natural mineral pigments

What is paint? Where do the colours in paint come from? An introduction to colours in the earth, ochres from Scotland and around the world, some history, a little prehistory and the geography of paint as a material.

Making pigment

Using grinding stones and water, red, yellow and black paint can be produced from yellow ochre (from Buckhaven), red ochre (made by heating the yellow) and charcoal. Each of the pigments has its own characteristics, with very different textures and staining power, creating intriguingly unpredictable results.

Using the paint

The prehistoric theme will be further explored with the help of examples like the Lascaux cave paintings and aboriginal bark paintings. Participants will be invited to design their own symbols, based on what is important to them or using traditional shapes, and to experiment with the pigments. Stencils will be provided.

Day 2

Experimenting with commercial water-based ochres, building on the work with natural mineral pigments on Day 1. Looking for the subtle differences between their colours and textures, and creating paintings inspired by the work of ancient and modern ochre-artists.

TIME AND DATE: 10am to 4pm on Sat 29 March & Sun 30 March (Lunch 12.30-1.30pm)

COURSE FEE: (including both days and the cost of materials) £50

VENUE: THE STEEPLE, High Street, Newburgh, Fife.

COURSE TUTOR: Jan Hendry BA (Hons) Fine Art MA (Hons) Geography. Jan Hendry lives in Strathmiglo. She coordinates heritage projects as one half of Fifeochre Design, specialising in illustration. Over the last five years she has developed a particular interest in earth pigments, making paintings using colours sourced in Scotland, England and Australia.

Please bring your own lunch. Coffee, tea and biscuits are always available at the venue, and on the Saturday the café just across the road is open for soup, rolls etc, while the Hat in the Cat art and craft shop at 60A High Street also serves quality coffee and tea. On-street parking is available in Whitecraig Road - enter by Hill Road and walk down to the Steeple (circled below) via either of two footpaths, Towerwell or Reef Mog.

For any other details or queries, please ring Jan Hendry on 01337 868990

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