

## Mixing Media

[a] What does “mixed media” mean and how have other artists exploited its possibilities?

- *We will briefly discuss a range of examples in order to draw inspiration for our own ideas and ahead of producing some rapid sketches from which to work.*
- *Assistance will be given with sketching techniques if desired and we will use the still life objects/gallery café environment as starting points.*
- *Those attending the full course may wish to build on previous sketches.*

[b] How can we develop the notion of “drawing” by working in less conventional ways or by combining materials and techniques?

- *Demonstrations will be followed by an opportunity to experiment with a range of drawing media, papers and surfaces.*
- *We will also consider the impact our working processes can have on the outcome of an idea. [“Drawing with scissors”, working on pre-prepared surfaces or using wax resist to give just a few examples]*
- *Experiment by adding to sketches done on the day and/or by producing “swatches” without concern for any particular outcome.*
- *During this session there will also be the opportunity for individual attention including – if relevant - discussions of how the ideas being experimented with might be exploited within personal work.*

[c] Which processes and ideas have been the most rewarding and why? How can we enhance new or on-going work as a result of what has been explored?

- *Produce a more “finished” piece to develop further after the workshop or to use as a springboard for future work.*
- *This can be developed from the day’s sketching or be a particular theme of the individual’s choice.*
- *Receive individual guidance and attention as required.*

What will be needed?

- A limited supply of basic materials will be provided but those attending are advised to bring their own range of media.
- Essentials would be a sketchbook or paper to work on [a range of colours and textures of paper would be ideal; previously abandoned sketches and paintings make excellent backgrounds/materials for new work!], scissors, glue [pritt stick will do], a pencil [preferably 2B or softer], pastels and oil pastels if you have them, an eraser, sharpener, a few watercolour paints, brushes and pot for water. Something with a sharp point [e.g. a pair of compasses, a bradawl or etching tool would be useful.
- If you are happy to do so, please also bring two examples of your own work to evaluate in the context of media choices: one that you are really pleased with and one that you believe to have been less of a success.
- If you wish to work on your own theme for [c] above then please bring images/sketches/starting points as appropriate.