

Painting 3: Your Own Portfolio

A third level painting course for OCA written by artist Ian Simpson

The course helps students to:

- continue to improve the quality of their practical work and further develop a personal visual language
- plan and complete a personal programme of practical work including a major project on a particular theme
- explore, in greater detail, illusion in painting and 3 main movements which influenced 20th Century painting.



Cedric Smith

Course content

This course builds on the expertise students have acquired in Painting Levels 1 and 2 and requires them to decide, in discussion with their personal tutors, their entire programme of practical work (except for one project). The course is presented in the form of specially written course materials.

This stresses the continuing importance of drawing as a means of discovery (a drawing project is the only compulsory project) and provides particular painting themes to consider. Students are required to choose 3 projects, or alternatively (with the approval of their tutor), they can substitute 3 projects of their own.

A major personal project has also to be carried out - a series of at least 6 paintings developing a theme or idea. Theoretical Studies projects require students to make an extensive study of 3 important movements in 20th Century art and to research 2 other topics - illusion in painting and the way different artists actually use paint.

Teaching methods

The course provides you with a series of projects that are supported by distance learning techniques. At certain points in the course your work will be seen by your tutor, and answers to any specific questions you have.

You can get credits for your course too

If you want to have your work recognised you can gain credits towards a full qualification in art. To do this you present a portfolio of your work on the course, including work on specific projects, for assessment.

0800 731 2116
www.oqa-uk.com



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July 2009