

**Report
back: art
teacher,
Richard
Sunderland
has us all
glued up!**



**Getting
stuck in.**

Our next tutor is
OCA textiles
supremo Neil
Musson. if you
have a question for
him, please email
your question to:
neilmusson@oca.ac.uk

Saturday 19th August

There are bits of PVA everywhere: on my hands, my face, my hair, my jumper ... I was really looking forward to our day of photography and painting, really looking forward to getting messy, getting 'artistic'. And we all got stuck in.



Richard started the day by telling us about his practice and how he works. First he sketches his subject / scene. Then he uses his camera as a means of catching a memory, of reflecting on his physical experience. He then draws it, feels it.

We looked at excerpts of David Sylvester's interview with Francis Bacon who liked to work alone, who found models in his studio distracting, & for whom, working from memory was more interesting than drawing in situ.

Having looked at the vital elements of visual analysis, we discussed what for us was most important & Richard said that, for him, line, shape, tone & light & shadow were more important. We were then encouraged to reflect on our own practices. Richard showed us a time lapse film captured on the app 'Brushes', of how he worked.

After this, Richard showed us his fabulous water colours and his many, many wonderful sketchbooks. In particular, his leporello of one of his many trips to Italy. He showed us how he could establish a unity in the many seemingly disparate drawings, sketches and paintings or parts thereof. We had a random piece of drawing paper on which we were asked to draw a line. Then another and we were told the importance of line, which included the lines created by the edges of the paper, in any art expression. We were asked to pick up a student pack in which were different elements we could use to make our own collages. Yes! The messy bit! Off we went & I could not

get in to my comfort zone. I got messier and messier. I thought I was making a map with bits sticking up in glorious 3D not realising that collages are only flat expressions. Why? My contoured mountains, valleys & rivers could not exist in my collage. Thinking about uniting my disparate elements, I went over everything with a flat red chalk. And then I realised this

created lines! Back to my own white sketchbook, I did an image transfer using PVA & put flat chalk over that & bingo! I had a flat collage and lines, and realised that that is what I relate to in my own images!

Despite my misgivings during the exercise, I had made progress in my awareness as an image maker.

These are some of the collages which the 6 of us made:



In the final bit of the day, we discussed our own work which varied from Sarah's intricate

textiles which always invite us to touch it to see how it was made, to Jen's print making expertise which is always inspiring.

Derek's creative, photographic little toy series provoked much discussion, amusement and conjecture. Paddy's palimpsest in preparation for its appearance at the autumn exhibition provoked many technical discussions - good luck with that one, Paddy! Krystyna wowed us with her immense artistic gift evident in her portraits in oils. I brought up the rear with my latest experiments in prison.

We finished on time and are looking forward to see what Richard is going to do with our collages which will appear as a leporello at the autumn exhibition. We thank Richard very much for his enthusiasm, for sharing his enormous talent and knowledge with us, and for taking us more cautious, less exposed to mess students down a path we would not have trodden on our own.



Following on from our July meeting, I received this email from Miriam this morning:

Hello all, inspired by Derek's knowledge of seagrass and sea horses I have written my nature notes on them this week in The Times, today Sat 19th, if of interest to anyone. <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/mythical-creature-with-touch-of-romance-g52bcmf0z>

Mythical creature with touch of romance

www.thetimes.co.uk

'How extraordinary, strange, and incomprehensible are the creatures captured out of the depths of the sea,' the writer Richard Jefferies exclaimed in 1883, meditating upon the community of fauna...

Autumn exhibition:

Progress so far:

1. We have secured funding for our exhibition through OCASA. HURRAY!
2. Paddy Howe has secured a superb exhibition space in Wellington which allows us to exhibit our work from Monday 20th to Sunday 26th November, 2017.
3. Sue Parr & I have worked on our publicity strategy, programme & catalogue.
4. As suggested by Michele Whiting, the exhibition will be called "Work-in-progress".
5. We have the funds to host a private viewing reception at the venue on Sunday 19th November, 2017.

What happens next:

1. All those wishing to participate must let me know on or by **12th September** with a sample image of their work and a short, 50 word bio. I cannot guarantee that your work will be exhibited after that as our exhibition space has limits.
2. After conversations with various participants, it makes sense that, since the exhibition is called "Work-in-progress" the items do not have to be mounted and framed. They can be merely suspended by bulldog clips / wires. If you have any concerns in that regard, please get in touch & we can organise something.
3. We still need stewards for the exhibition which runs for a week, please.

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September meeting in Dorchester:

Textiles with tutor Neil Musson

This will take place at the following venue in Dorchester:

Student Anne Broome has very kindly opened her home to us and has sent the following directions & explanation why your SatNav will not help:

Tincleton is a long narrow village 5 miles east of Dorchester and just under two miles south of Puddletown. Postcode is DT2 8QR and this is shared by the whole village, so satnav is no longer any help. This will bring you into Tincleton in a number of different ways so I will give directions from the church, which is close to a Y junction at the East end of the village (Bournemouth side, furthest from Dorchester).

With the church on your RIGHT go one field's length east (away from the Dorchester direction) and a pair of brick pillars will be seen on the LEFT advertising 'Clyffe House, Private Road'. Turn LEFT here and drive right up the drive, past Clyffe House on the RIGHT and immediately bear RIGHT where the drive forks. This brings you into the stable yard and TANGLEWOOD is the last house on the RIGHT, The garage will be open, please drive through the garage, down the slope and left, following the drive and the studio will be seen on the RIGHT. Unless otherwise directed (only if there has been a lot of rain) please park on the grass opposite the studio.

There are no charges for the venue, for which we are very grateful!



Textile
work
presented
at our
latest study
day in
Plymouth
by Sarah.

Tutor Polly Harvey will be leading October 14th, 2017 in Bristol.

By popular demand, Polly will be leading our meeting on 'Book making' in October. **Please note that the scheduled date has changed.**

The day will be organised differently as it will be devoted entirely to book making. I am sure that, if there is a need, that Polly will look at work which students bring along to be discussed.

I shall not be there as I have a family wedding to attend so Jacquie Franks has very kindly offered to stand in for me.

Times: 10 - 4pm.

The venue will be St Elizabeth Hall,

Hambrook Lane,

Bristol, BS16 1RT

There is parking on the road next to the church.

**Our meetings in 2018 will take place on the SECOND
Saturday of each month.**

This will allow students who normally attend TVG to attend ours and vice versa.
Please make a note of this.

If you would like to suggest some speakers / tutors for our 2018 meetings, please let me know as soon as you can.