

Leitrim Sculpture Centre
WORKSHOP RESOURCE MANUAL
2020



WORKSHOP PROGRAMME CONTENTS LSC

CONTENTS PAGE

(1). STONE	pp.1-2
S1 Stone Carving: Beginners	
S2 Stone Carving: Advanced	
S3 Stone Lettercutting: Beginners-Intermediary	
(2). CERAMICS	pp.3-4
C1 Techniques for Pottery Construction: Beginners-Intermediary	
C2 Clay Modelling of the head: Beginners	
C3 Techniques for Ceramic Sculpture: Intermediary-Advanced	
C4 Glazing and Firing for Pottery: Beginners-Intermediary	
C5 Glazing and Firing for Ceramic Sculpture: Intermediary - Advanced	
(3). MOULD-MAKING	pp.5-7
M1 Basic Mouldmaking, Life Casting Plaster, Direct Wax: Beginners	
M2 Mouldmaking & Plaster Casting of Head (From C2): Beginners	
M3 Reproduction Moulding for Artists & Architects Workshop: Intermediary	
M4 Refractory Mouldmaking for Kiln Cast Glass & Bronze: Advanced	
M5 Bronze or Glass Hot Casting (From M3+4): Intermediary-Advanced	
(4). WOOD CONSTRUCTION	pp. 8-9
W1 Wood Construction: Beginners	
W2 Wood construction: Advanced	
W3 Music Instrument Making: Intermediary	
W4 Vernacular Carpentry: Beginners-Intermediary	
(5). METAL	pp. 10-12
Metal Fabrication	
MF1 Welding: Beginners-Intermediary	
MF2 Forging & Blacksmithing: Beginners	
MF3 Tool Making & Tempering for Stone: Beginners-Intermediary	
MF4/5 Silversmithing & Small-Scale Metal Sculpture: Beginners-Intermediary	
Metal Casting	
MC1 Sand Casting in Bronze or Aluminum: Beginners – Intermediary	
MC2 Bronze Pour: Intermediary-Advanced	
MC3 Metal Finishing and Patinating: Beginners-Intermediary	
(6). GLASS	pp.13-14
G1 Glassblowing: Beginners	
G2 Introduction to Sculpture in Glass	
G3 Experiments in Mould-Blown Glass: Intermediary	
G4 Sand Casting with Hot Glass: Beginners-Intermediary	
G5 Hot Glass-casting into Zircar Moulds- Advanced	

(7). TRADITIONAL PRINT

pp.15-17

TP1 Etching: Beginners

TP2 Screen-print: Beginners

TP3 Relief/Block Printing: Beginners-Intermediary

TP4 Photo Etching: Intermediary-Advanced

TP5 Etching and Silkscreen: Advanced Masterclass

(8). ANALOGUE AND DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

pp.18-19

ADP1 NEW - Analogue Landscape Photography (Two Days)

Stone

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STONE

S1 Stone Carving

Students will be introduced to the principles of stone carving and design, the identification and uses of different stone and the use of hand tools. Each student will design and carve a simple form that they can take home with them. Students come with: sturdy boots. Beginners to intermediate.

S2 Stone Carving: Introduction To Stone Conservation

This module is open to those with some experience in stone carving and those with a special interest in stone conservation. Students will be introduced to the principles of design for stone and the basic principles of stone conservation. Each student will bring a design in the form of a model and /or drawing that can be free form or an architectural feature to carve. Assistance will be available for specific projects with advance notice. Students come with: sturdy boots. Beginners to intermediate.

S3 Stone Lettercutting

Cutting inscriptions in stone is an important part of the stone-carvers craft that has been elevated to an art form in its own right. This module teaches calligraphic and typographic design in combination with precise sculptural skills. Participants will learn to identify and understand the tools required for stone cut lettering, gain an appreciation of basic letter proportions and layout and will cut a name or short inscription (12 characters) in stone. Students come with: sketchpad and basic drawing/writing materials. They should think about a monogram, name or (very) short inscription. Bring sturdy boots. Beginners to intermediate.

Ceramics



CERAMICS

C1 Techniques for Ceramic and Pottery Construction

This course will teach a series of hand-building techniques for the construction of sculptural forms in clay, including coil-building, slab-building and solid modeling in clay using removable armatures and techniques for hollowing out work in preparation for ceramic firing. You will have a basic knowledge of the ceramic process through samples and practical demonstrations under the tuition of the artist. Beginners to intermediate.

C2 Techniques for Ceramic Sculpture - Advanced

An in depth exploration of various ceramic /clay hand building techniques for constructing more challenging and larger forms with detailed information on various types of clays, tools, decorating techniques and the ceramic process in general. Previous experience or prior attendance of basic / intermediate course is essential.

C3a&b Glazing and Firing Techniques for Ceramic Construction and Sculpture

In this course participants will learn basic information about the processes of biscuit and glaze firing ceramic pieces and how to use metal oxides and glazes for decoration and surface finishes in ceramic sculpture and more functional ware. Intermediate and Advanced

C4 Clay Modeling: Modeling The Head In Clay - From Life

This module is open to beginners and those with some experience in clay modeling. Students will learn to make an armature and model a head in clay from life. Beginners.

C5 Modeling from Life

During this workshop participants will learn how to create a sculpture in clay from a life model. The artist/tutor will explain basic principles of the human anatomy, figurative sculpture, and stylization and how to prepare basic armatures for clay sculptures and portrait busts. Beginners to intermediate.

Mould Making



MOULDMAKING

Basic Mouldmaking

Clay, Plaster and Wax Moulding: An introduction to good mould principles. The simplest of mould materials, clay can take up impressions of objects, surfaces and actions. Plaster will quickly set and remain hard. These in turn allow wax editions to be taken. Each step in a mould process depends on the degree to which the properties of each material interact. For example; plaster/wax (water/oil). Useful techniques, especially for the reproduction of models from one material to the next in the casting process.

Life Casting Plaster

Bandage and/or alginate rubber can be used in taking impressions from fine surfaces and objects, notably the body and parts thereof. Often used by artists to reproduce life detail in wax and then bronze and stainless steel.

Direct Wax

As an alternative to the copying function of the wax in the casting process, the wax can be freely constructed, using various softening, welding and paint-on techniques. Expanded Polystyrene can be usefully combined with wax, tin foil and other fibre and organic materials to build up surfaces and volumes. An experimental and exploratory approach has been successful in the past.

This following series of in-depth workshops will take you step-by-step, from the initial model to the finished object. The workshops can be done as a block, for a discounted rate or they can be signed up for individually. Workshops one and two are the same for either metal or glass casting; it is in the third where they diverge according to material. The first workshop, in Reproduction Moulding, will demonstrate a variety of moulding techniques, as well as some handy tips for determining volume thus saving substantially on material costs. These primary reproduction moulds will then be used to make multiple positives including waxes.

The resultant waxes will be used to facilitate the second in this series of four workshops: Refractory Mould Making. This workshop explores investment type refractory mould making materials and techniques that have been proved effective in casting both metal and glass via the "lost wax" process. The moulds made in this workshop will then be "burned out" in preparation for a bronze pour or 'kiln-firing'; the third workshop.

The third and final workshop will be Casting: the bronze metal pour then finishing & patination or the Kiln-casting and grinding & polishing for glass. Participants can sign-up for these workshops as a package or individually with prerequisites.

M1 Reproduction Moulding for Artists & Architects Workshop

For reproducing objects -first in rubber moulds which may then be used for cold-casting using for example concrete, plaster, resin etc. or for generating a wax ready for refractory investment at later date. This workshop will cover a variety of reproduction mould making techniques, from traditional multi-part plaster Moulds, Dental Alginate, Cheap plumber's silicone sealant moulds, up to and including fibre glass backed silicone rubber production moulds. These primary reproduction moulds will then be used to make multiple positives including some waxes. The resultant waxes can be used to facilitate an investigation of refractory mould making materials and techniques that have been proved most effective in casting both metal and glass via the "lost wax" process. Students come with: an object from which to make a mould.

Beginner & Intermediate.

M2 Refractory Mouldmaking for Kiln Cast Glass & Bronze Casting Workshop

This in depth workshop covers the theory and techniques used in hot casting either bronze or glass. Tips for wax working, (pour cups, spewing, gating, and venting) investment type refractory mould construction approaches (face-coats {brush on & splash}, Roman or Italian hand built, cores and poured monolithic) will be discussed with an aim towards enabling participants to “customize” their approach to fit their vision.

A range of Primary model materials will be demonstrated, principally wax, working through to the final refractory mould. A one-day pour is then organized for a later date for casting in hot metal or glass. Participants need to come with a wax positive or rubber mould. This can be made in the “Reproduction Moulding for Artists & Architects workshop”. Previous experience of clay, wax, or plasterwork is helpful. Sketchbook and notebook. Intermediate C3a&b Glazing and Firing Techniques for Ceramic Construction and Sculpture.

M3 (from C4) – Mould Making & Plaster Casting Of Head

Students will be shown different ways to make plaster moulds (two/three piece) from which they will take hollow plaster casts. Examples of plaster cast finishes will be demonstrated.

M4. (From M1+2 Bronze or Glass Pour's)

This in depth workshop covers the theory and techniques used in casting either hot liquid bronze or glass. Tips for wax working, (pour cups, spewing, gating, and venting) investment type refractory mould construction approaches (face-coats {brush on & splash}, Roman or Italian hand built, cores and poured monolithic) will be discussed with an aim towards enabling participants to “customize” their approach to fit their vision. First the wax is Kiln melted out of the plaster moulds which are left to thoroughly dry. Then participants help to prepare molten bronze and learn about safety around the furnace. Then techniques of pouring molten bronze and team work are studied. Participants are invited to assist experts pour the bronze. After these have cooled participants break out the mould to reveal to cast form which is then cold worked. Students come with: sturdy shoes, appropriate clothing.

Wood Construction



WOOD CONSTRUCTION

W1 Wood Construction basic

This course covers wood selection and preparation, making joints and cleaning and finishing your wood product with the use of hand and machine methods. Tool maintenance, health and safety and reading construction drawings. It will provide the possibility to work from a drawing to make a jointed softwood product. Students come with: sturdy boots.

W2 Wood construction course advanced

The aim of this workshop is to make either a workbench/banker or a treadle lathe from working drawings. This includes complex jointing, de-constructive jointing with mixed materials, understanding the requirements for exterior wood products and the safe use of hazardous chemicals. Students come with: sturdy boots.

W3 Music Instrument Making

This course facilitates sound box construction with resonant materials and their combinations using steaming techniques. It aims to make basic traditional instruments from various traditions. Students come with: sturdy boots.

W4 a & b Workshop in vernacular carpentry (basic to intermediary)

Participants will use locally sourced hazel and willow to construct simple stools and benches. Walsh will lead the group through the process of locating the raw materials and using hand tools to make furniture in the style of the 'cottage' tradition. This is a workshop in sustainability and will outline how the skill taught can be used to make a range of furniture and forms from the locality. Students come with: sturdy boots for walking in the wood.

Metal



METAL

MF1 Welding

The module was designed to introduce the student to Metal Crafts, which they can apply to their own requirements. Introduction to cutting and grinding techniques and uses of hacksaw; files; drills; hammers; grinders; chop-saw; sanders. Demonstrated competence in MMA/Arc welding including different weld joints – butt weld, lap weld and T-fillet. Students also attempt similar joints through the TIG welding process. They are shown how to measure and cut steel accurately. Focused upon working through projects set and realizing ideas from concept, design and articulation. Students come with: sturdy boots. Beginners to intermediate

MF2 Forging/ Blacksmithing

This course teaches you basic forging techniques to create sculptural forms. Students come with: sturdy boots. Beginners.

MF3 Tool Making & Tempering For Stone

This course combines the crafts of the carver and the smith. Participants will be introduced to the Blacksmith's tools and equipment, basic forging techniques. It will show you how to source and recognize appropriate steel and understand different patterns of stone carving tools and their application. Participants will make their own basic kit of hand tools. Students come with: sturdy boots.

MF4/5 Silversmithing & Small Scale Metal Sculpture

Jewellery and small-scale metal/mixed media fabrication course is an opportunity to work in precious and non-precious metals. Other materials such as acrylic, plastics and re-cycled materials are facilitated in order to explore a wide variety of jewellery making techniques. This course is designed for students who are interested in learning basic jewellery techniques and for those with some prior knowledge who want to improve existing skills. The course covers techniques such as design/metal preparation, piercing, soldering, forming, drilling, cutting and small hollow form construction. Students will work through the design and execution of a piece/s of jewellery and/or small scale metal/mixed media works with technical guidance.

B. METAL CASTING

MC1 Bronze Pour

Students from refractory mouldmaking and those with existing moulds ready to be poured are brought together for different Bronze Pour days. Techniques in preparing moulds and pouring hot bronze are demonstrated and the safe operation of the bronze furnace and cooling and opening casts is covered.

MC2 Sand Casting in Bronze or Aluminum

Discover the ancient technique of sandcasting, see examples of what you can make, learn how to make a master pattern and then cast it in bronze or aluminum and then how to finish it. Advice on suitable patterns (flat-backed or two-part, with no undercuts) will be emailed to you.

MC3 Metal Finishing and Patinating

One-day course after the casting courses have run. Participants will learn safe effective cold-working procedure: cutting, grinding, carving, polishing, hand lapping, and sand blasting. Many helpful “tricks” and time saving “short cuts” will be demonstrated as applicable to this arduous, yet gratifying, process. Some basic patinas will be demonstrated. Please come with wellies and rain gear. If you have one, bring a bronze object for patinating.

MC4 - 3D Printed Patterns for Sandcasting

Course includes interactive online tutorials in 3D design of patterns. Patterns will be printed on a hired 3D printer; the second day is for sandcasting your pattern.

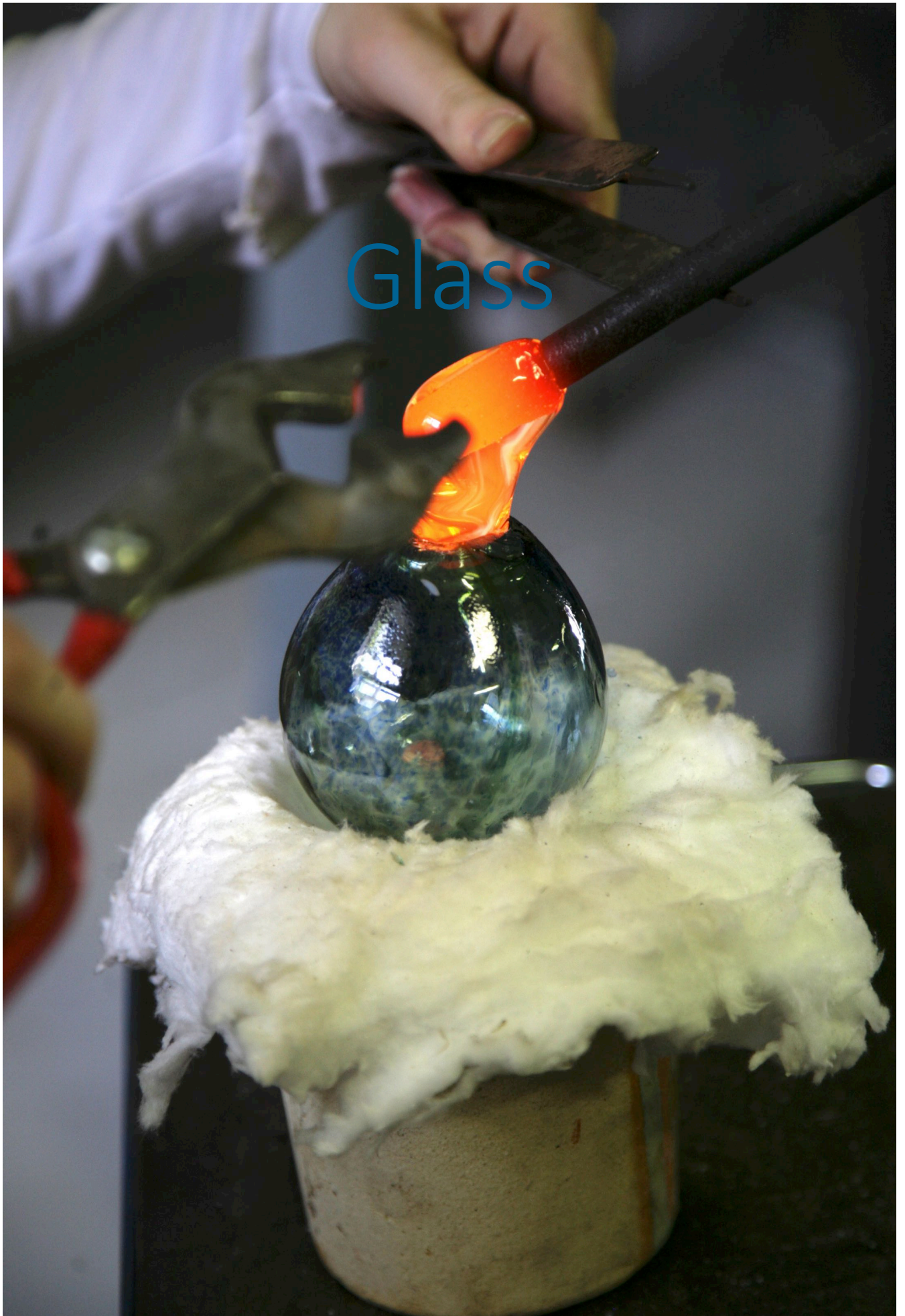
MC5 - 3D Printed Patterns for Lost Wax Casting

Course includes interactive online tutorials in 3D design of patterns followed by investment moulding and casting with bronze tutors. Wax patterns can be 3D printed, starch patterns can be coated in wax; the wax is then melted out whilst the starch is burnt out.

MC6 - 3D Printed Moulds for Bronze or Aluminium

Zee cast is a material that can be printed to form a mould. Students in Carlow IT and other IT colleges make this type of mould. This demonstrates an industrial process, through small sand moulds which will be ordered.

Glass



HOT GLASS

G1 Glassblowing For Beginners Workshop

You will explore the extraordinary medium of hot glass. You will learn how to gather glass out of the furnace, to control and shape the hot glass, to blow a bubble and make a simple vessel. The emphasis of this course is hands-on experience, with demos and support from an experienced glassblower.

G2 NEW – Introduction to Sculpture in Hot Glass

Pushing the boundaries of what hot-glass can do this workshop is designed for professional artists interested in exploring the different creative potential of hot glass in making unique and different types of sculptural form. Artists will be introduced to a range of advanced techniques including flame-working, cold-working, mould-blown glass, casting, slumping, fusing and use of colour.

G3 Experiments in Mould-Blown Glass

In this three-day workshop participants will have the opportunity to test a variety of ways of designing and building moulds for glassblowing. Participants will take a sculptural approach to the materials, process, and possibilities of mouldmaking and attempt to blow glass into the moulds themselves. Discussions will cover traditional and contemporary mouldmaking methods. Experience of mouldmaking and/or glassblowing desirable but not essential.

G4 Sand Casting with Hot Glass Workshop

This course will introduce you to the potential of molten glass as a creative material through the process of “Hot” casting into sand moulds. You will have the opportunity to ladle glass straight from the furnace and pour into prepared “open faced” sand moulds made with found and sculpted objects. This is the most direct method to create your own solid sculptural forms in glass. No previous glass-working experience is required. Students come with: Participants bring in their own objects to press in the sand.

G5 Hot Glass-casting into Zircar Moulds

This three-day course will introduce you to the potential of Zircar; this ‘space-age’ mould material exhibits excellent surface reproduction with an optical finish. Molten glass can be poured directly into ‘light weight’ porous moulds with no need for “gating & venting”. You will have the opportunity to ladle glass straight from the furnace and pour into preheated sculptural moulds.

Traditional Print



TRADITIONAL PRINT

TP1 Traditional Printmaking- Etching

This course will provide an introduction to etching and is suitable for beginners and those with some previous experience who would like to refresh their knowledge and improve their basic skills. Basic etching techniques including dry-point, etching using soft and hard ground and aquatint will be covered. Students will experiment with both aluminum and copper. Beginners to intermediate.

TP2 Traditional Printmaking- Screen-print

The weekend introduction to screen-printing for beginners is perfect for those wishing to get a feel for the basic methods in screen-printing. The class will cover photo stenciling; how to produce screen-prints from any black-and-white photographic or hand drawn imagery - created by using various opaque materials which produce different effects on a transparent overlay such as acetate, tracing paper, or oiled paper which is then exposed over the emulsion-coated screen with a light source containing ultraviolet light. Color layering and registration will also be covered. Beginners. Students come with: black and white photographic or hand drawn imagery for screen-printing.

TP3 Traditional Printmaking- Relief/Block Printing

This course will demonstrate the techniques of relief printmaking using the lino block, and MDF. Over a two-day workshop transferring the image to the block, use of tools, blind embossing, chine colle, inking up and printing on the press and by hand will be shown. Individual tuition will follow as students go on to produce their own prints in one and two colour. The ability to create a print using hand tools makes this a very flexible technique to pursue without continued access to a print studio.

TP4 Traditional Printmaking- Letterpress Courses

Introduction to letterpress printing in this two-day workshop, and enjoy creating your own personal greeting cards and a group pamphlet. Students will use the popular Adana 8x5 tabletop press. This course could be the beginning of an engaging new pastime! You will learn about typography and how to set type, prepare make-ready, take (and correct) proofs. Students will each set 6-10 lines of type and work together to produce a simple mono chrome pamphlet-stitch book. Beginners. Students come with: are advised to bring a long apron and protective gloves, as they will be using inks and solvents. Notepad and pen/pencil. Handouts and all other materials will be provided. Artist's proof, no bigger than A4.

TP5 Traditional Printmaking- Japanese Woodblock Printmaking

Japanese woodblock printmaking is an ancient art form dating back to the 8th century. This beautiful technique of carving and printing from woodblocks is a non-toxic technique which uses watercolours and water based inks. The fine structure of Japanese papers enables hand burnishing with a baren (bamboo pad) instead of using a printing press. This two day workshop is suitable for beginners and those with some previous experience who would like to refresh their knowledge and improve their basic skills. Students will learn how to carve and print an edition of colour prints (maximum size: 23 x 15 cm) using the Japanese registration method of 'Kento'. Colours are printed in stages using the reduction block method (the block is carved appropriately for each colour).

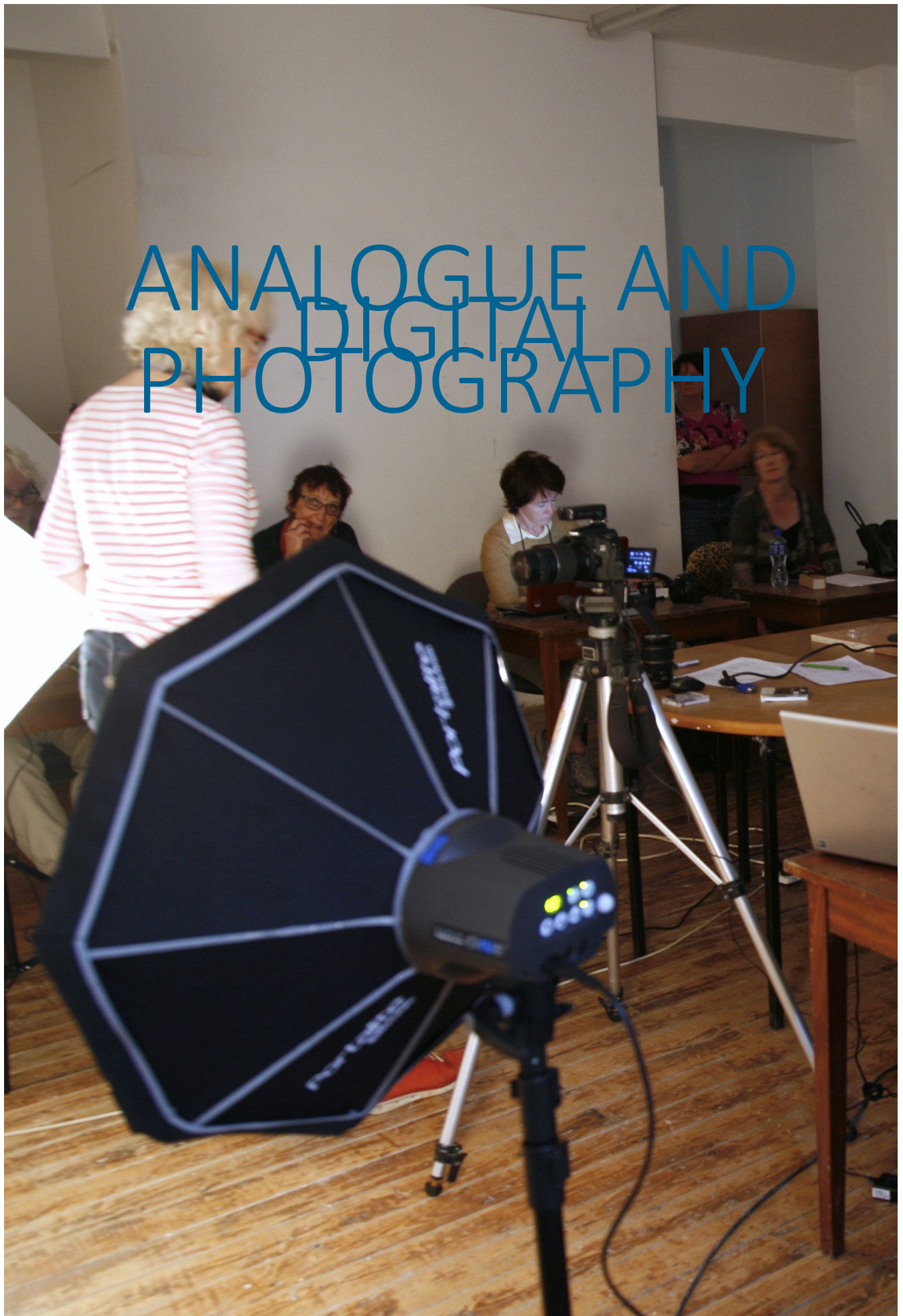
TP6 Traditional Print- Photo Etching & Photographic transfer techniques - Master-class

Workshops will explore alternative photographic transfer techniques in the areas of etching, plate litho and silkscreen. Application of both photographic & hand drawn stencils, calligraphic techniques and non-toxic printing processes will be used. The most appropriate processes and techniques will be discussed and developed to create final printed work - evolved creatively. Participants may wish to use their own photographic imagery as starting points and themes. Students come with: please bring photographic imagery as a starting point.

TP7 Artist Bookbinding

These workshops will start with a beginners and move to more advanced classes. The workshop explores the various techniques used in bookbinding with a special emphasis on the production of fine art, limited edition artists' books. Artists involved in printmaking, graphic or 2D formats and illustration may find this rewarding. After the basic skills are examined each artists will develop their own unique style and formats of bookbinding that suits their work.

ANALOGUE AND DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY



(8). ANALOGUE AND DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

NEW - Analogue Landscape Photography (Two Days)

Analogue Landscape Photography will explore the Leitrim landscape of Manorhamilton. The workshop is suitable for beginners and for those with some experience and interest in refreshing their skills. Participants will have the opportunity to gain and develop skills in analogue photography, exploring the landscape from a fine art perspective and producing individual, hand-printed photographic prints in the Leitrim Sculpture Centre Darkroom. The workshop will include an outdoors photography field session, processing a film and printing a series of black and white photographs. Participants must have access to a 35mm SLR (analogue not digital) camera, all other materials are provided.

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Acknowledges the Supportive Role of
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