

“MY COLLECTION”

We offer you a warm welcome to our first session of the Earley Painters programme for 2018-2019, whether you are a newcomer or an old hand. For this first session only we are asking artists to bring along a small “collection” to work from, whereas normally Clare and Hilary provide a display for artists

At our first session on 18th September we will be working from each artist’s own “collection” of small, personal objects (* see below), together with an introduced element/object, which artists can select from a array of things provided by Clare and Hilary.....and as if this wasn’t enough of a challenge we would like artists to choose one main medium, but introduce a secondary medium into the mix.

[* small “collection to be brought along by each artist: Please bring along up to 7 small objects.

- e.g. small pebbles or shells or other natural forms, postage stamps, small toys, small sewing essentials or cotton bobbins, small tool kit, plate of biscuits or dish of sweeties, marbles or other small games items, but it’s your choice, and should be something you like the colour or shape of and you find interesting. (The first session is usually quite busy so artists may have to share tables).

Acceptable mediums for use at our sessions are: acrylics, watercolours, coloured pens and pencils, wax pastels and pigment sticks, collage and print. *Just a reminder that we don’t allow the use of oil paints at our sessions, and would prefer that artists do not use soft chalky type pastels as their medium, although occasional, careful use is ok, as some of us suffer from breathing issues. If you do use soft pastels occasionally, please DO NOT BLOW excess residue away, as this is what causes problems for others.*

If you are a new recruit to Earley Painters, you will have access to sinks for cleaning up which we share with the Day Nursery Staff. We have newspapers, some water pots and a hair dryer available for use. We also share cloakroom facilities with the Nursery.(M and F).

We do not have a break during our 13.00 to 16.00 session time. You may wish to bring along drinking water for your use, but we are not supposed to bring food or beverages into the hall. Clare and Hilary aim to set the room up as near to 1pm as possible, but we are only human. We bring along books and other material as reference and inspiration to some sessions where it is appropriate. Clare usually sends out an email the weekend before each session, with details, and any specific requirements, and artists/art movements which may be of assistance, giving our artists a little time to do their own research if they feel inclined.

Artists are asked to take seriously the opportunities provided by these sessions, to be creative and leave their worries and troubles at the door. We ask that there are no conversations that disturb and interrupt others concentration on their work, and if you are late, that’s fine but settle in a place quickly and quietly. Save discussion about the outside world for the beginning and end of the sessions, allowing the artistic side of our brains to have a good work-out and some unhindered fun!

If time permits, we try to have a look at all the work produced during the session, without embarrassment and judgement. This is often an illuminating experience, looking at how others have approached the challenges of the day, different use of mediums, as well as recognising difficulties others have experienced and how these have been tackled.

Clare and Hilary hope you will enjoy the sessions we have planned. Please make sure that newcomers and regulars alike give their up-to-date email details to Clare at the first session to receive their email reminders, so that you know what we will be doing each session, and if any specific materials are required. The session fee is £4.00, which is good value for a warm venue in winter! We look forward to meeting everyone on the 18th September at Maiden Place Community Centre, Lower Earley, RG6 3RH.

Clare Buchta and Hilary Parkinson