

ADVANCED PHOTOPOLYMER PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP - DIANNE LONGLEY

Sat 31 October & Sun 1 November 2009 10am-5pm

Extending Photopolymer Printmaking - Double Exposures: drawings or digital photographs, inking and printing plates

This workshop is ideal for printmakers and printmaking students who have an understanding of photopolymer printmaking. This workshop extends skills in your ability to produce velvety blacks and subtle tonal areas on photopolymer intaglio prints. The workshop is designed to give participants as much knowledge as possible about the range of options in photopolymer intaglio plate making and printing. The emphasis of the workshop is on research and understanding the variables involved rather than producing finished prints.

This is a workshop for you to investigate in greater detail the photopolymer printmaking technique:

- this workshop requires an understanding of photopolymer printmaking.
- workshop participants will produce an intaglio plate/s incorporating a double exposure.
- a range of test exposures will be made to ascertain the correct plate exposure.
- research notes will be taken by each participant to document their exposures.

Course content:

- prepare drawings and digital images which can be translated into plates which will be printed intaglio
- explanation of the double exposure process
- examples of prints which will be discussed
- random dot and halftone screens, first or second exposure
- produce film positives on Agfa Copy jet film or Celcast transparency film using an Epson printer
- paper preparation for tonal printmaking
- exposure of test strips in UV unit
- analyse test results, print tests
- ascertain best exposure for image onto plate
- inking and printing, of intaglio plates onto fine art paper

General printing equipment for photopolymer printmaking:(Supplied by Gallery for the workshop)

Photopolymer plates, transparency film, inkjet film, opaque mediums and pens, printing inks for relief and intaglio, tarlatan, olfa cutter, cellulose sponge, fan heater, plastic bags for damp paper, talc, soft brush, metal rulers, cutting mats, vegetable oil, bio-thinners, rollers, brushes, masking tape, snap-off design knife, rubber/disposable gloves

Please bring any of the following if you have them:

Notebook, pencils, old plastic ATM type cards and rags for cleaning up.

You will be required to wear protective clothing such as an apron, gloves (for some processes) and closed leather shoes.

Workshop preparation:

During the workshop you will develop a series of test plates and then your image on a larger plate when you have decided on the best exposure. Bring to the workshop some small tonal drawings, with good tonal range and good contrast.

If you are bringing photographic images on a CD or USB drive, ensure you have high quality images, 300dpi at the size you are working, and an image with a good tonal range. You will be shown how to print the images to film during the workshop, as the type of printer and the quality of the film used, are important to the quality of the image onto the photopolymer plate.