

Sculpting Animals

Dates	Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 February 2024
Times	10.30-16.30 GMT
Location	Learning Studio, at the museum
Tutor	Sarah Tombs
Level	All Levels



Adults working in the Wallace Collection Learning Studio

Course Description

Create your own sculpture of an animal using wire and modelling wax. Over the course of a full weekend, you'll be guided through this highly effective sculpting method, helping you to develop practical skills in translating ideas into 3D forms.

We'll consider different compositions by investigating the ways sculptors use structure and modelling techniques to develop form and character. If you prefer, you can bring your own ideas for your animal sculpture, perhaps based on a pet or your favourite animal.

Saturday

We'll start our masterclass by looking at how sculptors develop drawings into 3D forms. After a sketching tour of the collection looking closely at animals in art, you'll be guided through the technique of transforming your drawings into the underlying armature support for your final sculpture, using aluminium wire. You'll finish the day with a three-dimensional structure loosely representing your chosen animal.

Sunday

On our second day, we'll introduce you to different approaches for finalising your sculpture, and the various modelling effects that you can try out using wax. In applying soft modelling wax to your wire armature, you'll experiment with different ways to build up shape and texture, and how to use form to create contrast, which will give your final sculpted animal its individual personality.

Course Tutor

Sarah Tombs is a sculptor and lecturer in art history. She trained at the Wimbledon and Chelsea Schools of Art, and at the Royal College of Art. She has been making sculpture for over 30 years and uses a range of traditional techniques and materials that include steel fabrication, bronze and plaster. Sarah has made eleven major public sculptures in the UK, and has work in public and private collections including the Government Art Collection. She has lectured extensively in higher education and was formerly Senior Lecturer in Sculpture at the University of Wales, Trinity St David. Sarah has taught on a wide range of learning programmes at the National Gallery since 2007 and is currently curating a major sculpture exhibition for 2024 at Elysium Gallery, Swansea.

Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience

None required. This course is designed as an introduction to the subject.

Equipment and Materials

Please wear clothes suitable for a messy workshop. All materials and equipment are provided. Participants will be given a cardboard box with which to transport their sculpture home.

Joining Information and Format

This masterclass will take place in the Learning Studio, Lower Ground Floor as well as galleries throughout the museum.

We recommend participants bring a packed lunch. When walking through the museum, food must be packed away in a bag and liquids carried in a sealed bottle, flask or travel mug, within a bag. Food and drink must only be consumed when in the Learning Studio.
