

Painting Skyscapes

Dates	Saturday 4 July 2026
Times	10.30–16.30 BST
Location	At the museum (Learning Studio and Exhibition Galleries)
Tutor	Jo Lewis
Level	Introductory



Richard Parkes Bonington *On the Coast of Picardy*, about

1826

Course Description

Enjoy an immersive day exploring the creative potential of painting outdoors. Inspired by our exhibition *Winston Churchill: The Painter*, you'll learn how to convey a sense of place and atmosphere, capturing shifting light and shadow while managing the practical challenges of working outside. Using water-based paint in the studio and outdoors (weather permitting), we'll focus on key aspects such as creating a limited palette, paint application, composition and building space. Whether you're a beginner or developing your practice, you'll complete several paintings and gain confidence, skills and strategies for painting outside.

Course Tutor

Jo Lewis is an artist and educator. She trained at the University of Edinburgh and the École des Beaux-Arts in Valence. In her work, Jo uses ink and watercolour, frequently working outside in rivers. She has exhibited in the UK and France and has been commissioned and collected by institutions including Hermès, Barclays Bank, More London Collection of Contemporary Art, Raffles Hotels, Ripple USA, Ashted Hospital and Commonwealth Bank of Australia. Recent exhibitions include solo shows in London and Lyon and group shows in Paris. Jo has taught on many projects for the National Gallery since 2002 and has been a guest lecturer at the London Film School since 2010 and Paris College of Art since 2020.

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 using messy materials, both indoors and outdoors. All materials and equipment are provided.

Joining Information and Format

For ages 18+. 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.
