Weekend Masterclass



Sculpting Dogs

Dates Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 June 2023

Times 10.30-16.30 BST
Location At the museum
Tutor Sarah Tombs
Level All Levels



Adults sculpting with clay, Wallace Collection Learning Studio

Course Description

Make your own intimate sculpture of a dog using wire and clay. Over the course of a full weekend, you'll be guided through this highly effective sculpting method, helping you develop practical skills in translating ideas into 3D forms.

We'll consider different compositions by looking at the anatomy of dogs to help represent how they walk, run and stretch. Through recognizing the abstract shapes their bodies make – either in action or curled up sleeping – you'll find ways to convey their unique personalities. If you prefer, you can bring your own ideas for your dog sculpture, perhaps based on your favourite canine.

Saturday

We'll start our masterclass by making quick sketches and working out sculptural ideas. Following a visit to the *Portraits of Dogs: From Gainsborough to Hockney* exhibition to observe how artists have devised different ways to represent dogs, you'll develop your sketches to represent the size and basic shape of your final sculpture.

You'll then be guided through the process of working with aluminium wire to create the underlying armature support for your sculpted dog. You'll finish the day with a three-dimensional structure loosely based on the skeleton of a dog.

Sunday

In our second session, we'll introduce you to different approaches for making your sculpture, and the various modelling effects that you can try out using clay. In applying clay 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 dog 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.

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.

Joining Information and Format

This masterclass will take place in the Learning Studio, Lower Ground Floor at the museum. It includes access to the Portraits of Dogs: From Gainsborough to Hockney exhibition during the event.