

WEEKEND ART COURSE FOR BEGINNERS ISLE OF ARRAN

Friday 14th to Sunday 16th May 2010

“Art Course for Beginners” will be an introduction to sketching and watercolour painting and will be of particular interest to art enthusiasts who may have little or no experience in art. The course will be held on the beautiful Island of Arran often described as Scotland in miniature.

The course will explore the varied landscapes and seascapes of Arran, and should the weather prevent outdoor activities, participants will use the spacious hotel facilities which include panoramic views looking over to Isle Of Pladda and Ailsa Craig

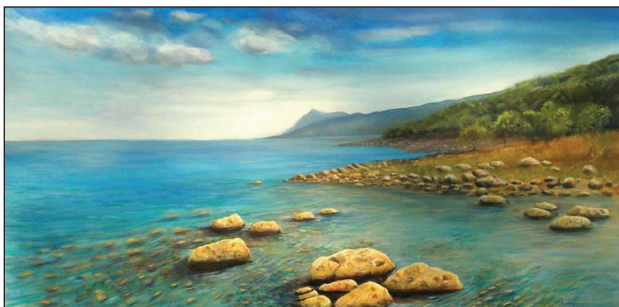
Participants will enjoy the luxury of the Kildonan Hotel which is a completely refurbished hotel situated on the beach at the south tip of the island. The hotel has panoramic views across to the island of Pladda, and Ailsa Craig. The nearby rocks are a haven for seals. (see www.kildonahotel.co.uk for more details)



Kildonan Hotel



View towards Ailsa Craig



'Rocks, Isle of Arran. Oil on canvas, Michael Gahagan

Course Schedule

The course will start on Friday 14th May 2010 with course introduction and meeting fellow participants and will conclude on Sunday 16th May 2010 at around 4.00pm The course is fully inclusive of tuition, meals and ensuite accommodation. Prices are based on double occupancy.

The size of the group will be kept to a maximum of 10 to ensure that participants receive maximum support and tuition to suit their style and pace.

The course will start at 3.00pm on Friday with a general introduction about the course ,meeting fellow participants , and briefly discussing individual needs.....this will not take long as there will be plenty of time for discussion throughout the course and Michael is keen that participants quickly start to practice their art.

The first afternoon is mainly about settling in, familiarity with location and taking the first steps to putting pencil to paper with a bit of sketching. The first day finishes at around 5.30 enabling participants some free time before meeting up for Dinner at around 7.30.After dinner participants can unwind relax and socialise if they want in the well stocked bar!

On the Saturday and Sunday participants meet around 9.30am after enjoying a full breakfast. The outline of the day is discussed and participants then go to the chosen location ,normally outside(weather permitting) from which there is a rich source of choice including splendid beaches, magnificent countryside and an array of nooks, cliffs and crannies. As well as group tuition and demonstrations individual support will be given to each participant in developing their own skills whatever their level. The tuition on the Saturday will finish at 4.30pm

On the Sunday participants will practice their skills and later in the afternoon will gather as a group to discuss the previous days' activities and enjoy seeing each others' progress with the formal course finishing at 4.00pm

About the Tutors

The course will be delivered by Glasgow artist *Michael Gahagan*.

The format of the course will be informal and supportive and is designed for those who have none or little experience in watercolour painting and wish to improve confidence and build their skills.

Participants will receive an introduction to watercolour painting through practical exercises in a supportive environment.: understand different types of paint, brushes, how to start painting, colour mixing, washes, tones and textures using the local scenery as reference.

Supporting Michael as guest artist will be his brother John who will provide a demonstration of his techniques and approaches to watercolour painting. John will also be available to answer participants queries on watercolour painting.

Michael has a particular focus in the scenery, climatic variations and wildlife of Scotland and this is reflected in a wide array of artistic representation which varies from his loose expressive watercolours to his animal and wildlife illustrations which feature in magazines and books. He has a growing demand for his pet portraiture commissions. Michael is also a professional Life and Business Coach and he combines his artistic and professional coaching skills to develop participants as unique individuals at their own pace and meet their artistic needs in a supportive and fun way! . Michael is also engaged with Skyros Holiday Company each summer to tutor Watercolour Painting and Sketching on the beautiful Greek island of Skyros (www.skyros.com) and will be delivering art courses for beginners at Kilmardinny Art Centre.

John is professional artist for over 25 years, and a graduate of the renowned Glasgow School of Art and a leading figure in the world of architectural illustration and landscape painting. His paintings truly capture his love for urban architecture and landscapes , from vibrant studies of architectural form, the bustle of a busy streetscape or the atmospheric variances of the Scottish landscape. Working in pen, watercolour, oils and acrylic, John has developed a unique range of styles described by collectors as ‘free and refreshing’ and ‘exciting and alive’.

Further information about Michael and John can be seen in their respective websites ;

Michael : www.ionaart.com and

John : www.johnartist.com

Cost

The cost of the course including full Scottish breakfast, lunch, dinner, ensuite accomodation and tuition is £295 per person.

Single accommodation subject to availability is an additional £40.00

Deposit of £50 (non-refundable, unless there is a waiting list) is required per person by 15 April 2010 . Balance to be paid by 30 April 2010

About the Isle of Arran

The Isle of Arran, Scotland is the most southerly Scottish island and sits in the Firth of Clyde between Ayrshire and Kintyre. Arran is 19 miles long by 10 miles wide but has a remarkable diversity of landscapes and seascapes.

The pretty villages on Arran's beautiful coastline are complemented by a rugged and mountainous interior in the north and green rolling hills and woodland in the south.

See www.visitarran.com

Getting to Arran

Arran is easily accessed by frequent ferry services from Ardrossan (North Ayrshire), which is ideally situated only a short drive from both Glasgow International and Glasgow Prestwick Airport.

There is a direct train service to Ardrossan Harbour from Glasgow Central station.

Regular train services are available from both airports. At Glasgow Airport, a shuttle bus links to train services leaving from Paisley Gilmour Street bound for Ardrossan Harbour. Alternatively, a taxi transfer to Paisley which is only a few miles away is also available. Glasgow Prestwick Airport has it's own rail station with services linking to Ardrossan Harbour.

The ferry crossing by car ferry from Ardrossan is served by the large and modern, MV Caledonian Isles, which has a range of on board facilities including a café serving meals, snacks, teas & coffees, a licensed bar, shop, soft play area and various comfortable lounges. The crossing from Ardrossan to Brodick takes 55 minutes and it is advisable to book your crossing in advance if you are planning to bring a car to the island.

Full details of the ferry timescales and fares are outlined in the Caledonian Macbrayne web site. (www.calmac.co.uk)