

Course Title	Materials and Mark Making
Tutor	Jane Millar and Zoe Toolan
Studio Session Dates	Friday 20th September – Friday 29th November 2024 Reading week: 28th October - 3rd November
Session Times	10:30AM - 4:30PM
Course Code	E2401D62
Studio	Bankside Studio 3
Course Fees	£675

Course overview

This course investigates the power, possibilities, and meaning of mark making in drawing. Each week you will approach mark making from a different perspective, contextualising your work through discussion of contemporary and historical artists who use drawing in their practice. Over the course you will test materials and experiment, use time and process to layer marks and create drawing devices from objects. Your aim will be to develop a deep and vibrant visual vocabulary of mark making in drawing, using a wide and experimental range of tools, materials, and approaches.

Learning outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Develop and apply a rich vocabulary of mark making.
- Develop knowledge of the work of others and apply findings to their own work, expanding the practice of drawing.
- Use a wide range of both fundamental and unconventional drawing materials.
- Make drawings exploring concepts such as repetition, time and chance.
- Apply new techniques and use new materials, exploring drawing in two and three dimensions.
- Create a diverse and experimental series of drawings that explore drawing beyond the observational.
- Apply safe-working practices at all times.

What Level is the course and do I need any particular skills?

This course is suitable for all levels.

About your tutors

Jane Millar studied Fine Art at Canterbury Art College and at the Royal College of Art. She works as a curator and lecturer. Her artistic practice is in painting and sculptural ceramics. Recent shows include the Creekside Opens 2017 and 2019, selected by Alison Wilding, and Brian Griffiths; *Fuzzy Objects* at San Mei Gallery and has recently curated *New Doggerland* parts 1 and 2. <http://www.jane-millar.co.uk/home/>

Zoe Toolan (she/her) is a working class artist educator from Yorkshire, now based in Brighton. Her art is live and social with drawing at its core and learning integrated into her practice instead of a separate activity; she often challenges what drawing is with the aim of opening discussion and debate around wider issues. Zoe is passionate about art being an essential part of everyone's everyday life and has shown work in spaces ranging from traditional galleries to music festivals. She has completed projects for bodies including L.A.D.A. and Axis, and is a contributing author to DK's *The Artist's Manual*. Zoe is Art Academy London's Certificate Programme Leader and the Head of Drawing for Public Programmes. <http://www.zklt.co.uk>

Weekly breakdown

Below is a weekly breakdown of what will be covered. Please bear in mind that these sessions will move with the pace of the group, so a degree of flexibility of what will be covered on which day will be employed.

Wk	Date	Topic/Activity	Location & Tutor(s)	What you'll need
1	Friday 20th September 2024	<p>Health & Safety briefing</p> <p>Immediacy and response</p> <p>The course will start with a discussion about mark making and explore ideas considered within the practice of drawing.</p> <p>In this first week, we will work with the notion of mark making as an expression of immediacy, and explore the boundaries between ourselves, the mark and the surface. Using techniques such as continuous line and blind contour drawing, we will work towards fluid and unselfconscious mark making.</p>	Jane Millar Bankside 3	<p>EACH WEEK:</p> <p>Please bring a range of pencils; pens (any type and different colours); masking tape, a sketchbook; a pad of cartridge paper (A2 is a good size, can also use different colour paper); Tracing paper or any other interesting paper to work on or with; Charcoal - willow and compressed. Rubbers - putty and standard eraser; pencil sharpener. A range of other drawing tools such as graphite, conte, pastels, ink (various colours); crayons, oil bars etc. Any other materials you wish to explore and work with to make marks e.g. needle and thread etc</p>
2	Friday 27th September 2024	<p>What is a mark?</p> <p>Artists such as Cornelia Parker and Richard Long will be discussed at the start of the day as a contextual reference and starting point.</p> <p>We will test and broaden our mark making vocabulary through collecting and using unconventional tools and materials with which to draw. The interaction of wet and dry materials; testing of raw/found tools; and ideas of drawing with detritus / dust / and traces will be explored.</p>	Jane Millar Bankside 3	<p>As above plus any interesting things you think might make a mark - you tutor will advise you in week one regarding this.</p>
3	Friday 4th October 2024	<p>Line and distillation</p> <p>Artists such as Hockney and Louise Bourgeois will be discussed at the start of the day as a contextual reference and starting point.</p>	Jane Millar Bankside 3	<p>All drawing materials.</p>

		We will focus on line, exploring in depth the potential of line and asking what does line quality mean? Over the day we will investigate weight, isolation, fluidity, expression, editing and restraint.		
4	Friday 11th October 2024	Gallery Visit	Jane Millar	Sketch books, drawing materials
5	Friday 18th October 2024	Layering, erasing, process and time Artists such as Troy Brauntauch, George Seurat, Jennifer D Andersson, Richard Serra, and Josephine Pryde will be discussed at the start of the day as a contextual reference and starting point. We will be working with 'soft' materials - ie graphite, charcoal, and oil bar - to deeply explore their qualities and potential for layering, blurring, adding and erasing. We will test how these materials can be built up and worked to suggest volume, mass, accumulation, luminosity and density. Surfaces such as tracing paper will be explored to increase softness and dissipation, and you will work towards drawings that suggest process and time.	Jane Millar Bankside 3	All drawing materials
6	Friday 25th October 2024	Surfaces and transformation Relevant artists' works will be discussed at the start of the day as a contextual reference and starting point. Today we will use mark making to transform existing surfaces and objects. The idea is to bring something new into being through drawing, considering an existing surface as in flux, and responding to the existing character, marks, or text, in order to generate new meanings or readings.	Zoe Toolan Bankside 3	All drawing materials PLUS Quink ink, wax candle or crayon, white conte and other white drawing media such as Tippex pens, acrylic paint, white oil or chalk pastel, bleach, different types of packing card (grey and brown), discarded objects (from recycling bin), cutting implements, sandpaper, thread, needles etc. Please have drawings from the first part of the course to work from.
Reading Week				

7	Friday 8th November 2024	<p>Site specific mark making</p> <p>Relevant artists such as Marcelo Moscheta and the Artgene collective will be discussed at the start of the day as contextual reference and starting point.</p> <p>We will work from an available location indoors or outside, with the aim to develop a vocabulary of marks which describe and embody a place. We will explore the sites through innovative records - rubbings and tracing, responses to sounds - developing marks to represent and capture the particular qualities of the site. We will build up an 'alternative picture' of Place through personal mark making. The day's 'site map' will ultimately consist of many different outcomes and manifestations, potentially including mark making and drawing interventions in and around the site itself.</p>	Zoe Toolan Bankside 3	Drawing materials and media. PLUS thin paper such as printer paper or newsprint, a graphite stick, a wax candle or crayon, Quink ink, cutting implements, thread, needles etc.
8	Friday 15th November 2024	<p>Three dimensional mark making</p> <p>Artists such as Tatiana Trouve and Eva Hesse will be discussed at the start of the day as contextual reference and starting point.</p> <p>This week we will be taking drawing into three dimensions, by considering the spatial qualities of marks made using materials such as wire, thread, wool. We will also explore scale in relation to the body, the space between body and the space between objects; and the experience of 'walking around' a drawing and seeing it from the other side.</p>	Zoe Toolan Bankside 3	All drawing materials and media. PLUS brown box cardboard, cutting tools, soft wire (from hardware stores), different threads, discarded objects from recycling bin for cutting up plus
9	Friday 22nd November 2024	<p>Mark making 'machines'</p> <p>Artists such as Rebecca Horn and Yu-Chen Wang will be discussed at the start of the day as contextual reference and starting point.</p> <p>This week we move from marks we make directly, to marks made by the particular movement of objects, crafted devices, and drawing 'machines'. Performative and kinetic ideas and methods will be explored.</p>	Zoe Toolan Bankside 3	All drawing materials and additional materials and tools from the preceding weeks.
10	Friday 29th November 2024	<p>Personal exploration</p> <p>In this final week you will be encouraged to explore further one or more of the preceding ideas, with guidance from the tutor.</p>	Zoe Toolan Bankside 3	All drawing materials, media, tools etc

Preparation Requirements & Additional Costs

YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN MATERIALS.

Below is a list of what is currently required for the course. Please also check the 'what to bring' sections above. Your tutor will advise if further materials or equipment are required as the course progresses.

Each week you are asked to bring:

- Pencils and charcoal - willow and compressed
- Sketch book
- conté - optional
- graphite
- variety of fine line pens

If you do not have your own drawing materials, there is an option to order a **Drawing Pack** at the time of booking which will be available when you arrive for your first class. You can purchase this via the following link;

<http://artacademy.org.uk/evening-classes/materials/>

A **Drawing Pack** contains

One set of lead pencils (2B, 4B, 6B)
One box of willow charcoal sticks
One box of compressed charcoal sticks
One set of conté crayons
Putty Rubber
Eraser
Auto lock knife

Certain materials can also be purchased from the Academy shop during shop hours. Please check in advance of your class if the item you require is available, as the Academy may not stock all items listed above.

Resources & Further Reading

Please note reading lists are suggested, not required.

Author	Year	Title	Publisher	Location
Maslen, M.	1999	<i>The Drawing Projects: An Exploration of the Language of Drawing</i>	Black Dog Publishing	London

Other useful resources (websites, galleries etc)

Galleries such as the Drawing Room, Bermondsey and The Paper Gallery, Manchester.

Blog and image sites such as <http://contemporary-drawing.tumblr.com/>

Who can I contact for further information?

General information and advice on courses at Art Academy London is available from the main office, open Monday to Friday 09:00 – 17:00 during term time.

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7407 6969 or email our Reception at info@artacademy.ac.uk

Location

Art Academy – Bankside Campus
185 Park Street

London SE1 9SH

The Art Academy is conveniently located minutes away from London Bridge (Northern and Jubilee lines, National Rail services), Southwark (Jubilee Lines) and Borough (Northern line) underground stations. Please [click here](#) for a map, what three words input.

Just moments walk from the Thames, Art Academy London is also ideally located for access to:

- White Cube
- Tate Modern
- The Globe
- Bankside Gallery

If you would like to make the most of the area a member of the team will be happy to advise you on areas of interest locally.

Refreshments & Facilities

All students have access to the common area located in the basement level of the building, here you will have use of a fridge, kettle, microwave and eating area.

There is a wealth of supermarkets, shops and cafes in the area as well as the world-famous Borough Food Market, fifteen minutes walk away.

Disabled Access

The campus has an elevator and has no threshold from the street level providing full step free access. We make every effort to accommodate students' access requirements, if you have mobility issues please speak to a member of the Academy team before your course starts.

Further Details

- You will need to have paid in full for your class before the first session of your class, your place is not guaranteed until we have received payment.
- If you purchased a materials pack online this will be given to you on the first session of your course upon your arrival.
- Ensure that you wear appropriate clothing, as you may get messy!
- All artwork at the Academy MUST be taken home at the end of the course.
- Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off, or is on silent, during the class.
- Please read the Health and Safety Guidelines carefully, provided at the beginning of your course.
- If you wish to join any class for the next term please contact the office to re-book. Classes are becoming increasingly popular, so please book early in order to guarantee your place.
- If you have any further queries let us know and we will do our best to resolve them. Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to seeing you.