

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

Printed Seasonal Cards Course Information Sheet

WHEN:	Thursday 14 November
TIME:	10am - 3pm
WHERE:	Eastern Arm, Chichester Cathedral
COURSE FEE:	£50.00
BOOK:	Ticketsource www.ticketsource.co.uk and Cathedral's Cloisters Shop
COURSE TUTOR:	Cath Bristow

Course Description

Join us for this relaxed and enjoyable workshop to print seasonal cards and gift tags using your own unique design.

On this workshop you will learn the relief printing process of linocutting. We will be using a specialist soft vinyl block to carve. This produces identical results to lino but is much easier to work with. Relief printing is an absorbing technique, offering a rewarding end result and is suitable for all levels of ability.

We will start the day by looking at examples of relief prints from a variety of printmakers before moving on to consider what images you might use as a starting point to develop into a seasonal card design. You are welcome to bring along images to work with or use the Cathedral's features such as stained-glass windows, carvings or tapestries for inspiration.

You will learn how to simplify your chosen image into a design suitable for vinyl cutting before transferring it to an A6 sized vinyl block ready for carving. Designs can be traced onto the vinyl block so there is no need to worry about drawing ability.

You will be introduced to a variety of vinyl cutting tools called gouges to carve your block. The gouges are small chisels - like cutting tools with different shaped blades. These are used to carve a variety of widths and depths into the block, creating different qualities of line and texture within your design. There will be test blocks available so that you can test out the gouges first before carving your own block.

You will learn how to use a roller to roll up the ink and transfer it to your carved block. The inks we will be using are professional quality water-based ink, which create a beautiful smooth finish. The inked block will be printed by hand onto blank greetings cards, tags or paper. Within the workshop there will be time for you to mix your own coloured ink to create different colours, tints, tones and blends as well as experiment with a technique of applied coloured tissue paper called chine colle, to add multiple colours to your seasonal card design.

By the end of the course you will have printed a collection of seasonal cards and gift tags to give to family and friends as well as created your own unique vinyl cut block that you can continue printing with at home.

The workshop aims to:

- Create an exciting opportunity to enable you to hand print seasonal cards using your own design
- support learners to gain confidence to develop their creative ideas into prints
- make the workshop accessible through tutor demonstrations, printed samples and examples of the work of other printmakers throughout
- promote a positive and fun atmosphere where participants can be creative in a safe and supportive environment

Who is this course for?

This is a course for adults and is suitable for complete beginners as well as those with previous printmaking experience who would like to refresh their knowledge and learn a different approach.

By the end of the course you will have:

- designed a one colour vinyl block from your chosen image
- learned how to use a vinyl cutting tool
- selected appropriate shape and size gouges to carve your design into the vinyl block
- rolled up a single colour ink and colour blends to ink your block
- experimented with mixing and printing different colours
- experimented with adding colours using applied coloured tissue paper
- learned how to register your print
- print using hand burnishing
- created a set of seasonal cards and gift tags
- created your own unique carved vinyl block that you can continue printing with at home.

What materials will I need for the course?

- An apron
- A sketchbook for ideas and notes
- Images for inspiration that you might like to use. Images that are bold and simple with some detail will work best. N.B We will be carving an A6 sized piece of vinyl.
- A folder to carry your work home

Who is the course tutor?



Cath has been teaching and leading workshops within adult education and community settings for over twenty years. Her background is within community and social engagement, facilitating printmaking workshops and residencies in schools, as well as museums and public spaces across the South East. Cath currently facilitates regular workshops for Chichester Cathedral, the Friends Centre (Brighton) and Screen-Art Printmaking Studio (Brighton) alongside her freelance outreach work. She has a degree in Art and Social Context from Dartington College of Arts, Devon and a MA in Textiles (Printmaking) from Goldsmiths College, London. Cath is a practicing printmaker specialising in collagraph and screen printing. The loose theme of her work explores the existence of the natural world within the city. She is a member of Bip-Art, a Brighton based printmaking studio and exhibits regularly during the Brighton May Festival and at art fairs across the South East. You can see examples of her work here:

https://www.instagram.com/cath_bristow_prints/?hl=en

<http://www.cathbristow.co.uk/>

<https://social-fabric.co.uk/>

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