



**LINO PRINTING WORKSHOP
INFORMATION PACK**

WHO IS THE COURSE AIMED AT

Most of the people who come on the course are complete beginners, some have never printed before. Some wish to relearn skills others wish to acquire new skills. The common thread is a desire to learn. The best way to learn or improve is to practice under the guidance of an experienced and sympathetic teacher in a small group. The workshops are led by myself (linocut printmaker, Ian Phillips) and I have a maximum of three students. More experienced students may like to consider the 1:1 tuition and focus on particular elements of their printmaking (please contact me directly).

COURSE OUTLINE

This workshop is not intended as a complete overview of printing with lino. It aims to give you a strong foundation in the techniques and materials used while alerting you to the potential problems. This should allow you to return home with the skills to develop your own distinct prints as part of your artistic practice or enjoyable hobby. I teach a combination of the Western and the traditional Japanese hand printing technique using a baren to apply pressure. No press is used.

DAY 1 - INTRODUCTION - 10.00 AM START

I will give a brief introduction to lino printing. We look through my portfolio to see some of my early prints and compare them to my latest work. We then examine the reduction process and have an informal and relaxed chat about styles of linoprint, woodcut and, where relevant, other artists' work. At this point we usually discuss where the students are in their practice and what they would like to achieve. We will then move on to talk in more detail about the reduction process, the materials and tools including:

- drawing for print; what you can and cannot do within the restrictions of the medium
- paper and inks
- trying the various cutting tools and basic mark making
- adding texture
- inking up and using the roller
- basic registration
- hand printing using the baren instead of the printing press

After lunch we will each begin a black and white print and talk about:

- preparing the lino
- choosing an image
- picture balance and composition
- different methods of transferring image to lino
- reversal of image
- cutting
- printing
- experimentation

DAY 2 - DRAWING AND LINO PREPARATION

Once we have each completed a single colour print in the morning, the second day will focus on producing a multi colour print. Areas that will be covered are:

- tips and techniques to consider before printing
- choosing your image/sketch
- drawing and composition for colour lino
- colour and layer planning
- demonstration of multi colour process
- inking, mixing colours and using graduations
- registration and laying paper
- adding pattern while printing
- cleaning block between colours
- cutting colour layers and alterations while printing
- leaving stuff out

After lunch on the second day you will start the preparation for your own multi colour print, including:

- drawing and lino preparation
- preparing registration marks
- transferring own drawing to lino
- printing (if time)

DAY 3 - MULTI-COLOUR PRINTING AND FINAL CRITIQUE

The third day will be spent cutting and printing until your print is finished. We will have a review at the end of the day and look at the wonderful collection of prints produced. There will be plenty of time for questions throughout the day.

DATES 2012

The workshops run on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday throughout 2012

March 26 - 28

April 16 - 18

May 14 - 16

June 11 - 13

July 23 - 25

August 20 - 22

COST

The workshop costs £275 for three days and includes materials, equipment (see 'what to bring') and lunch.

HOW TO BOOK

Please send a deposit of £50 along with your contact details to Ian Phillips, Studio 2, London House, 11 Maengwyn Street, Machynlleth, Powys, SY20 8AA. The balance should be paid 3 weeks before the course start date. If you would like to book within three weeks of the course date the complete balance is due. You will receive a receipt and confirmation of your place.

WHAT TO BRING

A big concern of some prospective students is what to bring with them for the workshop. All you really need to bring with you are the art basics: a sketchbook; pencils; biro and either sketches or reference photographs, magazine cuttings etc. of an image you would like to do a linocut from. It can also be very useful to bring with you examples of other artists' (especially printmakers) work that you like and are inspired by. If you have already tried linocut printing please bring your prints with you as it helps me assess the areas of your work to focus on and other members of the workshop always get a lot of pleasure and encouragement from seeing the work of others.

On the workshop you will be supplied with: lino, cutting tools, paper, ink, rollers, china-graph pencils and baren.

WHERE TO STAY

There are a wide range of hotels and guest houses in and around Machynlleth. A good place to look is the Visit Wales website www.visitwales.co.uk. However we can recommend several.

The Wynnstay Hotel

This is the main hotel in town and has the advantage of being directly opposite the studio. There is a car park, restaurant, pizza restaurant and a bar with log fire. Website address is www.wynnstay-hotel.com

Talbontdrain B&B

Several people have stayed here and recommended it highly. It is about 5 miles from the studio in a remote location. Website address is www.talbontdrain.co.uk

Escape Guest House

The Escape is in the small village of Pennal about three miles from Machynlleth. Website address is www.aberdovey-escape.co.uk

FINDING THE STUDIO

The workshop takes place at my studio in Machynlleth. We start at 10am on Monday morning and usually finish around 4pm. The studio is on the top floor of London House which is directly opposite the Wynnstay Hotel on Maengwyn Street (the main street). The ground floor of London House is a hairdressing salon. You will see a green door to the left of the salon with black lettering on the door. Enter, go up two flights of stairs to the top floor and the studio is on the left.

DIRECTIONS TO MACHYNLLETH

Machynlleth is a small market town on the southern edge of Snowdonia National Park, nine miles from the coast. It is very well serviced by public transport and A roads.

Travelling by car

To get some idea of distance, Machynlleth is a two hour drive from Shrewsbury, via Welshpool and Mallwyd. If you are coming from the North of England, Midlands or South East, it is likely that you will come via Shrewsbury. Machynlleth is very well signposted from Shrewsbury.

If travelling from South Wales there are a variety of routes. We recommend heading to Builth Wells, then Rhayader, then Llangurig, then Llanidloes and over the mountain pass to Machynlleth. From North Wales, head to Dolgellau and follow the signs!

Travelling by train

We are lucky to have a railway station in Machynlleth that links directly to several main line stations (Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton, Birmingham New Street and Birmingham International). The studio and Wynnstay Hotel is a 5 minute walk from the station.

If you have any concerns about travelling, please don't hesitate to contact me on 07568 058844

CONTACT DETAILS

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