

# HAUSPRINT Etching Year: Course Information

## What will I be doing?

You will establish a firm foundation in etching. You will learn how to prepare plates, use hard and soft grounds, explore aquatint techniques including box and coarse aquatint, spitbite and sugar lift, as well as how to prepare paper for printing and how to use an etching press. You will learn technical information about strengths of acids and biting times.

We will guide you through increasingly more advanced techniques including colour and multi-plate printing, chine colle and professional registration and editioning.

You will develop ideas and techniques together to develop as a printmaker and as an artist.

The year finishes with an exciting opportunity to plan an end-of-year public exhibition with your course mates, giving you something to work towards and celebrate together with real experience of exhibition planning and delivery.

The **HAUSPRINT** Etching Year is a unique opportunity to build your printmaking skills over the course of a year- it is designed to provide stable building blocks for your printmaking future whatever your starting point. You will be guided through a programme delivered in three parts. The course is suitable for complete beginners as well as those who have some experience and wish to further explore their printmaking practice.

The course will help you understand how to make the best prints from your plates, to be able to choose inks and paper and to print and edition work to a professional standard.

## What is the course timetable?

### Term Dates

Weekly classes are delivered over three terms.

### Term 1

Mon 3, 10, 17, 24 June 6-9pm

Mon 1, 8, 15, 22 July 6-9pm

### Term 2

Mon 9, 16, 23, 30 September 6-9pm

Mon 7, 14, 21 October 6-9pm. No class 28 October

Full day Sat 2 or Sunday 3 November 10-4pm, Mon 11, 18, 25 November 6-9pm

Mon 2, 9 December 6-9pm

### **Term 3**

Mon 6, 13, 20, 27 January

Mon 3, 10 February. No class Mon 17 Feb. Full day Sat 22 or Sunday 23 Feb 10-4pm tbc

Mon 24 February 6-9pm

Mon 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March 6-9pm

Mon 7, 14 April. No class 21 April. Mon 28 April exhibition prep

**Private View tbc:** Thursday 8 May 2025

### **Term 1: Techniques and Inspiration**

Lay the foundation of your understanding of etching techniques and find new ways to consider and create source material for your prints. The first weeks are underpinned with drawing challenges designed to develop your drawing skills to explore your creative inspiration. You will build your confidence in looking, remembering, recording, imagining, and interpreting.

### **Term 2: Develop and Expand**

You will explore more advanced etching techniques and hone your printmaking skills, learning about paper, inks, exploring inking techniques for different results, and understanding how to print (edition) consistently to make your prints express your intentions.

### **Term 3: Personal Project**

In a series of etchings, bring together everything you have learnt. In this part of the course there will be opportunities to try out techniques that will compliment your etchings, including chine collee, relief and monotype techniques.

### **Classes will include:**

- Demonstration of techniques
- Opportunities to recap and ask questions
- Drawing exercises
- Group discussion
- Tutorials
- One-to-one critiques and tutorials, particularly important in supporting your personal project

- Self- directed time in class
- Specific historical and contemporary artist's prints as reference to understanding use of technique and visual language
- Print examples/ print room visits
- A research/ drawing project will be set in the August and December holidays- meant to be fun and useful
- Professional Practice guidance in preparation for exhibiting work

### **Exhibition**

In the final part of the course you will prepare your work for exhibition at the studio to celebrate your Etching Year, with discussion and guidance on all aspects of editioning, selection, photographing, framing, pricing and exhibiting your work, etc.

Exhibition (and PV party!) May 2025, date TBC

### **What is special about the course?**

- Class size is limited, ensuring that you will get a lot of one-to-one help and support
- The course is designed to build your confidence and skills both as an artist and a printmaker- we think that this combination is key to getting the most out of your printmaking. You will work together with your class and build a strong creative rapport with tutors, each other and the wider HAUSPRINT community of printmakers
- In addition to working with our expert tutors, we have embedded opportunities to learn from our exhibition programme into the course timetable. Accompanying the exhibitions there will be a talk and class run by the exhibiting artist. These sessions will give insight into the ways in which they use printmaking in their practice and suggest new methods to try yourself
- External visits give unique access to print studios and print collections, and supplement the studio classes, inspiring and broadening your knowledge of artists and printmaking technique
- You will be invited to take part in special classes run by our artist members
- 10 x Studio Sessions (60 hours total) to use across the year, allowing more time to expand and explore outside the taught sessions