

Exploring Art Programme for 2026

January 23rd (Friday): Colour Theory and colour mixing exercises.

February 2nd (Monday) Show and tell, the Anchor, 10am. (remember you can't get in in before 10)

February 27th (Friday): A painting using colour harmony and contrast.

Examples

- Paint a picture in all shades of one colour, with some parts of the picture in the opposite colour.
- Paint the background in one colour, then paint the picture in shades of another colour allowing some of the background to show through.

March 18th (Wednesday) visit to The Thelma Hulbert Gallery to see the Looking for Appearance Exhibition followed by lunch at Toast.

March 27th (Friday): Creating an Illusion A fun session drawing an optical illusion of a 3D space. We will work through this exercise together then you can personalise it to make a unique picture.

April 24th (Friday): Drawing a Pose: Line drawings of figures in pen. Looking at drawings by Matisse, Modigliani and Cocteau.

May: **No meeting**

June 11th (Thursday) Trip to RAMM gallery in Exeter to see the "Colour" exhibition.

June July and August - Natural Forms Project.

June 26th (Friday): Natural Forms. Outdoor sketching/photography session looking for shapes to use in a painting. Location to be arranged, but **not in the Guide HQ**.

July 24th (Friday): Preparing the painting by creating a collage/drawing or mixed media piece based on your sketches and photos.

August 28th: A big abstract painting using big brushes! "Big" is a relative term, so just think bigger than you would normally do. "Abstract" covers a whole spectrum of forms, so just think less realistic than you would normally do. The idea is to step outside your comfort zone.

September: **No meeting**.

Early October: Show and tell of the paintings. Date to be arranged.

October 23rd (Friday): Chiarascuro. A light and shade drawing, either still-life or portrait.

November 27th (Friday): a painting, collage or mixed media piece which emphasises light and dark.

December: **No meeting**.

Please Note

I have tried to organise the trips on different days as I know that people in the group have various different commitments, so hopefully you can come to some of them.

Subs. Just a reminder that if you want to be a member of Exploring Art you should pay your subs even if you have to miss some meetings. Subs are not paid every month but in £5 payments when the kitty needs topping up. If you are not able to come to the meeting when I have asked for Subs, just pay the next time you come. The kitty is used to pay for the hire of the Guide HQ and to occasionally buy things that we need. All payments in and out of the kitty are recorded in the group Ledger on the Beacon system.