

OFF THE RAILS ARTHOUSE

Late January News

Dear Friends,

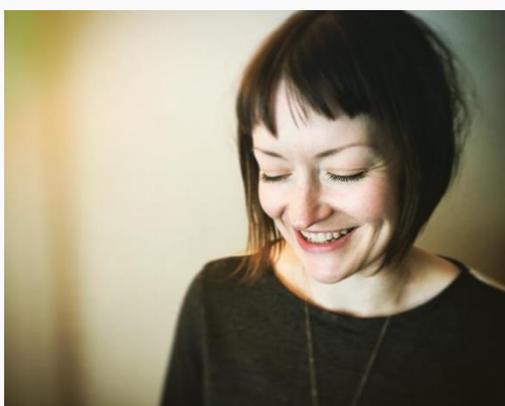
Hope everyone is getting through January with their cheery-o-meters in good shape! Getting lighter every day. Well, a wee bit anyway.

We have some very interesting updates for you, with further details about workshops we have mentioned previously, along with information about some new ones which have come onstream.

Before we start though, we thought we should let you know that we are piloting the use of Eventbrite for workshop bookings. Some of you have used it already for a couple of workshops. It is very easy to use and means that booking and paying is done online at the same time. Our cancellation and refund policies are just the same. Also, if you find using Eventbrite difficult, there is still an option to pay by bank transfer or cheque, so email us and we will sort you out. We will keep you posted as the pilot rolls out. We want to make our systems as efficient as possible for you.

So, on to the updates, Chinese Brush Painting has proven very popular and is now fully booked, but we will have further dates for this workshop in the near future, so keep an eye on the website. We are also hopeful that popular lady Sharon Black will consider another workshop in due course.

There are still a couple of spaces on Jane Wilkinson's [Introduction to Woven Bowls](#), on Saturday 16 February. This is always a very successful day and enjoyed by everyone. You get up to speed with willow weaving at a cracking pace and generate lots of lovely, useful things. Jane is also running a one-day workshop on woven garden structures on Saturday 11 May. Details of that will be on the website very soon.



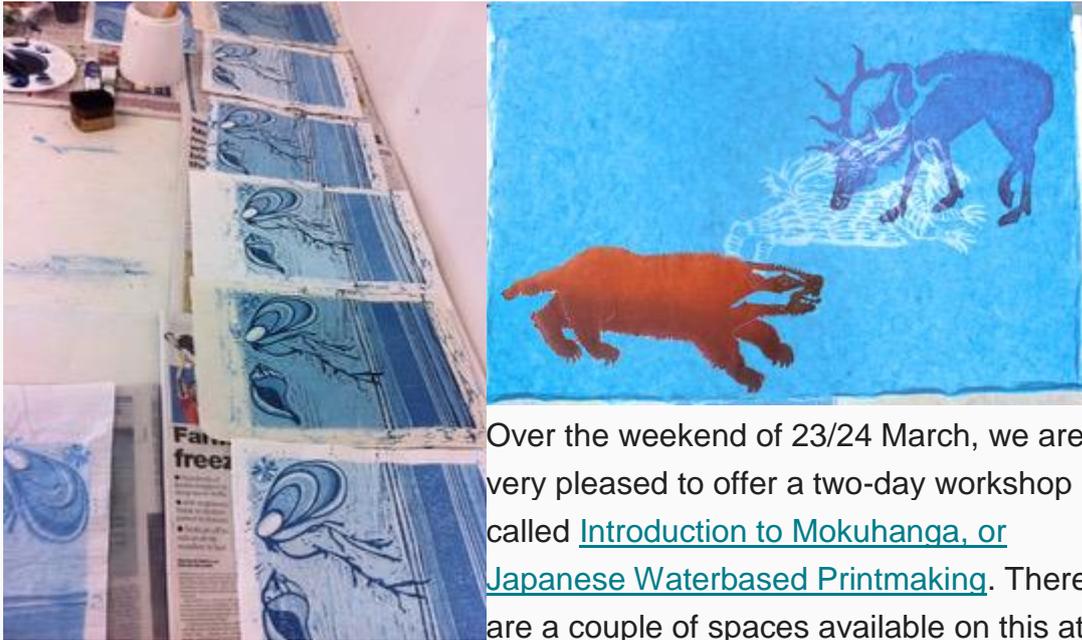
The following weekend, the 23/24 February, you will remember that Rebecca Sharp returns for a weekend creative writing and ideas generating workshop called [Creative Cartographies - Mapping Imaginative Landscapes](#). There are now just a couple of spaces left so please get in touch very soon if you want to book one or would welcome a further discussion about what is involved.

Rebecca will work with you individually from your own starting point, even if you consider yourself to be at an early stage of ideas generation. You will see some excellent testimonials from previous students on our website, and Rebecca's own [website](#) is well worth a visit too.

There are also still a couple of places available on Lara Scouller's weekend workshop [Shoreline](#) on 2/3 March. This is an opportunity to explore pastel and mixed media with a true expert and very good teacher to boot. Do please have a look at [Lara's own website](#), which shows her beautiful work with natural form.



Now to three new workshops.



Over the weekend of 23/24 March, we are very pleased to offer a two-day workshop called [Introduction to Mokuhanga, or Japanese Waterbased Printmaking](#). There are a couple of spaces available on this at the moment. The workshop will be delivered by Elspeth Lamb, renowned international artist and former tutor at Edinburgh College of Art. You will find detailed information about what is involved on our website and there is also more about Elspeth herself there. The workshop explores a technique which involves inking the block with watercolour paints and specialist brushes as opposed to the western form of printmaking which utilizes oil based solvent inks applied with rollers. This makes it easy to learn and a very accessible technique which can be carried out at home. All materials and tools are supplied.



Looking a bit ahead to the end of April, the weekend of 27/28th, we are delighted to welcome back Kate Downie, one of Scotland's best known and most successful artists. Kate delivered an inspiring workshop a couple of years ago and has planned another brilliant experience. Called [Nature Vivant/Un Still Life](#), (the title of her forthcoming exhibition at the Scottish Gallery), this workshop will involve experimental filming, drawing and monoprinting practices to support participants to create suites of drawings and prints that explore movement, colour and abstraction in nature. We are talking excitement, the unexpected, personal creative journeys, hard work and a lot of fun. As you

would expect, this is booking up very fast, so get cracking if you would like a place.

Finally, for now at least, our very good friend Fraser Taylor returns for a four-day workshop from 15 to 18 June.

Called [Drawing as Impulse](#), this is an intense workout looking at drawing as a device to access ideas and explore chance and embrace the unpredictable.

The class will be studio and location based and no previous drawing experience is required. If you would like to find out more about what is involved, click on the website link. Places are going fast, so get in quick. Very worthwhile indeed.



So there you go. Lots to consider.

And as if that wasn't enough, we are giving you advance notice of a one-day workshop in May by Edinburgh artist Sarah Knox, the annual Artline Open Doors event on 4/5 May and other goodies taking shape. We are also beginning to pull our summer school programme together.

Summer - now that is a nice thought.....