



4 DAY CREATIVE DIGITAL PRINTING WORKSHOP

For basic, intermediate and advanced level students familiar with medium A3+ desktop and wide format inkjet printers.

Fees for the course: 400 € includes tuition and all materials required

The idea of this extended workshop is to open the doors to the possibilities of inkjet printing on a wide variety of media; encourage the use of alternative printing methods and enable the student to have time to complete complex processes from start to finish. This is a creative course with an emphasis on technical solutions to unique problems.

By learning about the technical possibilities and limitations of inkjet printers, the student will quickly be able to assess the potential success of an idea based on the hard facts governing these complex printing devices. By understanding what the printer can and cannot do the student will be able to implement creative solutions to overcome problems.

Workshop outline

The workshop will give the student advanced training on operating Epson Medium and Wide Format printers including settings for various media and print quality.

- The workshop will begin with understanding colour; the calibration of monitors including your own laptops, working with and creating custom profiles for a wide range of hand coated and factory coated media.
- The student will learn how to adjust special settings for the printers to maximise the quality by adjusting inkjet focus, platten gap and media feed based on media thickness and ink absorption.
- The workshop will include the preparation of inkjet pre-coatings on a variety of alternative media including thin papers, fine art papers, synthetic materials and metal sheet.
- Create your own inkjet coatings from standard art materials. Combine traditional art materials and colours with inkjet printing to add depth and enhance the visual quality of the work.
- Methods for media feed including edge to edge on deckled edge papers. How to print an album (such as a wedding album) on both sides of double sided media, and how to print on asymmetric flat shapes.
- The advanced use of Qimage - one of the best and cost effective printing software solutions will allow the student to print with professional control and certain results. How to set up the software to maximise your computers available resources. The printing workflow includes the use of colour profiles for standard Epson Media and any new profiles created on the course by participants.
- Post coating for print protection. The use of postcoats applied with spray, sponge roller and brush for special effects. Coatings include UVLS (Ultra Violet Light Stabilisers) to maximise pigment print life and durability.

Facilities at the studio

Students will have the full use of:

- 2 Windows XP OS computers with calibrated monitors (you are encouraged to use your own laptop if you have one to reduce waiting times on the printing workstations).
- Epson 7800, 9880 and R2400 inkjet printers with Ultrachrome K3 inks for Gloss and Matte media.
- Post coat sprayer system with compressor and HVLP spray gun, roller applicators and several types of post coat varnishes with a variety of finishes.
- Wireless ADSL internet connection.

Students should bring their own files for printing (on CD or DVD as memory sticks can carry viruses) and any personal choices of media up to 1.8mm thick. This really is the thickness limit for these wide format printers and depending on the coatings there may be problems which we cannot overcome.

Keep in mind that this workshop is intended to produce finished work, but the main purpose is to experiment and explore a wide variety of ideas and methods for production. The limited time available will become very busy with prints in the queue and the aim of the course is to inspire and encourage experiment.

Accommodation and transport

Please see our website for a list of hotels and accommodation in the area. For further information please write to me at garywornell@gmail.com