

# 1 – 6 Sept 2019 5 day Drawing & Ceramic Course in Umbria, Italy

This Course will be led by Artist & Ceramicists Robert Cooper & Ruth Franklin. Beginning with a delicious Umbrian lunch and introduction to the week ahead.

***One-to-one tuition and demonstrations will be given throughout the Course.***

**Day 1** In the Art Studio, alongside visual examples, students will be taught how to create *quick, expressive drawings and textured relief rubbings*, using charcoal, conte crayon and graphite.

Creating varieties of pressed clay textured imprints will also be demonstrated, prior to a leisurely group stroll around Villa Pia, and the nearby Medieval village of Lippiano. Inspired by the diverse landscape, students will be encouraged to create clay and paper textured surfaces, alongside quick charcoal drawings.

Each day if needed, there will be customary breaks for tea, coffee, juices, villa-cooked cake, fruit, or alcohol! And prior to lunch and dinnertime, classes will finish with plenty of time for swims and naps.

**Day 2** Reflecting on the previous afternoon's work, and with initial demonstrations, students will experiment in the studio, as well as surrounding areas, using coloured inks, paint, conte crayons and charcoal, to create *coloured textural drawings*.

Following clay demonstrations of *textural mark-making and slab construction*, students will be developing their own individual ideas onto slab surfaces, as well as developing and integrating their previous day's clay imprints.

**Day 3** Students continue to develop and build up their clay slabs into 3D forms, and referencing their drawings use *coloured ceramic slips, under-glazes and oxide colours to enhance their created pieces*.

The afternoon begins with a fascinating guided tour of *Lippiano Castle*, built in 1195.

Later in the studio students will be given a brief introduction to *colour theory and acrylic colour mixing*. Reflecting on the multi-colours and weathered surfaces of the Villa Pia surroundings, students can experiment with colour and surface qualities, to create diverse and textural paint layers onto paper.

**Day 4** An introduction to glazing and further decoration, will be given on unglazed and glaze-fired tiles. Working with engobes, coloured glazes and onglaze enamels students will create their own pieces.

After lunch working in the studio and outside surroundings, students continue to develop both their 2D and clay-work.

**Day 5** After demonstrations and examples of collage making, students will use their painted papers from Day 3, to build further textured pieces and drawings, creating figurative and abstract collages.

At lunchtime a coach will take us to the medieval Tuscan hillside town of Anghiari, where we will have a glorious lunch overlooking the valley. After a slow stroll around the town, we will drive to see the Madonna Della Parto by Piero Della Francesca, in Monterchi. (Locations may be subject to change.)

In the evening we will have our farewell meal in Lippiano, providing an opportunity for everyone to individually reflect on a visually diverse and culinary rich week!!

**The Studio is open at all times for student use.**