

Clay Animal Weekends with James Ort

Need to know information

If you're reading this then you are considering - or have signed up - for this course. Great!
This document should have all the information you need to prepare for the weekend.

What will you be doing on the course?

Over the course of the two days, artists will typically make two clay animal sculptures.

- **Day 1** - you will be working on a reclined or seated animal.
- **Day 2** - you will be making a more challenging four-legged, standing animal.

James will give demonstrations and provide individual guidance and tuition throughout but it is essential that you prepare for the course beforehand too.

How to prepare?

Think about what animals you want to make and collect images of your chosen subjects. I have prepared a separate guide on **selecting reference material**. Please take the time to read it - it's very important.

Finding the right animal poses

Reclined or seated animals should have a significant part of their bodies touching the floor (*see below*).



Four-legged animal poses should have all four feet on the floor, not in mid-air, unless you are a more experienced artist.

Please arrive with your standing animal pics on the Saturday as James makes the armatures for these that evening. To make the evening run smoothly, feel free to email James a good side profile of your animal in advance – james@orts.co.uk.



NB Whilst making birds standing on two legs is possible, it is complicated and I prefer not teach that on this course.

The Firing Process

Your creative journey will not stop after the weekend. Typically artists choose to return to glaze their pieces (*optional but highly recommended*) and then come back one more time to collect the final pieces. This will mean three journeys to the studio – trust me, it is worth it.

I schedule a couple of potential glazing dates after the course and ask you to try your best to attend one of them (*pls see the website for exact dates*). Failing that, you can come on one of our Creative Tuesday Sessions (10am – 4pm). If you can't make any of the proposed dates or a Creative Tuesday then an alternative date can be arranged, however I may have to charge a nominal fee to cover my time.

Additional costs

There will be typically be no additional charges for clay, glazes or firings – these are included in the course fee.

However if a student chooses to work particularly large, some additional fees would be welcomed to reflect this.

I think that's it....

I am sure that everyone who comes on the course will have a lot of fun and meet some lovely, like-minded people. We pride ourselves in having a wonderfully creative environment!

Please do get in touch if you do have any further queries.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

All the best,

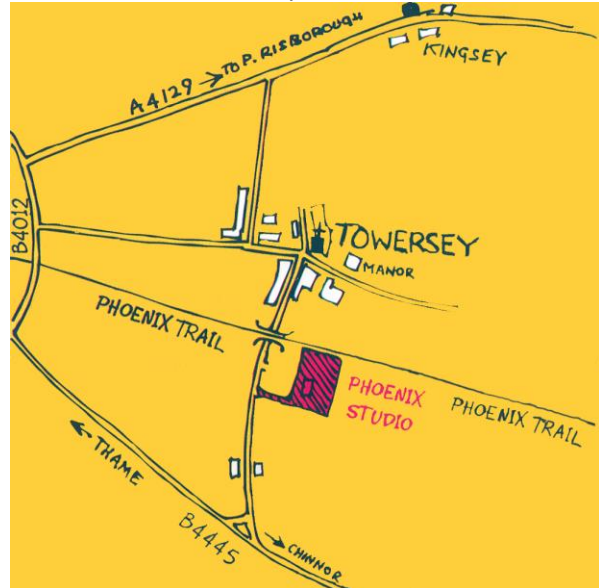
James

General Course Information

Getting Here

Directions to the studio are on the website. The postcode to the studio is OX9 3QZ and a map is below.

If you are coming from the village hall in the centre of Towersey, go past the pub, under the bridge and we are the next left after Lashlake Nursery.



Timings

Each day starts at 10.00. **Please arrive in good time in order not to miss the introduction.** We work through to 16.00 and generally with a half hour lunch break and a tea/coffee break in the morning and afternoon.

What To Bring?

- Ideas, inspiration and enthusiasm!
- Reference material (*see main text*)
- You need to provide your own packed lunch. We have microwaves and a toaster in case you need them.
- An apron or clothes you don't mind getting dusty
- *Optional* - laptop or tablet device with charger

Refreshments

We provide you with all the tea, coffee & biscuits needed to fuel your creativity (*maybe even cake if you are lucky!*)

What we provide

- Comprehensive Teaching Notes that outline what you will learn over the weekend, enabling you to carry on creating beyond the course.
- Use of all necessary equipment, tools and materials.
- Guidance and tuition throughout the day.
- WiFi should you need it for reference. You will need to bring a laptop or other media device.
- Various reference materials though this doesn't mean you shouldn't do your homework!