

2-day Free Form Wire Sculpture Courses with James Ort

Need to know information before the course starts!



What will you be doing on the course?

Over the course of the two days, artists will typically make one free form wire sculpture of their choice. That said, you could just as well make a series of smaller sculpture instead if you like!

Your subject could be an animal, plant, human figure, abstract shape or pretty much anything else of your fancy. However, it is worth noting that I am not as confident in creating man-made structures, wire trees, shells or dandelion/seed heads. That's not to say he can't help you realise your vision (*I have helped many students create these over the years!*), they are just a bit out of his comfort zone so we both may have to do a bit of research beforehand about what it is you want to do.

For this course we will only be using wire to assemble your forms. We provide a range of different gauge wires for you to use. Whilst this course does not use mixed media elements and only uses wire, James will provide handmade

ceramic beads, which can be added to emulate eyes.

Please note, students often construct their sculpture on rough wooden boards. At the end of course they are removed from the wood. We do not provide bases to present work on but if you had a base in mind then do bring it and we will do our best to fix your piece to it.

How to prepare?

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

Getting the right reference

Before the course, think about what subject you want to make and collect appropriate images to inspire and guide you when you are here

To help you I have prepared a separate guide on **selecting reference material**.

Please take the time to read it - it's very important.

Additional Materials

For this course we are just focusing on creating wire forms, however you could bring some alternative materials if you like and we can see if we can incorporate them into your work. These could be items that are sentimental or have meaning to you, be they small found objects, beads, jewellery, scrap metal, bottle caps, old keys, feathers, branches, chocolate wrappers.

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

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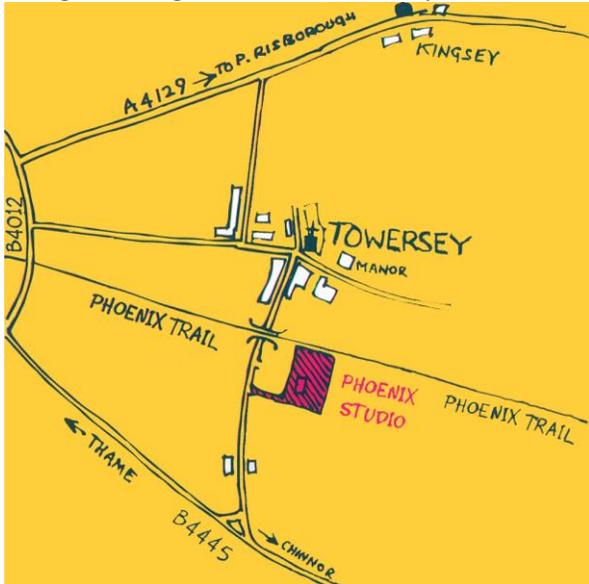
Ps. General information on the next page.

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 you can see our big white sign about 40 metres up on the left.



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*)-ideally printed off or on a laptop or tablet device (ideally not a mobile phone!)
- Your own packed lunch. We have microwaves and a toaster in case you need them.
- Scruffy cloths you don't mind getting mucky

Refreshments

We provide you with all the tea, coffee, cake & biscuits needed to fuel your creativity!

What we provide

- Comprehensive Teaching Notes that outline what you will learn over the course, enabling you to carry on creating at home.
- 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!

Covid Precautions

Depending on the current expert advice the Phoenix Studio and its tutors will adopt as many of these practises as is deemed necessary:

- Everyone attending the course will be asked to follow social distancing.
- Implement a daily sanitising and cleaning routine to ensure that all communal surfaces get cleaned regularly.
- (*in the warmer summer months*) Put up our large marquee outside the main studio to effectively double the teaching space.
- Wherever possible, sanitise and give each student their own set of tools/materials needed for the course. If not possible, sanitiser will be available to clean the equipment before and after use to help ensure they are contamination-free.
- Provide masks and/or plastic face shields for teachers to wear when they give any closer one-to-one assistance (Students will also be asked to wear masks when in close proximity to a tutor too).
- Ask students to wear masks at all times when in communal indoor parts of the studio (i.e the kitchen/loos).
- Hopefully, students should not need to wear their masks when working at their desks as everyone will be so spread out and the teaching spaces really well ventilated (this is obviously dependent on government guidelines at the time).
- Ask students to bring their own face masks and to either wash their hands regularly or use hand sanitiser gel.
- Provide alcohol gel/hand sanitiser on entry to the studio and at various places in each teaching area. You may use your own.
- Provide tea, coffee, and milk. If using our mugs/cups please keep the same one to use throughout the day and place in the dishwasher at the end of the day. You may bring your own.
- Use an urn to provide boiling water for teas/coffees instead of kettles.
- Ask all students to bring their own lunch and snacks. Some biscuits/cake will be provided.
- Open the doors and windows in the main studio to ensure the room is well ventilated.
- Ask that you keep use of the corridor to a minimum amount of people when using it to access the toilets to ensure the room to them is well ventilated (and that the toilets remain well ventilated as well)
- **Hopefully, it goes without saying that anyone who has been in contact with or experiencing symptoms of covid-19 in the last 14 days will NOT be permitted to enter the studio or attend the course.**