

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018. For Immediate Release.

### Creative Courses for the Autumn from dot-art

It's the time of year to get creative! Brighten up your autumn by signing up for an art class and learning a new skill. Even better, grab a friend and get creative together! This term, alongside our popular regular classes, we have lots of new workshops to try out, including Monoprint, Textile Arts and Abstract Painting. Our fun, friendly evening and weekend courses are open to everyone and take place in a range of great locations across the city.

**NEW** at Bluecoat this May, we have **Textile Arts**, taking place over 10 Tuesday evenings, where you will learn wet feltmaking, batik, hand-stitching and many more textile crafts to develop your artistic skills using beautiful organics and textiles. We also have a **NEW** 3 day course in **Abstract Painting**, taking place on 3 consecutive Sundays in November, when you can delve into the imaginative world of abstract painting, learning about layering, materials, composition and texture. For those who want to develop their painting skills we have a **NEW** one day masterclass, **Oil Painting Techniques**. Led by professional painter Richard Meaghan, you will learn the subtle art of painting with oils using traditional techniques, giving you the confidence to go further with your painting and create beautiful pieces of art. Our final **NEW** addition at Bluecoat is **Festive Feltmaking**, a fun day learning how to do wet feltmaking and developing your skills with textiles. Perfect for the complete beginner or those more advanced who want to have a day of festive creativity using textiles.

This season also sees the return to the Bluecoat of the popular 10 week evening courses in **Life Drawing, Beginners Painting (Acrylics)** and shorter courses in **Beginners Digital Photography, Photography Masterclass in Composition** and **Drawing for Everyone**.

Our new venue for this season is the **dot-art Annex** in Queen Avenue. Here we will be holding our popular evening courses in **Watercolour for Beginners** and **Portrait Drawing**, plus a number of new workshops. First up is a **NEW** 10 week evening course in **Drawing Techniques**, designed by professional artist Sarah Jane Richards to develop observational and expressive drawing techniques and skills. This is ideal for both beginners and for those wishing to explore aspects of their own practice. Another **NEW** 10 week course is **Digital Photography**, running on Wednesday evenings. Perfect for those who would like to move from being a keen beginner to a competent intermediate photographer.

We also have two **NEW** short courses running over 3 consecutive Sundays. The first is **Introduction to Interior Design**,



in which you will explore the world of Interior Design, looking at interior style, materials and textiles, creating floor plans and designing to a brief. Secondly **Monoprinting**, led by artist Bev Evans. You will get hands-on with acrylic paints, a variety of stencils (both man-made and from nature), textured surfaces, masking and sgraffito techniques (scratching/drawing patterns into the paint) to develop your own set of prints, gift tags, envelopes and printed gift bags

At **Faith Bebbington's Studio**, we have a **Wood Carving** for beginners course, led by Faith herself across 3 consecutive Sundays in November. This short course includes an introduction to wood carving, a look at the range of carving tools, how to select and choose your wood, different ways to finish the surface and finally, the creation of your own wood carving inspired by natural forms.

We are also returning to the **Friends of Williamson Tunnels** on Sundays in October and December for **Sketching in the Tunnels**, a unique opportunity for both beginners and experienced artists to spend a Sunday morning drawing and learning new skills in this fascinating location.

Finally, our **dot-art Club** for creative children is expanding to cover two ages groups and has moved to the fantastic **Baltic Creative!** We now have Sunday morning sessions for 7-10 years olds and afternoon sessions for 11-13 years, which will be running in two six week blocks, starting 9<sup>th</sup> September and 4<sup>th</sup> November. Every week our young artists will be encouraged to develop their drawing skills and build a lifelong love of art!

**Full details, prices and booking information can be found here: [dot-art.co.uk/art-classes](http://dot-art.co.uk/art-classes). These courses often sell out, so don't delay!**

Course	Dates / Times	Venue	Cost
Acrylic Painting (Beginners)	<b>Tuesdays from 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b> 6.45 - 9pm	The Bluecoat	£160 for 10 classes.
Life Drawing	<b>Tuesdays from 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b> 6.45 - 9pm	The Bluecoat	£160 for 10 classes.
Textile Arts	<b>Tuesdays from 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b> 6.45 - 9pm	The Bluecoat	£160 for 10 classes.

Drawing for Everyone	<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> November</b> 11.30am – 5pm	The Bluecoat	£125 for 3 days.
Abstract Painting	<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> November</b> 11.30am – 5pm	The Bluecoat	£125 for 3 days.
Beginners Digital Photography	<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October</b> 11.30am – 5pm	The Bluecoat	£45
Photography Masterclass (Composition)	<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October</b> 11.30am – 5pm	The Bluecoat	£45
Oil Painting Techniques	<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b> 11.30am – 5pm	The Bluecoat	£75
Festive Feltmaking	<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b> 11.30am – 5pm	The Bluecoat	£50
Watercolour for Beginners	<b>Mondays from 1<sup>st</sup> October</b> 6.45 – 9pm	dot-art Annex	£160 for 10 classes
Drawing Techniques	<b>Tuesdays from 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b> 6.45 – 9pm	dot-art Annex	£160 for 10 classes
Digital Photography	<b>Wednesdays from 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b> 6.45 – 9pm	dot-art Annex	£160 for 10 classes
Portrait Drawing	<b>Thursdays from 4<sup>th</sup> October</b> 6.45 – 9pm	dot-art Annex	£160 for 10 classes
Monoprinting	<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> November</b> 11.30am – 5pm	dot-art Annex	£125 for 3 days
Introduction to Interior Design	<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b> 11.30am – 5pm	dot-art Annex	£125 for 3 days
Wood Carving	<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> November</b> 11am – 4pm	Faith Bebbington Studio	£125 for 3 days.

Sketching in the Tunnels	<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b> 10am-1pm	Friends of Williamson Tunnels	£25
dot-art Club (7-10 years)	<b>Sundays from 9<sup>th</sup> September</b> <b>Sundays from 4<sup>th</sup> November</b> 11am – 12.30pm	Baltic Creative	£90 for 6 classes
dot-art Club (11-13 years)	<b>Sundays from 9<sup>th</sup> September</b> <b>Sundays from 4<sup>th</sup> November</b> 1.30pm – 3pm	Baltic Creative	£90 for 6 classes

-ENDS -

**For more details, please contact:**

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High resolution images available on request.

**Notes to editors.**

dot-art supports visual artists and champions art as an integral part of everyday life.

We do this by selling locally sourced, affordable art, working with businesses to put art in the workplace and public realm, running art classes and working with schools and community groups.

All this is underpinned by our unique membership scheme for artists in the North West which gives access to all the activities above and a package of support and advice, creating and developing artists' careers.

Find out more: [dot-art.com](http://dot-art.com) / [@dotart](https://twitter.com/dotart)