

A Portrait in Pastel pencils from a photograph

14th March 2020

Pastels are such an expressive medium. I am really looking forward to sharing some tips of the trade as well as my passion for pastel pencils with you on Saturday.

Here is what you need to know:

We will be working from your photo

You will need a pack lunch

Your tutor is Lucie Cookson 07985535555

What to bring:

- You will need a to have the following pastel pencils I use Derwent or Faber Castell
- White,
- Dark brown,
- Black,
- Bright acid yellow
- Pale pink I use coral (By derwent)
- Terracotta FABER CASTELL : CAPUT MORTUUM

Bring any other pastel pencils you have and colours that are suitable for your subjects hair and clothing.

- A putty rubber
- Pastel or charcoal paper in either blue, sand or a peachy colour

I like to wear an apron as the dust is toxic and its better to take it off for lunch.

You will need a good quality colour photograph to work from. When choosing your image consider the following

1. If you are creating a portrait the figure needs to be big enough for you to work from so the face should be at least 5cm in width, the bigger the better. This may mean enlarging the image. If you do need to enlarge your photo it is worth paying for a photographic enlargement rather than using a home colour-printer. Although cheaper, home printers dilute the quality of your image and misrepresent the colour. This will ultimately make your task more difficult and could affect your end result.

You can work from an iPad or tablet.

2. Choose an interesting image. A bad or boring photo is difficult to get excited about and will probably produce a disappointing result. Look for something that inspires you, a picture you love.
3. Choose an image that has good tonal variation. If there is too much light in the picture the skin tones will be washed out (pale and all the same colours). If it is too dark you may struggle to pick out the features.
4. If possible it would be good idea to bring several images either of the same subject or a couple of subjects. This will ensure you have a good choice.

Looking forward to it

Lucie

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*Please also bring a drawing board and easel, and covering for the table.*

*Thank you.*