

# Spike Print Studio

## Book Arts: Hand Printed Artists' Books

### With Angie Butler

#### Course length

30 wks. January to December 2015

#### 12 January - 23 March

10 weeks incl. 1 wk half term

#### 13 April - 29 June

10 weeks incl 2 wks Easter hols. + 2 Bank Hols (including Half Term 04 & 25 May)

#### 21 September - 30 November

10 weeks incl. x 1 wk half term

#### Attendance

Mondays\* contact session 9.30- 12.30 p.m self-directed studio session 1.00p.m.-4.00p.m. with Technical support available.

*\* Mondays: contact time may be extended into the afternoon studio session on occasion. These sessions will be timetabled and information provided in advance. Contact/studio sessions may be replaced by/in addition to a study visit. On the rare instance that student attendance is required on an alternative day to scheduled contact/studio time, full information will be provided with plenty of notice.*

#### No of students

8-10

#### Course Outline

Artists' books require the integration of content, form and various media. This course will allow students to explore these relationships, and develop their personal projects into accomplished artists' books: and will appeal to creative thinkers, makers, and those who (are or have) studied a variety of arts including illustration, graphic design, fine art etc.

Students will be introduced to the techniques, structures, tools, materials, and processes used in creating artists' books: exploring a broad range of studio practice, including screen printing, book structures, letterpress printing, low-tech image making processes, and basic relief printmaking as they examine the relationship of verbal, visual, and structural content in books. Students will complete group and individual projects. There are also opportunities for local study trips to Book Fairs and Special Collections. Students will keep a hardcopy and/or online studio log-book throughout the course to develop their technical knowledge, research skills and critical thinking; supported by discussions, and presentations. Each participant will work towards a final project for presentation at a public exhibition.

#### What we will cover

This course will cover a variety of hands-on printmaking techniques and processes. Students will learn how to translate their drawings and ideas for text and/or images into prints that can be made both on and off the press. We will explore the development of visual content and composition for books and related works.

Topics include studio practices, the selection and utilisation of various materials and tools, the role of the handmade book, and ways to generate content. Through discussion and critique, the appropriate format for each student's idea is identified, adapted, customised, applied, and produced.

Students will be asked to consider the nature of the book in relation to: structure, narrative, form, content, and dissemination.

SPS Portfolio Course: Book Arts: Hand-Printed Artists' Books Ct'd...

# Spike Print Studio Book Arts application form cont.

## Course Structure

Please note: This is a draft course structure and therefore elements are subject to change.

### Section 1

Students will be introduced to the history and artistic practices of book arts (influences and origins from 20th century and earlier), contemporary theory and practice: and engage with critical considerations, through analysis of artist's books, and research in Special Collections with primary sources.

Studio contact sessions explore the book as a form for artistic expression, with an emphasis on conceptual development, and the relationship between content, form, and structure. How a book's structure and design can enhance and integrate part of the work's meaning.

Workshops introduce students to basic bookbinding techniques as well as providing the opportunity to develop content for artist books. Techniques include both traditional and non-traditional book structures, and low-tech image making and print processes. Students will produce binding structures while working to explore text-image relationships in the context of book structure.

### Section 2

Students learn the mechanics of silkscreen, letterpress and lino-cut printing and the basic elements design as they apply to edition printing within book arts practice. Discussions, demonstrations, reading, and assignments concentrate on planning, hand setting and printing on full size silkscreen tables, platen relief presses and a Vandercook proof press.

Along with instruction and demonstrations in the technical aspects of printing, sessions will be devoted to exercises, discussions of design principles, concepts and ideas and the interrelationship of form and content, text and image, message and medium, binding and structure.

Students will develop their studio practice with hands-on sessions and also by reading and

research in contemporary practice, providing them with skills to enable: analysis of visual language; integration of creative activities and critical thinking in student's own art practice and understanding of contemporary work in book arts. Contact sessions are enhanced by group and individual critiques, studio assignments, presentations, and discussions.

### Section 3

In the final part of the course students will be introduced to involvement in the book art professional community and undertake two major projects: to explore issues concerning the concept, design and production of professional-level work in the making of either a unique or editioned handmade artist's book. To plan an exhibition, from concept to curation, and present their work to a public audience, at the end of their course.

By the end of the course you should have:

- Gained ability in the broad range of techniques that constitute contemporary book arts practice.
- Explored various types of content in artists books and then applied what you have observed to projects using your own creative content.
- Developed a vocabulary for positive individual and group critique, through discussion, presentation, reading and close examination of artworks.
- Undertaken to a critique of your own work and applied feedback to subsequent projects.
- Made written comments and reflections about your own and/or other projects and creative work, and have developed the ability to contextualise your practice.
- Developed skills for collaboration and for functioning in a diverse studio environment.
- Produced work to deadlines according to course guidelines and been given the opportunity to provide feedback on individual and group projects.
- Presented your work in a student-led/organised exhibition, which is open to the public.

### What level is the course and do I need any particular skills?

As this course content is taught at a professional level it is suitable for students who have: an interest in artist's books, an enthusiasm to learn and develop their own practice, and relevant creative background i.e. previous educational study, industrial/creative/studio experience or apprenticeship.

### Do I need an interview before I can enrol?

Yes, an informal interview is required. To find out if this course will suit you, we would like to hear about your motivation for wishing to attend, whilst being able to look at and discuss any creative work you have completed/are working on.

An application form can be downloaded is attached to the information packet. Please email or send an SAE to: [FILL IN DETAILS HERE](#)

Once your application is received you will be contacted and asked to attend for interview at Spike Print Studio. Interviews will be held with Course Leader Angie Butler, and staff from Spike Print Studio Learning Programme.

### How will I be taught and will there be any work outside of the class?

There will be demonstrations, workshops, and presentations by the tutor with opportunities for group discussions throughout. We will work on both group and individual projects with collective and individual discussion, critique and feedback sessions.

You will be encouraged to work on personal research outside of the taught and studio sessions. However, minimum requirements are approx. 1-2 hours+ per week to research/write up your studio-log.

### What are the benefits of this course?

At the end of the course you and your tutor will assess

the skills you have gained. Feedback on planned future developments within your book arts practice: and discuss further educational/employment/studio practice opportunities that are available to you.

On successful completion of the course each attendee will receive course certificate from Spike Print Studio and a single reference from their course tutor if required.

### Course Fees

Cost: £1750

### Payment

Full payment on acceptance to course. In exceptional circumstances we may allow alternative payments. Please talk to us.

# Spike Print Studio

## Book Arts: Hand Printed Artists' Books

### With Angie Butler

#### Application form

Name

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Address

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Postcode

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Phone

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Email

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Mobile

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Age

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Current Position

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Education

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Employment

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