

## Learn Devon Abstract Painting Course

### **Approaches to Abstraction**

Hazel Arnold: currently my main inspiration is drawn not from vast landscapes, but from intricate often convoluted natural shapes - mosses, lichens, fungi, tree bark, rock forms, vein tracteries in leaves and petals. I really enjoy shapes that flow and resist angularity.

Gail Brown: I love experimenting with colour and texture in my art and trying different media and techniques. Abstract art is a new approach for me and I am enjoying the expressiveness and freedom it allows. I find it particularly exciting when a piece of work evolves in surprising and unexpected ways!

Andy Cairns: I draw inspiration from the reuse of urban materials, the alchemy of recycling for both practical and aesthetic ends. Visually, I like to show the multi-layered history of reused materials – their corrosion, reworking and layering over time.

Gill Cairns: I am interested in surfaces which show the passing of time & have a history. Worn peeling paint, torn layers of wall paper, antique textiles which evoke thoughts of all the lives that have shared the space before & left something of themselves behind.

Sue Doidge: creates these mixed media plaques using a combination of natural and everyday materials found in the woods, on the moor, the seashore and around the home and garden.

The chosen items are laid into a base of plaster on board using contrasting surfaces and texture, arranging them to work in harmony together.

Several layers of acrylic paint is applied and finally dry brushed to highlight areas of the composition

Sarah Martin: many years of travelling have left memories of places – not as specific locations, but rather as a sense of colour and shape. In my paintings I have attempted to communicate these impressions rather than reproduce a 'photographic' record. I hope to reflect my reactions to these landscapes as a 'sense of place' by using the evocative language of the abstract.

Wendy Miller: my inspiration comes from nature and especially being on Dartmoor which allows my soul to sing. It gives me the freedom to express myself dynamically through abstract art.