

Ingrid Christensen  
10 week class at Swinton's Art Studios  
**Building a body of work, and landscape/plein air**  
April 12 - June 14  
Thursdays 12:30 - 3:30

Price: \$360 + gst = \$378

**The first 6 classes will be devoted to building a body of work** in the genre of your choice. You should complete at least 4 pieces in the 6 weeks. Some of you will complete more.

Genres could include:

- from life (still life and self portraiture)
- from photos and sketches (landscape, animals, portrait/figure, interiors, etc. )
- from your imagination (abstract and imaginary/remembered realism, fantasy, or surrealism)

We will discuss your genre choice individually to ensure that it's specific enough for you to explore it meaningfully.

For example: "figure" is too broad, but painting a body of work of figures in motion (dancing, swimming etc) or figures reading, is specific. (I know a painter whose figures are all bending down, reaching into water. That's specific!)

"Still life" is too broad, but an exploration of florals, or glass objects, or drapery is specific.

"Landscape" is too broad, but reflections in water, or skyscapes, or forest interiors are specific.

There should be a common theme/element that unifies your choice for body of work. I did a series of at least 8 paintings based on a cherry blossom-decorated robe. They were of figures wearing the robe, and a still life of the robe. Another series I'm working on is old family photos of when my siblings and I were children and of my own children. The common element is that it's all my family, not random kids, and that the photos are imbued with a sense of nostalgia - something that I try to achieve through various technical explorations.

**Day 1** will be a structured day in which all of you begin your body of work. You'll start several canvases which will be developed in the following 5 classes. Each canvas will have a different starting method so that you are faced with a variety of challenges to overcome as you develop them.

After the first, structured class, the format of each class will be individual work and instruction unless I see that several painters would benefit from the same demo.

I will also do short demos of specific techniques and paint additives (non-smelly ones) that might be interesting for you to explore as you develop your paintings.

**Plein air/landscape: the final 4 classes** will, weather permitting, be outdoors in Carburn Park (in the studio if it's raining).

Our focus will be on effectively designing and painting a landscape from life: finding and supporting a focal point, editing and simplifying the many elements in front of you into a single, strong statement, and achieving clean, effective colour. We'll aim for 2 paintings per class.

