

Silkscreen Printing Workshop @ The Talking Textiles Studio



Silk Screen Printing Course

"Build your own textile mini collection made up of tea towels, cushion covers or other textile products of your choice."

Workshop Duration: 6 classes (1 class every week)

Time Duration: 3 hours per class

Cost: \$225 per class/\$1,350.00 for whole course

Class Size: 3-4 pax.

*Bring your own A5/A4 blank book to use as a Creative Process Journal.

*Printing Aprons will be provided.



Course Outline

Class One

Discussion: Introduction the silkscreen printing process and textile design.

Examples of well loved designers - looking at their colours and why their designs are successful.

Introduction to basic textile design layouts and structures. What is a motif?

Workshop: Silk Screen printing demonstration & Washing out the screen.

Try out screen - printing using existing Talking Textiles designs. Have printed fabric made into a tea towel – outsourced with Talking Textiles tailor.



Design Development: Look through inspirational images. Some popular textile themes to look at would be - Botanical, Geometric and Pictorial. Have a brief look at different contemporary textile designers.

Design Development - what is the idea? How will I develop my textile collection?

- Think of the layout /composition of your design.
- What colour combinations are you going to use?
- Will you use contrasting colours such as green and red or will you use similar shades of colour?
- The entire design could be made up of varying shades of green.
- You could use only cool colours such as blues and greens or you could use only warm colours such as reds and oranges

Developing your Design:

- Working from the images provided start creating some rough sketches based on what you see, in order to begin to form your idea for the design. (These are simply ideas, do not be intimidated, a high level of drawing skills is not required)
- Working from your own personal photos or images develop into a design or drawing for the next class. (Note this does not need to be complete, as design development will continue in the next class.)
- Drawing up the design maybe either freehand or traced on a light box.

Due Class 2: Come to class prepared with inspirational images. This could be anything, an image from a decor magazine of a cushion you like, colours on a dress that you think you may like to incorporate into your design.

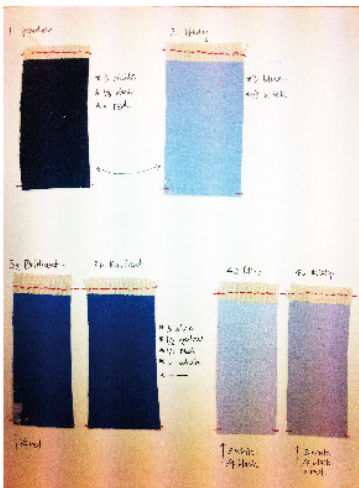
Next week we will be mixing colours and printing colour tests, bring with your chosen colour palette based on an inspiration image.



Class Two

Discussion: Choosing Fabrics.

Your Colour Palette.



- Refer to your selected image that contains the colours that you would like to use in your prints.
- Using your image as a reference point, mix your desired colours from the printing ink provided.
- You may place a copy of your inspirational image and colour tests in your personal journal.
- Test Printing: Test print your mixed colours onto the white cotton that is provided. Use Talking Textiles silk screens to practice printing onto the fabric provided.

Due Week 3:

- Select your own choice of fabric to bring with to class three. Arab Street is a good location for silk & linen. Your choice of colour should coordinate well with the ink colours that you have mixed.
- Try to bring at least 3 different types of fabric.
- Only light based cloth will work with TC binders
- In the last three weeks each student will be printing their own design.

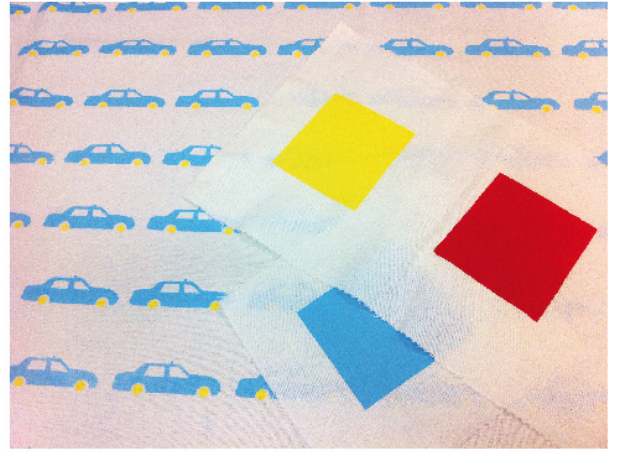
Class Three

Discussion: Creative Process Journal

Workshop: Print colour tests on swatches of fabric.

Small screens with a small square shape is used for this exercise. Students use this screen to print their colour tests onto the fabric that they bought. Some of the fabric that they bought they then cut into small squares - 15cm x15cm to create their colour tests and practice printing.

Presentation is important; once colour tests are complete they should be neatly bound with a header.



Continuation of design development: Discussion on A3 design, check that the design will translate well into a positive image.

Due Class Three: Hard copies of final design to be handed in at the end of the class. I will then be making these into positives.



Class Four - Begin Printing

Discussion: Moodboards



Emulse & Expose Silk Screens -
outsource to Lamthong.

(I will be taking the positives to Lamthong and getting them made into one A3 silk-screen for each student. Note: The cost of this silk screen will be an extra amount.)

Printing your design onto the fabric:

- You are now ready to print your designs onto your fabric.
- Fabric needs to be ironed first to ensure there are no creases.

- Fabric is then stuck down onto the table so that it does not move during printing.
- Puff binder with blue pigment can be tried out on colour testing squares.
- Moodboard board can be put together - optional

(During class 4&5 create a moodboard for your design. This contains colour swatches with inspirational image, the name of your design, images of your design process - such as mixing ink and printing, any drawings of your design development a photograph of your final printed fabric, this can all be placed into your journal).



Class Five

Continue Printing



Class Six

Complete Printing. Today we will have short presentations. This is the time to set up your final products/art creations and to discuss the outcomes. It is also a good opportunity to see your classmates' works coming together as a collection.

A little bit about me...



Deborah McKellar is a practicing textile artist & designer.

Deborah's textile artworks are characterized by their bold colours, layers of stitch, remnants of fabric, silk screened images and printed patterns.

She is the founder of Talking Textiles, a textile design company which produces textile products for interior spaces.

Deborah is currently working as a part-time lecturer in Fashion Textiles at LaSalle College of the Arts.