Weekend Masterclass



Gilded Illustrations

Dates Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September 2024

Times 10.30–16.30 BST

Location At the museum (Learning Studio)

Tutor Ruth Rowland Level All Levels



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Course Description

Join renowned lettering artist and illustrator Ruth Rowland and learn how to design and gild your own glowing illustration, inspired by the motifs seen in our *Ranjit Singh: Sikh, Warrior, King* exhibition. You'll investigate sumptuous paintings and metalwork and be guided in creating your own intricate artwork using imitation gold leaf.

Suitable for beginners with an eye for detail as well as those who would like to develop their flat gilding technique further, you'll spend an enjoyable weekend learning a new decorative technique to use in your future illustration projects.

Saturday

We'll start with a brief introduction and overview of the weekend, before visiting the *Ranjit Singh: Sikh, Warrior, King* exhibition for inspiration. Returning to the studio, Ruth will demonstrate flat gilding with imitation gold leaf, inspired by ornate Indian metalwork. To gain confidence with the gilding process, you'll create a sample booklet of small test pieces, before moving on to designing a more complex illustration to work up on Sunday.

Sunday

Having sketched out the details of your final design, you'll spend the second day applying imitation gold leaf to your illustration. Ruth will work 1-1 with you, to develop your personal approach and refine your gilding technique. During the afternoon, further techniques will be introduced to enable you to enhance your artwork with decorative patterns using fine embossing tools. At the end of the day, we'll gather together our finished gilded illustrations and booklets to view and discuss.

Course Tutor

Ruth Rowland is an award-winning lettering artist and illustrator. She has over 30 years' experience creating bespoke hand lettering, calligraphy and illustrations for books, magazines, albums and posters. She is an experienced visiting lecturer at the University of the Arts, London, and has taught several workshops at the British Library. She has an interest in the decorative process of gilding and enjoys designing creative workshops inspired by the collections of leading museums and galleries.

Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience

None required. This course is designed as an introduction to the subject.

Equipment and Materials

Please wear clothes suitable for a messy workshop. All materials and equipment are provided.

Joining Information and Format

This masterclass will take place in the Learning Studio, Lower Ground Floor at the museum. It includes access to the *Ranjit Singh: Sikh, Warrior, King* exhibition during the event.

We recommend participants bring a packed lunch. When walking through the museum, food and drink must be packed away in a bag and must only be consumed when in the Learning Studio.