

## The Body in Time

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<b>Dates</b>	Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 February 2025
<b>Times</b>	10.30-16.30 GMT
<b>Location</b>	At the museum (Learning Studio)
<b>Tutor</b>	Karly Allen and Jo Lewis
<b>Level</b>	All Levels

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Poussin *A Dance to the Music in Time*, about 1634-6

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### Course Description

Investigate approaches and practices for drawing the human body. Making connections between the model in the studio and artworks in the collection, we'll focus on experimentation and tune into themes associated with time and figure in art, such as awareness of the present moment, the stillness of the model as 'paused' time, and the passing of time.

By the end of the weekend, you'll have made a number of drawings of the nude figure in a range of materials, both dry and wet. The course structure of short, guided practices and longer poses is designed to support all levels of experience, including beginners.

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## **Saturday**

We'll begin our weekend by observing and drawing the human figure depicted in artworks, developing our mark-making techniques and discussing themes to take into our studio work later. In the afternoon, we'll spend three immersive hours in the studio with the life model. Through a series of starter prompts and short exercises in chinks, charcoal and graphite, you'll be supported to explore different qualities expressed by the living body, with a focus on immediacy and movement in time.

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## **Sunday**

On Sunday, we'll develop our observational drawings in the galleries over a sustained period of time, considering stillness, slowness and the effects of time on the body. Taking these explorations into the life studio, we'll then experiment with longer poses and the contrasting qualities of different materials. We'll introduce ink and paint, using the fluidity and brushwork of wet media to capture the passage of time. The weekend ends with an opportunity to share our discoveries and celebrate the work that has been made.

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## **Course Tutors**

**Karly Allen** is a drawing tutor and lecturer in art history. A graduate of the Ruskin School of Art (University of Oxford) and SOAS (University of London), she has led workshops and developed learning programmes for national art collections for over 20 years, including the National Gallery, Courtauld Gallery, V&A and National Portrait Gallery. Karly enriches her teaching with her training as a mindfulness teacher and, as co-director of Limina Collective, contributes to the emerging field of mindfulness in museums. She specialises in approaches to looking and drawing in art collections, the history of the sketch aesthetic, and drawing to promote wellbeing and connection.

**Jo Lewis** is an artist and educator. Jo trained at the University of Edinburgh and the École des Beaux-Arts in Valence. Jo uses ink and watercolour on paper, frequently working outside in rivers. She has exhibited in the UK and France and has been commissioned and collected by institutions including Hermès, Barclays Bank, More London Collection of Contemporary Art, Raffles Hotels, Ripple USA, Ashstead Hospital and Commonwealth Bank of Australia. Recent exhibitions include solo shows in London and Lyon and group shows in Paris. Jo has taught on many projects for the National Gallery and is a guest lecturer at the London Film School and Paris College of Art.

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## **Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience**

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

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## **Equipment and Materials**

Please wear clothes suitable for using messy materials and for working in a room kept warm for life models. All materials and equipment are provided.

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## **Joining Information and Format**

For ages 18+. This masterclass will take place in the Learning Studio, Lower Ground Floor as well as galleries throughout the museum. We recommend participants bring a packed lunch. When walking through the museum, food must be packed away in a bag and liquids carried in a sealed bottle, flask or travel mug.

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