

Line and wash portrait – 22 November 2023

Introduction

We find faces endlessly fascinating, indeed we are hardwired to pay lots of attention to them from birth. No wonder we want to paint portraits.

Liz Chaderton
FINE ARTIST

The aim of this series of webinars is to be contemporary and joyful. These are not portraits to hang in museums but will help the artist capture the faces and character of family and friends or people they encounter every day. Each webinar stands on its own, but also complement each other.

In this webinar we will use line and wash to create a lively portrait. We will explore the role of pen and wash, seeing how they can define contours and add tone. We will aim to let the two media work together in harmony, so that the finished piece is not a coloured in drawing or an outlined painting, but rather it is more than the sum of the parts. Some experience of watercolour is assumed.

Examples (we will be using the reference photo overleaf)



Learning points

- The role of line and watercolour in a pen and wash piece
- Order of working
- What to leave out, what to put in
- How to substitute colours to create mood
- How to create lively ink work
- How to stop too soon rather than too late

Materials

- Quarter sheet of NOT (cold pressed) paper 11x15inches/28x38cms
- Watercolours of your choice
- Round watercolour brush size 8-10, rigger size 2, small flat brush for lifting
- Waterproof black fineliners (technical pens with pigment ink) 0.2mm. 0.4mm
- Water pots, palette, eraser, pencil, kitchen towel

Method

If you want to paint along during the webinar, please print out the reference photo to A4 or have it available and have the contours drawn out lightly onto your paper.

Reference image

All reference photos for this series come from Pixabay, which is a free site where all photos are made available royalty free. You can download the image here: <https://pixabay.com/photos/attractive-beautiful-girl-model-1869761/>



About Liz

Liz Chaderton is a full time artist based in Berkshire. She has written Line and Wash Painting, published by Crowood Press and her fifth book, Painting Portraits in Watercolour, is also being published in October by The Crowood Press. You can find more of her work at www.lizchaderton.co.uk