

Working with Liquid Emulsions - Making darkroom prints on hand coated paper

The process known as Liquid Emulsion is very similar to ordinary darkroom printing. Negatives are placed in an enlarger and projected onto photographic paper which is developed in the usual manner. The difference is that the light sensitive paper is prepared by hand. Light sensitive liquid is applied to watercolour paper, usually by brushing the mixture on. The paper is dried before being used as stated above.

The unique, tactile quality of these prints is something to see, in some, the brush marks are clearly visible, making each one unique. Some practitioners paint the mixture onto other surfaces such as stone, wood, fabric, glass, and even eggs!

In this workshop, due to the restrictions of group teaching, we will limit the technique to watercolour paper.

Start - 10am

Arrival, tea, coffee, introductions and chat.
Darkroom safety, equipment etc.
Explanation of processing technique, and demonstration.
Full print made.
Students coat their paper and leave it to dry.

Break for lunch.

After lunch students will be making prints with coated paper.
Print fixing, washing and drying.
Discussion of results, note taking, questions and answers, suggested reading.

Students need to have some experience of darkroom work.

What to bring

Negatives 35mm, or medium format, notebook and pen, A4 envelope or box to transport prints home. You will need to bring a packed lunch as the cafe is closed at weekends.

Times: 10am – 4.30pm

Address: University of Chester Kingsway Campus, Kingsway, Chester CH2 2LB. Direction by Train: The centre is a 20-minute walk from Bache or Chester stations

Direction by Car: The centre is an short distance from the M53/A56 junction

Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/DTxMBW2XPV62>

Parking: There is plenty of onsite parking