



Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limburg

MASTER CLASS:

Synthetic Resins for Varnishing and Retouching

Dates: 1st June to 4th June

Instructors: Jill Whitten, Robert Proctor and René de La Rie

Participants: 15

Venue: SRAL, Avenue Ceramique 224, Maastricht 6221 KX

Cost: 625 euros (inclusive lunch and materials)

Registration: info@sral.nl

Registration deadline: 1st May 2010

A deposit of 150 euros is required on registration.

Prepayment of remainder 475 euros before 25th May 2010 to bank account:

SRAL: 63.78.40.771 with notation: o.v.v Resins 2010

IBAN: NL41 FTSB 0637 8407 71

BIC: FTSBNL2R

Fortis Bank

Parallelweg 2 a

6411 ND Heerlen

Participants are responsible for all evening meals, accommodation and transportation.

Participants will be selected based on order of receipt of registration.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This master class will combine a series of lectures, demonstrations and workshop sessions spread out over a four day period, including a museum excursion to discuss the appearance of varnishes in practice. Participants will gain knowledge of a variety of materials used as varnishes and retouching media. The workshop will focus on synthetic low molecular weight resins and how they differ from polymers and dammar. Participants will use practical sessions to evaluate the properties of resins used as varnishes in terms of their application and appearance. Through these practical sessions and demonstrations, participants will establish how the

choice of resin, solvent or stabilizer will affect the properties of the varnish not only on application but subsequently upon ageing. Participants will leave the master class with an individual canvas board (60x80cm) on which at least 15 varnish recipes have been tested.

Lectures and workshop sessions will cover:

- * low molecular weight resins, natural and synthetic:
hydrogenated hydrocarbon, urea aldehyde, ketone, reduced ketone, triterpenoid (Regalrez 1094, Laropal A81, MS2A, dammar, etc.)
- * polymeric resins:
methacrylates, polyvinylacetates (Paraloid B72, AYAA, etc.)
- * chemical properties of resins and their degradation
- * physical and aesthetical characteristics of resins
- * different functions of varnishes
- * criteria for choosing appropriate varnishes
- * effects of stabilizers
- * varnish application techniques
- * synthetic retouching media
- * solvent selection: polarity, solvent strength and evaporation rates

The master class is designed for mid-career painting and object conservators seeking to keep their knowledge of resins up to date. This master class will provide an excellent opportunity for ongoing learning and development as demanded by the CPD (continuing professional development) schemes that are integral to maintaining accredited status.

SCHEDULE:

The master class will begin on Tuesday 1st of June at 10.00 and will conclude on Friday 4th June at 17.00. A more detailed programme will be available closer to the date.

EXCURSION:

The final day will combine a half-day excursion to the Suermondt-Ludwig Museum in Aachen (45 min drive from Maastricht) with a round up session in the studio. The cost of the excursion is included. Participants must indicate on registration if they wish to partake in the excursion.

INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHIES:

Jill Whitten & Robert Proctor (Whitten & Proctor Fine Art Conservation)

Jill Whitten and Robert Proctor have been in private practice in Houston, Texas since 1998. They work on private and institutional collections.

Jill Whitten studied studio art at the University of Texas in Austin and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts. She studied conservation at Buffalo State College where she

received a Master of Fine Arts and Certificate in Conservation. She has worked at the Art Institute of Chicago, J. Paul Getty Museum, the National Gallery in Washington, DC and Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas. She has been involved in resin research and leads workshops for conservators in the U.S. and Europe on the use of new materials for varnishing and retouching since 1993.

Robert Proctor has a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from Tulane University in New Orleans and a Master of Arts and Certificate of Conservation from Buffalo State College. He trained in Munich at the Bayerisches Nationalmuseum, worked at the Saint Louis Art Museum, Indianapolis Museum of Art and Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. In addition to workshops on varnishes, Rob is a specialist in the reweaving of tears and has taught workshops on reweaving. He has worked as a contract conservator and treated a number of public murals.

René de La Rie (National Gallery of Art, Washington)

E. René de la Rie has been head of scientific research at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC since 1989, a position endowed by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. He holds a doctorate in chemistry from the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands and previously held positions at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and at the Training Program for Conservators and the Central Research Laboratory for Objects of Art and Science (now ICN), both in Amsterdam. He has also held adjunct positions at the University of New York and the University of Amsterdam and served as Ph.D. advisor at the latter institution. He has been an editor for *Studies in Conservation* since 1994. The scientific research department's staff studies the methods and materials used by artists and conservators, using advanced analytical instrumentation. The department regularly hosts post-doctoral research fellows, several of whom have subsequently taken up positions in other institutions. Address: National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, USA (mailing address: 2000B South Club Drive, Landover, MD 20785, USA); email: r-delarie@nga.gov.

Workshop Organiser:

Kate Seymour (Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limburg, Maastricht)