

Hello Everyone

Thanks to all of you who attended my workshops last year, all of which were full – it's given me great encouragement.

You also made some suggestions for new courses, and I've listened! As usual, I try to introduce new ideas each year, and 2012 is no exception. I've scheduled workshops in Dublin, Dingle, Achill, Roundstone and at my studio in Cross near Cong, County Mayo so I hope there's one near you.

3 New Workshops in 2012

3 Different Teaching Styles

How2PaintThings....

For artists with at least some experience

Short 3 Day workshops with practical painting demonstrations by me, then you copy as I paint them again. Learn how to paint **Things** like trees, walls, boats, cottages, animals, vases, bottles, sheep, cows, currachs, galway hookers.... that you want to include in your painting but find difficult to draw/paint accurately. And how to make things look 'real' using light and shade. Maybe we'll finish off by painting one picture with lots of these 'things' in it!

'Six Steps' Refresher - Critique

For artists with at least some experience

Many of you have previously attended my **Six Steps workshop** but for one reason or another haven't had much time to practice painting since then. Or maybe you've several unfinished paintings you're dissatisfied with for some reason. This 3 Day workshop will recap the most important aspects of my Six Steps approach, and I'll critique the paintings you've brought so you can start improving them immediately. You'll work on at least one painting each day, improving its composition, design, colour harmony and focal point among many other elements. Hopefully you'll leave with a couple of gems!

Put Pzazz in your Paintings

For artists with at least some experience

This 3 Day workshop was actually piloted in late 2011 and was very popular and successful. You bring your unfinished paintings and I'll explain/demonstrate how to put that missing 'pzazz' into them with the main emphasis on focal point and centres of interest. We'll cover tone, colour, saturation, detail, texture and other important elements that just ooze Pzazz!

And of course my core workshop for painters with at least a little experience

Six Steps to Great Paintings

This 5 Day workshop combines important art theory - simply explained - with practical painting demonstrations, as well as group and individual tuition. These six steps are my own unique method of creating great paintings and I'm delighted to share these insights with you on this hugely developmental workshop.

Finally, my unique 2 Year Programme for artists who wish to become semi- or fully-professional artists

Becoming a Professional Artist

For experienced or advanced artists, this 2 year programme based on the academic year, features multi-faceted development across art, marketing, business, administration, internet and personal motivation. Involving experienced guest speakers participants meet one weekend per month, plus an intensive Springtime week, culminating in a commercial group exhibition planned, organised and staffed by the group themselves. A truly unique and practical course for enthusiastic painters.

I hope you'll find something to interest you in my 2012 programme of workshops – email or call me to reserve a place or discuss your individual needs. **John**

Workshops for Every Ability – from Beginner to Professional

All workshops start with a tuition/demonstration/critique session each day.
The rest of each day you spend painting, with one-to-one tuition/guidance/demonstration to meet your individual needs

Is this You?

Suitable Workshops

Style/Format/Type of tuition

Is this You?	Suitable Workshops	Style/Format/Type of tuition
For absolute beginners – no previous experience assumed.	Beginners Workshop 3 Days May 15-17 Cross, Mayo €240	Step by step explanation and demonstration of everything in easy stages, plus One-to-One tuition.
You've some experience, but you'd like help in how to paint specific things such as trees, boats, water, vases, oranges, grapes, You'd like to understand how to paint things with light and shadow, how to make things seem real, how to put highlights on things... and more....	How2PaintThings 3 Days Cross, Mayo €240 April 2-4 July 10-12	Demonstration and Copy-Me exercises plus One-to-One tuition I'll demonstrate how to paint: Landscape – trees, mountains, sheep, cattle, cottages etc Seavues , sea, boats, reflections, rocks etc Still Life – bottles, vases, oranges, pears, flowers etc Plus anything else you need to paint – as long as I know how!
You have some painting experience but want a deeper understanding of how to make really good paintings. You want to understand the theory but you also need some practical help. This workshop is not really suited for beginners, but perfect if you've tried painting a few pictures, no matter how badly you feel they've turned out.	6 Steps to Great Paintings 5 Days €350 Baldoyle, Dublin March 26-30 Wexford Town, July 23-27 6 Steps to Great Landscapes Dingle, Kerry May 22-26 Roundstone, Galway June 18-22 Roundstone, Galway August 20-24	My most popular workshop, though not for absolute beginners. Theory explanation and illustration, Demonstration, Exercises and One-to-One tuition. Covering – composition & design; thumbnail sketching; colour wheel theory and how to create lovely colour harmonies; aerial 3D perspective and much more...
You've attended one of my 5 Day workshops, but you've not been able to paint much since then; or You've never attended my workshops but would like to improve some unfinished/finished paintings	6 Steps Refresher & Critique Workshop 3 Days €240 Cross, Mayo Jun 5-7 Cross, Mayo Aug 14-16	A short recap on the main points of my Six Steps to Great Paintings workshop, plus a comprehensive critique of your paintings so you know how to improve them, looking at composition, design, tonality, colour harmony and finishing with impact. Spend the rest of each day painting with one-to-one guidance.
Your paintings look dull, boring, lifeless. They lack any strong focal point or other centres of interest. But how to inject 'pzazz' into them? – this is your workshop!	Put Pzazz in your Painting 3 Days Aug 28-30 Cross, Mayo €240	You'll get many insights into what makes a painting special – I call it 'Pzazz' We'll emphasise the focal points and centres of interest in your paintings, using colour, tone, texture, detail and other elements – and how they can breathe new life into old dull paintings. A fun, fast, productive workshop but packed with great tips.
You're very experienced at painting, maybe you've sold a few paintings, had an exhibition, but you'd like to become either part- or fully- professional as a painter, and you believe working with other like-minded artists on a unique long term art development programme which includes business, craft and commercial exhibition elements will motivate and spur you on.	Becoming a Professional Artist 2 year Course €1500 per annum Starts Sept 22nd 9 Monthly Sat & Sun (optional) workshops plus Annual Public Group Exhibition plus Extensive home research and project work	On monthly workshops, art theory explanation, demonstration and practice; extensive home-based research and practical project work, exercises in painting and drawing, group studio projects, running a group exhibition, guest speakers on career planning, gallery liaison, fine art printing, exhibition preparation and much more. Practical projects incl making your own gesso and canvasses, selecting framing, CV & website preparation etc
You're a member of your local art group that could benefit from some new insights, demonstrations and tuition on how to approach painting	Your Local Art Group Workshop 2 to 5 Day workshop designed to suit your local group	If you're the group organiser, contact me for details

2012 Workshop Programme

**Cross is where my studio is based in south County Mayo. It's 30 mins drive north of Galway
Other workshop locations are also detailed below.**

Jan	No new workshops scheduled		
Feb	No new workshops scheduled		
March	26-30 th Six Steps to Great Painting/Baldoyle, Dublin		
April	2-4 th How2PaintThings/Cross, Mayo		
May	15-17 th Beginners/Cross, Mayo	22-26 th Six Steps to Great Landscapes/Dingle, Kerry	
June	5-7 th Refresher-Critique/Cross, Mayo	18-22 nd Six Steps to Great Landscapes/Roundstone, Galway	
July	2-6 th Six Steps to Great Landscapes/Keel, Achill, Mayo	10-12 th How2PaintThings/Cross, Mayo	23-27 th Six Steps to Great Painting/Wexford Town
August	14-16 th Six Steps Refresher-Critique/Cross, Mayo	20-24 th Six Steps to Great Landscapes/Roundstone, Galway	28-30 th Put Pzazz in your Painting, Cross, Mayo
September	22 nd Becoming a Professional Painter - New Group begins (year 1 of 2)		29-30 Professional Group A (year 2 of 2)
October	20-21 Professional Group B	27-28 Professional Group A	
November	17-18 Professional Group B	24-5 Professional Group A	
December	No workshops scheduled		

***Note:** I am currently running a 2-year course called 'Becoming a Professional Artist' – this course meets most months at my studio. A new intake of participants, in September 2012, is designated 'Professional Group B' in the schedule above.