

# **Animals in Pastels workshop**

**with Rebecca de Mendonça**

**Sat April 18<sup>th</sup> 2026**

**Drawing animals with soft pastels, charcoal,  
Conte crayons and pastel pencils.**



In this workshop Rebecca will show how to sketch in the structure of an animal's head, and then demonstrate different techniques with pastel media to create the textures of the coat, eyes and muzzle. There will be a variety of photographic reference to use to draw from, including dogs, horses and some wild animals.

## **Reference**

You are welcome to bring your own reference to work from, although a selection of reference will be provided. However, make sure you have photographs that are in focus, and with good light. It helps to have the photo printed out at A4 size. You are welcome to draw your piece out before you come, but it is advisable to work at a minimum of A3 size, and preferably up to A2 size.

If you are not confident at drawing out your piece, Rebecca will also bring some 'kits' with tracings to use, to get you started.

## **Materials:**

As there will be a range of reference photographs to work from, it is difficult to give an exact list of materials, but the following will be useful;

Willow charcoal

A pencil eraser

Soft pastels; a selection of lights and darks, browns, greys and earth colours.

A few Conte crayons in a selection of earth colours.

Pastel pencils in a range of earth colours if you have any

Mid tone pastel paper or sugar paper in a mid-tone warm/neutral colour, or grey, such as Canson Mi-Tientes, or Winsor paper. Textured pastel surfaces if you prefer to use them, such as Colourfix primer.

It is a good idea for this workshop to bring surfaces that allow you to blend and smudge the pastels easily.

**NB; If you do not have good quality pastels or surfaces, you DO NOT have to go out and buy them just for this workshop.**

Rebecca will bring a selection of materials that you will be able to use on the day for a small fee (maximum £10 if using her pastels and papers, but it could be less, depending on what you use). This gives you the chance to try out really good materials, which help to produce good work.