

Animal Portraits in Graphite

with Jonathan Newey

Saturday 16th January 2027 10am – 4.00pm



An immersive one-day workshop designed for beginners and aspiring artists who love animals. Participants will learn how to observe features, understand proportions, and capture expression using the trace down technique. The session covers building realistic texture and creating depth through shading and blending with techniques such as smudging in tones and lifting highlights with an eraser. Step-by-step demonstrations guide students from initial sketch to finished portrait and individual feedback ensures personalised support throughout the day. By the end of the workshop, each participant will take home their own animal portrait.

Reference images will be provided or students with some experience can bring along their own good quality, high resolution portrait images to work from.

If you wish to work from your own image, they must be emailed to us on info@chapelcottagestudio.co.uk at least 1 week before the date of the workshop so that they can be checked for suitability and printed.

Jonathan will be demonstrating a drawing of a dog step by step. The techniques can be transferred to any furry animal.

Please bring along:

One sheet or a pad of A4 smooth, white cartridge paper or hot pressed watercolour paper. (If you do not have either of these you could do this on printer paper but you will need something underneath such as a magazine or newspaper).

A selection of graphite (lead) pencils such as HB, 2B, 4B, 6B and 8B

Pencil sharpener

Tissues for smudging and/or cotton wool buds

Putty eraser