



*'Tonee is the most concise and efficient communicator I've ever studied with at NAS.'*  
Short course student

# Sustain Your Painting Practice

## Tonee Messiah

6 sessions

10am-2.30pm

Friday 19 June - 24 July

Course fee \$395

Intermediate / advanced

### Course overview

Are you painting in your home studio and wishing to connect with other artists to sustain your practice? This course is designed for intermediate and advanced painting students and provides the opportunity to work closely with a professional artist in a mentorship capacity, to enhance your painting practice. Tonee Messiah guides you in techniques for sustaining your creative inspiration and energy in isolated studio settings, with a special focus on developing your individual interests and learning how to translate your ideas into dynamic visual language.

**Painting studio at NAS**

Photo: Peter Morgan



## Course overview continued

In this course you will find ways to increase your confidence and clarity for self-directed studio time through planning and developing a series of paintings in consultation with Tonee. She offers many new avenues for directed research and a range of techniques for visual analysis, which help build up an understanding of the vast possibilities for each of your paintings. These include identifying your interests, subject matter, themes and materials, and exploring the creative languages to suit them, as well as executing a suite of artworks.

Tonee leads group discussions about how to read and analyse paintings, introducing new ways to expand your visual knowledge, to propel your thinking and making as a painter. She encourages you to continue your painting projects between the six sessions of the course, to maximise the benefit of contact time with her during class time. At the conclusion of the course you will have a workable model to apply in your future creative pursuits. Weekly exercises will introduce you to the exciting potential of different painting styles and offer methods to achieve vibrant playful colour applications with experimental results.

## Week by week overview

### 1. Locating your interests

Prior to the commencement of the first class, students will be required to fill in a document that asks them to identify current artistic interests and influences as well as a theme or idea they wish to explore in a series of paintings. They will send the written information to the lecturer before the beginning of Week 1.

Tonee begins with a group introduction for students and a discussion of the course, followed by individual meetings to discuss their ideas and possible avenues to develop them. Such topics as subject, themes, scale, materials and the number of paintings in the series will be addressed.

### 2. Composition and dividing ideas

An introduction to the formal planning stages of painting will be presented including how to divide your ideas into parts and working on compositions to articulate your intention. Consideration is also given to how to build your colour palette and painting style with an emphasis on their interactions and communicative strength.

### 3. Reading and interpreting

In Week 3 students will select and present a favourite painting or artist that relates to the work they are undertaking, and they will discuss their choice with the group. Tonee introduces methods of incorporating and developing these ideas as elements in students' work and including techniques for understanding how to visually analyse paintings.

### 4. Objective looking

Through individual consultation with the teacher students will be offered feedback about the progress of their work and a discussion on the possible additions or changes that might propel the work forward.

### 5. Making and exchanging

Students will make their work in the first part of the class then share their ideas and outcomes with the group in the second part. They will participate in open discussions, learning how to give considered feedback and respectful responses to their peers artworks.

### 6. The final stages

Students' collections of new paintings will hopefully be completed and students will have the opportunity to ask specific questions about resolution, documentation and presentation. A final class critique by the lecturer will conclude the course and an online guided presentation of each students' work will be available.

## Course delivery

Tonee's online studio course is taught with Zoom and takes advantage of the full range of tools that this program offers. She is present in the online studio for the whole session and she responds directly to student questions in live interactions and discussions.

If you are unfamiliar with the Zoom program, some tutorial assistance is available prior to the commencement of the first session to ensure you can join in with ease and get to know the online learning environment.

Class sizes are limited to a maximum of twelve students and the sessions are not recorded.



## Student home-studio requirements

- A computer, laptop or ipad with a good internet connection
- Digital camera to photograph practical exercises for feedback

Art materials and lecturer profile are listed on the NAS website



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