

# Emma Copley – Painting a Still Life and Seeing Colour

**A 40 Artist Educator Resource:**  
Be Inspired by Emma Copley



Shell Subject Matter

Artist Educator, Emma Copley demonstrates in this beautifully illustrated resource, a step-by-step method for producing a painting of a shell, or similar object, in gouache.

This project was shared with AccessArt as part of the [40 Artist Educator Project](#), funded by Arts Council England, aiming to highlight and celebrate artist-led teaching and facilitation.

---

## Seeing and Painting a Shell by Emma Copley

These instructions are for painting a picture of a shell in gouache\*, however you can use any object that is limited in colour, an egg or a mushroom would also work. The techniques taught in this resource can be adapted to any learner age and ability, as well as any painting medium.

I have developed this method over many years and use it to create many of my own paintings; especially of trompe l'oeil objects. I have delivered this painting method in many of my adult education classes with great results. My students have enjoyed the simple exercises that lead up to the painting and always come away with a new view of how to get started with their own work. You will begin to understand how to find colour in objects that seemingly don't have any, how to work in a limited palette and how to inject your own personality into those choices.

\*A form of opaque watercolour.

---

	<b>Please log in here to access full content.</b>
Username	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="password"/>
	<input type="button" value="Login"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remember me
	<a href="#">Forgot Password</a>

**To access all content, I would like to join as...**

## An Individual



Creative practitioners, educators, teachers, parents, learners...

[From £3.50](#)

## An Organisation...



Schools, Colleges, Arts Organisations: Single and Multi-Users  
From £42

*AccessArt is a UK Charity and we believe everyone has the right to be creative. AccessArt provides inspiration to help us all reach our creative potential.*

---

## **How to Run a Life Drawing Class by Hester Berry**

---

# Experimental Drawing – Process over Outcome

Artist and facilitator Sharon Kelly shares an inspirational mark-making workshop in which participants are encouraged to take risks in their work.

---

## Layered Colour Gestural Drawing

Using colour to help develop gestural drawing skills. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

---

## Illustrating Stories: Creating a Storyboard and First Dummy Book

Children's book illustrator Emma Malfroy shares how to plan out a children's book and make a mock up 'dummy book'.

---

# The Visual Diary Journey – Join Us!

Start your own Visual Diary! Be Inspired by Andrea Butler and  
Morag Thomson Merriman

---

## Drawing with Indian Ink with Aurora Cacciapuoti – Illustrator

Aurora Cacciapuoti, illustrator, shows her work to teenagers  
and demonstrates how to use ink and nib.

---

## Subject Matter for Drawing



## Potatoes, Playmobil and Henry Moore: Making Drawings with Mass



## Introducing Foreshortening and Creating Volume



## Drawing Feathers: Perfect for Mark Making



## [Drawing Pouring Water](#)



## [Drawings of Toys Inspired by Gwen John's Cats!](#)



## Exploring Ink: Making Drawing Tools and Mark Making



## Drawing Shiny Cutlery



## [Drawing Insects in Black Pen](#)

---

# Beginner's Guide to Drawing Materials

Introduction to some of the basic drawing materials and how to get the most out of them. Contains links too to other resources.

---

# Making a Blind Contour Drawing

---

# **Drawings with Mass: Potatoes, Playmobil and Henry Moore**

Inspired by drawings by Henry Moore – making weighty drawings with ink, wax and graphite

---

## **Making a Shy Drawing – Drawing Exercises for Beginners**

Find out what a “shy drawing” is and how it can help you focus. These exercises and suggestions provide a focus which enables pupils and teachers to explore different aspects of making a drawing, including sound, action and intention. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

---

## **Drawing Speed**

---

# Introduction to Composition in Drawing

Illustrator Yumi Okudo shares an exercise which can help students explore concepts of scale and composition. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

---

## Draw PDF Download

AccessArt's most popular PDF download! Creative and accessible drawing ideas for all ages, all abilities. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)