

WILLOW WEAVING - ANIMAL SCULPTURE WORKSHOP

3 DAY COURSE: Monday 24th – Wednesday 26th July 2017

10am – 4pm

FEE: £165

including lunch and refreshments



TUTOR: Sue Kirk

During this three day workshop, you will learn the basic techniques involved in making a life size animal sculpture using willow. This workshop is suitable for the complete beginner right through to the more advanced students.

You can choose to make a stag, doe, goat or sheep. You will learn how to work in 3-D, weave and sculpt with willow using the interlace technique, use willow effectively to build up contours of the body, add ears, tails, antlers and horns to give your sculpture personality!

The Tutor will prepare a metal armature in advance to weave around, so you will need to decide which animal you would like to make before the course starts. Images of the animals will be available for you to work from.

By the end of the three days you will have made at life size animal in willow.

See overleaf for more info.

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On the first day there will be an introduction to willow and how to grow it. We then learn how to prepare the materials ready for weaving.

We will also look at a variety of willow sculptors work to inspire you.

We begin by making hoops which are threaded onto the metal frame, then we begin threading willow through these hoops which enables you to create a solid framework to start weaving into.

Over the next two days we cover the framework with an interlace weave, referencing our images all the time so that your animal sculpture is well in proportion. You will be shown how to build up areas of your animal's body with the willow to show muscle and contours of the body.

You will also learn how to apply a final layer of willow which creates surface texture.

Using simple basketry techniques, you learn how to create ears, horns and tails for your animals. Antlers can either be woven into your stags head, or you can build antlers using hazel sticks.

Students enjoy the qualities of the materials, the history of the craft and the social, physical and meditative benefits of weaving . It's a rewarding experience in which you create a sculpture to be proud of.

All tools are provided, but you can bring the following:

- A cushion
- A sharp pair of secateurs

All materials are provided by the tutor and paid for on the last day:

- Materials for a stag or doe frame: £15 + Willow £15 = Total £30 payable to Tutor
- Materials for a sheep or goat frame: £10 + Willow £15 = Total £25 payable to Tutor

