

FRENCH TREATS 2012

Residential Design Course with renowned textile designer

John Allen

An exciting week of workshops, creativity, trips, fun and much more.

25 May - 1 June 2012

LE VIEUX MONASTERE, CHARENTE MARITIME

SOUTH WEST FRANCE



Le Vieux Monastere has hosted textile based residential workshop holidays since 2006 and are delighted to announce details of a week-long residential design course, run by John Allen. The workshops form part of an inclusive programme which provides a complete holiday experience. A Fellow of The Royal College of Art, John has a wealth of experience in textile design and has lectured and taught on the subject around the world.

The holiday takes place in the beautiful retreat of Le Vieux Monastere, a former monastery dating back to the 12th century. Set in the sunny Charente Maritime between La Rochelle and Cognac this is a perfect setting for promoting creativity and a sense of well being.

Guests are accommodated in their own room with a shared bathroom in our lovely traditional French cottages. Meals are taken as a group and consist of breakfast, lunch and dinner with unlimited wine included, and refreshments throughout.

The cost of this holiday is £725, which includes accommodation, airport transfers, full board, all workshops and excursions. The cost excludes travel to La Rochelle. La Rochelle is served by Flybe, Ryanair and Eurostar/TGV trains via Lille.

"It was wonderful as usual - that is why I keep coming back.
Great classes, marvellous food, wonderful companions"
Carolyn, San Diego - knitting workshop guest 2010

"Loved the whole experience and would like to come again.
Learning in such a beautiful place is a real pleasure"
Pat, Surrey - knitting workshop guest 2010



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The course is aimed at crafts people who want to improve their design skills, no matter what their subject.

For guests with little or no design experience, the week will commence with basic design exercises incorporating a series of techniques that John will explain.

The more experienced student will work from material collected on excursions to local places of beauty that have been chosen with design inspiration in mind.

The excursions will be used to draw and record material that will then be used to design from. John will give personal advice to each student on how to move this work forward and from this add to it and develop it throughout the week.

Drawing skills will help but are not essential. All you need is enthusiasm and an ability to have a go.

"By the end of the week I would hope to have given you many pointers in how to develop an idea into a design, but most of all give you the courage and confidence to know that you CAN design" says John.

Materials you will need to bring:

rubber, 3 and 5B pencils, metal ruler, small sharp scissors, scalpel knife with NEW blade, water colours, oil pastels and any other colouring material you enjoy using, sketching pad with hard back so you can use without a drawing board, glue or pritt stick.

John believes that everyone has design talents and his belief in these natural talents is borne out by the standard of work produced by members of his design groups. John's students would say that without the stimulus of John's very special tutoring skills they would never have discovered or developed these natural talents.

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Friday	PM EVE	Arrive La Rochelle. Transfer to Le Vieux Monastere. Welcome reception with complimentary aperitifs to meet your hosts, tutor and fellow guests, followed by dinner.
Saturday	AM/PM EVE	Full day workshop Dinner, followed by informal lecture/discussions
Sunday	AM PM EVE	Excursion for drawing/design inspiration followed by lunch (cost of meal not included) Afternoon workshop Dinner, followed by informal lecture/discussions
Monday	AM PM EVE	Morning workshop Excursion for drawing/design inspiration Dinner followed by informal lecture/discussions
Tuesday	AM/PM EVE	Full day workshop Outing to local restaurant for dinner (cost of meal not included)
Wednesday	AM PM EVE	Excursion for drawing/design inspiration Afternoon workshop Dinner followed by informal lecture/discussions
Thursday	AM/PM EVE	Full day workshop including review of the week Farewell Dinner
Friday		Depart for La Rochelle. Hope to see you again.



John Allen

John trained at Camberwell School of Art, which he followed up with an MA from the Royal College of Art in London where he was made a Fellow in 1985.

He then worked in the textile industry, setting up his own studio. Instrumental in setting up and running the knitting department at the Royal College, he left in 1989 to concentrate on his own work and studio practice.



He is internationally known through the publication of five books and the international lecture and workshop tours undertaken. He has also featured in television and radio programmes about design and textiles and regularly contributes to numerous magazines and journals.

John has had two one-man exhibitions at the London Knitting and Stitching Show. In 2008 his second exhibition 'The Forbidden Kingdom' was launched at the Knitting and Stitching Show and then travelled around the country to numerous galleries and museums.

His next exhibition "British Landscapes" will be launched at the 2012 Knitting and Stitching show, after which over the next two years it will travel around the country.

**please contact Graham and Christine Dove at Le Vieux Monastere
00 33 546 915998 or info@levieuxmonastere.com
to check availability and reserve a place prior to sending the
attached booking form.**

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Full Name		
Address		
Tel (Daytime)		Tel (Evening)
Email:		
Any special dietary requirements?		
Which flight are you expecting to arrive on?		
Workshop holiday cost £725	£725	
25% non refundable deposit enclosed	£181	
Amount due 10 weeks before	£543	
Where did you hear about us?		
I accept the Le Vieux Monastere Terms and Conditions. I am over 18 years old. I enclose a non refundable deposit of £/€..... and agree to pay the balance of £/€..... ten weeks before arrival		
Name..... Signed..... Date.....		
Please make cheques payable to "Mr & Mrs G Dove". send this signed booking form and your deposit cheque to: Mr & Mrs G Dove, Le Vieux Monastère, 15 rue St Martin, 17770 St Hilaire de Villefranche, France		
NOTE: It is advisable to arrange travel insurance against cancellation of your holiday. The workshops and lectures will be conducted in English. If you would like advice on travel to La Rochelle we are happy to assist.		