

## CCPS COURSE IN CLAY Term 1 2020

### Rachel Bunney

Figurative Sculpture - Beginners

Friday 10:00am - 12:30pm - 4 Weeks - Cost \$195

### TEACHER PROFILE

I am a figurative sculptor in clay focusing on stylised female form and anatomically studied animal and plant forms. Combining these two aspects, I highlight the inter-relationships between the feminine and the natural world. I have been practicing sculpture in clay since 2006 and am predominantly self-taught, with the added guidance of other sculptors such as Bev Hogg, Jenny Orchard, Cassandra Bossell and Lesley Weber.

I love sharing my work and story and have been the sculpture teacher at CCPS since 2016, as well as running community and regional workshops. I am a regular exhibitor in the Royal Easter Show, Bowral Sculpture Prize and have been selected for the Gosford Art Prize twice. My professional training and experience, prior to being a professional artist, was notably in the fields of group work, training and interpersonal communication; adding to her ability to share and relate her experiences and skills.

My work has featured in the Milk Factory Gallery in Bowral and continues to be exhibited at Casa Del Sol Art Centre, Koolewong as well as Gallery ONE88, Katoomba.

### COURSE OUTLINE

The class will be offered pending numbers meet criteria, morning class from 10am until 12.30 Fridays. The class will follow the following guidelines and run as 'Figurative Sculpture in Clay with Rachel Bunney'.

The aim of this course is for participants to learn technical skills in using clay as a sculptural medium (in particular Feeney's BRT), as well as develop expressive and artistic thought processes that enable execution of expression through figurative sculpture.

The focus is specifically on building and, although verbal guidance will be offered regarding finishing of fired work, this is not part of the offered course. As part of this custom program, each student is able to create an individual artwork providing a variety of learning opportunities for the whole class. A demonstration project will be provided as a model and inspiration for those students who need a starting idea. All participants are encouraged to create and play in a friendly, connecting and inspiring environment.

Students will be encouraged to explore, experiment, be inspired and express themselves artistically in a guided, safe and thought enhancing environment.

## WEEKLY PROGRAM

### Week 1-8     **Work Health Safety / CCPS Rules / Emergency procedure**

**Introduction** - participants, participant ideas and backgrounds

**Technical skills** - including slab building and pinch pots as a basis for forms.

#### **Engineering of builds**

- slab thickness, centre of gravity, weight centring, height management and other 'trial and error' sharing
- principles of working with clay such as cavities, airways, drying, firing and strategies to prevent cracking in finished work

**Use of tools, equipment and 'collectables'** to enhance or create desired affects

**Ongoing appraisal, critiquing and evaluation** - open to class input with student's permission

#### **Discussion**

- art philosophy and psychology to create pathways of learning, patience, perseverance and building of confidence
- developed awareness of physiology, anatomy, balance, form, flow and other art practices to create desired effects

One or possibly two completed builds ready for drying and firing approximately 3 weeks later.

#### **Discussion**

- possible finishing alternatives
- feedback regarding future demonstration projects and other inspirational ideas

## SKILLS OUTCOMES

On completing this course, students will have developed skills in:

- understanding the properties of Feeney's BRT;
- making a pinch pot;
- working with slabs of clay to create a variety of forms;
- engineering a sculptural build;
- using tools and equipment to create effects;
- developing ideas to create a figurative sculpture ceramic work;
- building an art practice;
- basic kiln & firing knowledge;
- a range of additional skills associated to each student's individual project.

