

Silk Painting with Jill Kennedy



WORKSHOP COMPANION eBook



“Silk Painting with Jill Kennedy”
Jill Kennedy

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Compiled by Nathan Brookes

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Silk Painting with Jill Kennedy

Workshop Companion to the Online Edition

Written by
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Getting Started in Silk Painting



Welcome to the Course

Introduction



*Jill Kennedy
in her Studio.*

Welcome to the
Silk Painting Workshop!

I'm Jill Kennedy, and I am excited to be offering this wonderful workshop which I developed and taught for years in England now available online with Galli Publishing. The course is

designed to help you explore a variety of silk painting techniques for creating exciting textures and hand painted designs on silk.

*Gutta technique
on Silk shawl.*

Silk Painting is the art of applying dye or paints to silks. Some techniques do not require great artistic ability, such as the Salt and Sugar Techniques. You will just need some enthusiasm to experiment with the dyes



and paints and even if you are a complete beginner you will, I'm sure, be able to produce some rewarding work...



Unexpected results can be incorporated with great success.

...and thoroughly enjoy yourself at the same time.

Other techniques such as batik can produce some great results right off and offer a great deal of opportunity to become an expert over time.

Painting on Silk can be fairly temperamental so I suggest you try not to be too rigid in your plans. In my video demonstrations throughout this course I provide a lot of opportunity to see how I recover from the odd mistake or blunder which is bound to happen.

When the unexpected happens try to welcome it as part of your design rather than thinking you have ruined your work, because it does not look exactly like your original plan. Our goal in this workshop is to improve our skills, not look for perfection the first time around. Over time you will find yourself working faster and with greater skill, so I encourage you to be patient as you wait for results.



Watercolor Technique often produces unexpected and always welcomed results.

Whether you are a serious artist or a leisure painter, or have no drawing skills at all, the rich natural sheen of the silks brings the colors to life, and you will soon be mastering the basic silk painting techniques and producing brilliant work in a very short time.

Silk Painting is a very creative and rewarding method of painting and many people find it extremely relaxing and therapeutic.

The History of Silk and Silk Painting



*'Court Ladies Pounding Silk'.
Painting by Emperor Huizong of Song, 12th Century.*

If you are interested in the [History of Silk](#) and the Silk Road there are some great sites out there on the web as well as many books and even videos available on the subject. I recommend an excellent book by Dr John Feltwell “The Story Of Silk”, published by Alan Sutton. It's out of print but still widely available from Amazon and Abebooks who deal in selling used books.

Course Overview



*Creating flower petals
with the Alcohol Technique.*

The whole course is laid out so that each session can be worked sequentially (one after another).

If you prefer to ‘jump around’ as some people do, then I do suggest you complete both the Introduction and Fixing and Care sections as the information in both are essential to your overall satisfaction with the workshop.

Each section contains a recommended List of Materials. In addition for each video demonstration you will see me discuss the tools and materials

needed so there should be ample opportunity to find what you are after.

We have included a list of partner suppliers at the end of the workshop which you can refer to for many if not most of the required materials. Please do visit our partner suppliers as they are experts in the materials they sell and can provide you with additional information and instructions as you proceed.

Good Studio Practice



Jacquard's [Green Label Silk Colors](#) dyes kit has everything you need in one neat package.

Some of the processes, materials and techniques explored in this workshop require a bit of understanding, care and attention. Please refer back to the manufacturer for the most current and up to date safe handling and use instructions which are available from your dealer.

Good studio practice involves setting up your studio in a way that you take proper care and respect both towards the materials, you surroundings, and most of all -- yourself.

- Consider investing in plastic sheeting if you work on surface that may become damaged.
- Wear gloves at all times when in doubt about the safety of certain chemicals.
- Masks are available to purchase and wear when handling some of the chemicals or consider working outdoors if you smell fumes or strong odors.
- Invest in a smock or apron and wear it as you work
- Some powdered dyes are dangerous until they are made liquid; consider buying the liquid versions at first if possible. Jacquard and many of our dealers offer [pre-made kits](#) to get you going.
- Exercise caution when working around hot plates, open stoves/cookers, and with temperature regulated appliances as they can become very hot and cause burns to the skin or damage to your work surface.