

NAPIER CREATIVE BREAK-AWAY

THE ART OF PAINTING

FUSION OF PAINT & PHOTOGRAPHY



MARTIN OSNER
ART ACADEMY

ARTFUL FUSION OF BRUSH & LENS

Embark on a transformative artistic journey with Martin and Samantha Lee Osner in a unique art-breakaway experience that transcends traditional boundaries. This workshop, primarily rooted in photography, unfolds into a celebration of the art of painting, utilising photography as a boundless creative resource. Focused on cultivating a loose, uninhibited artistic mindset, the emphasis is on easy and effective painting techniques. Here, the camera becomes the drawing tool, seamlessly integrated with the painter's brush. Designed for both artists and photographers, this retreat offers respite from the clamor of the world. Immerse yourself in a positive, inspired environment where the freedom to explore and experiment reigns supreme, enabling participants to discover new layers in their work and hone their craft.



INTRO

Welcome to the serene haven of Napier, nestled in the heart of the picturesque Overberg region of the Western Cape.

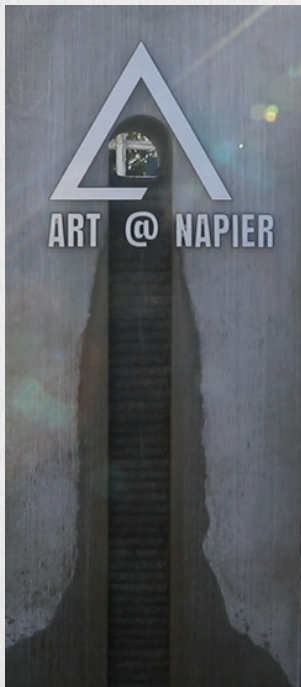
This historic town, with its tranquil ambiance and charming landscapes, sets the stage for an extraordinary artistic retreat. Immerse yourself in the beauty of Napier during this unique art break-away, a quiet haven perfect for those seeking inspiration and a creative escape.

Hosted by the Osner Gallery, situated in the heart of Napier, this workshop promises an enriching experience under the guidance of Martin Osner. Joining him is his talented daughter, Samantha Lee Osner, ensuring a dynamic and supportive environment for artistic exploration.

Timed to coincide with the enchanting blossoming of the canola fields, this workshop offers a harmonious blend of artistic expression and natural beauty.

Delve into the world of painting inspired by photography, as you capture the essence of Napier and its surroundings. The focus of the workshop extends across three artistic genres: the idyllic countryside, the quaint structures within and farmlands surrounding Napier, including the scenic seaside vistas in nearby towns like Arniston, Struisbaai, and Cape Agulhas.

This workshop is thoughtfully crafted for photographers seeking to infuse a robust artistic layer into their work. Whether you are a seasoned photographer or a budding enthusiast, Napier provides the ideal backdrop to refine your skills and unleash your creative potential. Join us for an unforgettable journey where art, nature, and photography converge in the heart of the Overberg.





SERENITY SPARKS CREATIVITY

In the realm of artistry, serenity acts as the spark that ignites creativity. The creation of art is an intricate process that flourishes when time is spent in a peaceful and stimulating environment. This workshop offers you the freedom to immerse yourself in such an atmosphere, surrounded by like-minded artists and photographers, all seeking a breakthrough in their creative endeavours.

Martin and Samantha Lee Osner will guide you through painting techniques that have proven successful in recent exhibitions. The essence of this workshop is not just to impart knowledge but to ensure that every participant leaves with a personally crafted piece of art destined for their walls.

Spanning three full days, the workshop is a comprehensive journey into creativity, blending location shoots with dedicated time in the art studio. The emphasis is on cultivating serenity within an inspired environment, providing the ideal conditions for artistic exploration and expression. Join us in this immersive experience, where the tranquility of Napier becomes the catalyst for your artistic breakthrough.

A TRANQUIL HAVEN FOR ARTISTIC BREAK-AWAY



An Oasis of History and Natural Beauty in the Overberg

Napier, boasts a captivating blend of beauty and history. Surrounded by rolling hills and farmlands, this charming locale exudes tranquility and timeless allure. Steeped in rich history, Napier showcases well-preserved Cape Dutch and Victorian architecture, offering a glimpse into its colonial past. The town's inviting atmosphere is complemented by tree-lined streets, creating a serene ambiance for residents and visitors alike. With its proximity to the stunning landscapes of the Overberg, Napier serves as a gateway to scenic wonders, making it an appealing destination for those seeking a retreat into both nature and history.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS RETREAT:

CANOLA LANDSCAPES



Experience the breathtaking beauty of Napier's rolling hills in and around September when the canola fields burst into full bloom. A golden expanse stretches as far as the eye can see, painting the landscape in hues of vibrant yellow. These undulating hills, adorned with the radiant blossoms, create a mesmerizing spectacle. The landscape becomes a picturesque canvas, inviting all to revel in the ephemeral beauty of nature's artistry during this time each year.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS RETREAT:

TRANQUIL OCEAN SCENES



We will explore the unique seaside wonders just a short distance from Napier during this workshop, including Arniston, Cape Agulhas—the southernmost tip of Africa—and the charming Stuisbaai with its small craft harbour. One dedicated workshop day will immerse you in the captivating beauty of these coastal havens. Experience the interesting shoreline of Arniston, stand at the iconic Cape Agulhas, the most southern tip of Africa, where the Indian and Atlantic Oceans converge, and embrace the maritime charm of Stuisbaai's small craft harbour. These ocean views add an interesting subject diversity during your workshop experience.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS RETREAT:

STRUCTURES AND HISTORIC CHARM



During one day of the workshop, we will focus on painting the historic charm of structures and buildings, both in the town of Napier itself and on nearby farms with the farmers' permission. This includes exploring the architectural beauty of buildings steeped in history, like the iconic church in the center of Napier. Additionally, we'll visit the old railway station nearby, where the echoes of bygone eras linger. This dedicated day promises a visual journey through time, encapsulating the unique and evocative elements of historic charm within the workshop's artistic exploration.

ARTISTIC DISCOVERY BEYOND COMFORT ZONES



A Painterly Exploration of Photographic Creativity

This workshop offers a transformative approach, shifting from a photographic mindset to a painterly starting point. Embrace the tactile experience as we work with brushes and palette knives, utilizing acrylic and watercolour paints on diverse mediums such as canvas and watercolour paper. Delve into the intricacies of brush strokes and painting techniques, gaining insights into layering depth and texture within your artwork. Elevate your creative process by merging photography and painting, fostering a dynamic fusion that adds a unique dimension to your artistic expression

OSNER GALLERY A MODERN HAVEN FOR CREATIVE INSPIRATION



OUR STUDIO: A SPACE DESIGNED FOR ARTISTIC INSPIRATION



**THE HISTORIC CHARM
OF NAPIER**





ACCOMMODATION

Upon booking, you will receive a curated list of suitable accommodation in Napier, encompassing bed and breakfasts and Self catering facilities. While attendees are required to secure their own lodging, we aim to facilitate a seamless experience by offering a range of options. To enhance the workshop experience and minimise travel, we encourage delegates to choose accommodations in close proximity to Napier. This ensures convenience and allows participants to immerse themselves fully in the artistic journey without the hassle of extensive commuting.



MEALS

SELF CATERING COTTAGES

Despite its small size, Napier boasts a surprising array of established restaurants and eateries. As a participant on this course, you have the flexibility to choose between self-catering or receive curated recommendations for dining options throughout the program. With a focus on maximising studio time, we encourage light lunches. This flexibility ensures that participants can tailor their dining experience to suit their preferences.

EQUIPMENT & ART SUPPLIES

Camera

A DSLR or mirrorless camera is preferred, although attendance with a smartphone, tablet, or bridge camera is also welcome.

Lenses

Optimal lens range from 16mm to 200mm, with a macro lens being optional.

A tripod and filter are also considered optional.

Computer

A computer equipped with editing software is necessary for image preparation.

Art Materials

A combination of watercolour and acrylic paints is required, along with an assortment of brushes and palette knives. A comprehensive list will be provided in our travel pack later.

To ensure consistency, canvas and watercolour substrates will be available for purchase during the workshop.

Additionally, a workshop pack can be ordered if you prefer not to bring your own.

Easels will be provided.





01-05 SEPTEMBER '25

05-09 OCTOBER '26

ZAR 15 800 +- US \$850

Deposit 50% Balance due one month
before the workshop commences

[BOOK NOW](#)

Day One

- 3:00 pm: Welcome drinks on arrival at Osner Gallery, followed by orientation and workshop discussion.
- Late Afternoon: Workshop participants engage in an initial shoot.

Day Two

- 9:30 am - 12:30 pm: Studio Session 1
- 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm: Studio Session 2
- 4:00 pm: Optional location shoot.

Day Three

- Early Morning: Workshop participants embark on a sunrise shoot.
 - 10:30 am - 12:30 pm: Studio Session 1
 - 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm: Studio Session 2
 - 4:00 pm: Optional location shoot.

Day Four

- 9:30 am - 12:30 pm: Studio Session 1
- 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm: Studio Session 2

Day Five

- 10:00 am: Debrief and Celebration at Osner Gallery.
- 12:00 pm: Workshop concludes.

Please note that the schedule is subject to alteration based on light and weather conditions.

SAMANTHA LEE OSNER



As a young and emerging artist, I am drawn to minimalism and exude a feminine style. I explore various mediums, including paint, transfers and overlays, to uniquely capture the world's beauty and nature around me. Through my art, I aim to reflect the simplicity and elegance in the natural world while also expressing my unique perspective and emotional response to the subjects I depict. My artistic process is driven by my innate curiosity and desires to create. I strive to create art that is not only aesthetically pleasing but also evokes emotion and creates a connection with the viewer. Art should not only be appreciated but also inspire and provoke thought. My goal is to continue pushing the boundaries of my mediums and constantly explore new techniques and ideas.

MARTIN OSNER



My artistic journey has seamlessly intertwined traditional painting and fine art photography, evolving from limited editions to unique original works, defining my path and resonating with my artistic soul. A serendipitous encounter with photography in 1984 redirected my life, allowing me to pursue my artistic dream without immediate labels, embarking on a transformative journey. Despite parental concerns about a stable career, photography became the medium to chase my passion while alleviating their worries.

Over the past twenty-eight years, my artistic methodology has embraced simplicity and honesty, with photography offering a realistic perspective. Life, perceived through the lens of a painter, sees everyday moments as potential compositions. The camera and lens, my paint and brushes, turn life into a canvas, creating thematic portfolios and mixed media pieces. The creative process, guided by intuition and free from restrictions, allows the final piece to evolve organically, embracing imperfection.

My artistic style draws inspiration from legendary artists like Henri Cartier-Bresson and Ansel Adams, influencing my social commentary, documentary pieces, and landscape photography. Still-life and abstract studies echo a painterly expressionism inspired by Henri Matisse and Jackson Pollock. My spiritual journey finds solace in the studio, where art comes to life.

Today, I comfortably navigate both sides of the lens and the canvas, believing my steps have been purposefully guided by a caring Creator. My unwavering love for photography and burning passion for art remain integral aspects of who I am, an inseparable blend of what I do and what I love.