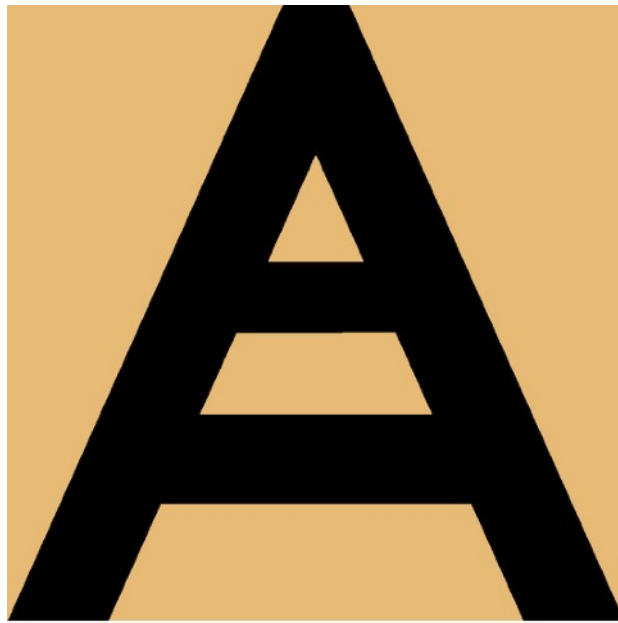




THE ART ACADEMY

CHARCOAL PORTRAIT WORKSHOP
CLIO NEWTON

January 6-10, 2027
Adelaide, South Australia

CHARCOAL PORTRAIT WORKSHOP

January 6-10, 2027

Join us this January for an exclusive workshop with world-renowned artist Clio Newton. Famous for her stunning, large format charcoal portraits, Clio will be conducting a 5-day, immersive workshop sharing her secrets and working with students to develop their proficiency in charcoal. The course centres around each student creating their own, large format charcoal portrait from start to finish. With Newton providing live demonstrations and individual assistance, students will develop a deeper understanding of composition, reference creation, scale and proportion.

From beginner to advanced, if you're looking to expand your portrait skill-set and build a greater conceptual depth, then this course is for you. Charcoal on paper has never been more collectible and The Art Academy is thrilled to offer a true master of the craft to our community of artists.

Numbers are strictly limited so book now.



INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Clio Newton

Clio Newton is an internationally recognised artist who combines traditional technique with a contemporary perspective. Newton's approach to her compositions comes from the standpoint of the "female gaze" reflecting her interest in contemporary models of femininity and the representation of women in art and culture. Newton's renderings in compressed charcoal or colored pencil feature larger-than-life, figurative subjects - often solo sitters - who fill the picture plane and beyond. Newton's powerful compositions are unapologetic, informed by bold choices as they explore the psychology of the female experience.

American-born Clio Newton received her Bachelor of Fine Arts at The Cooper Union in New York City and a Masters of Fine Arts at Zürcher Hochschule der Künste in Zürich, Switzerland. She has additional studies at The Florence Academy of Art in Italy. She was awarded the AKKU Artist in Residency grant in Zürich and was selected as one of the top young artists in Europe by "Artagon" in Paris. Newton is a two-time recipient of the Elizabeth Greenshields Grant Award and has exhibited her work in California, Miami, New England and New York as well as in Florence, Italy, Munich, Paris and Zürich. Most recently, Newton's work has been added to the collections of The Flint Institute, Flint, MI, 21C Museum, Louisville, KY and the Baltimore Museum of Art, MD. Her studio is located in Zürich, Switzerland, where she resides.



CHARCOAL PORTRAIT WORKSHOP

Schedule

Day 1 — Foundation & Reference

Morning

Group introductions and an overview of charcoal as a medium, with printed handouts covering drawing fundamentals and material tips.

Demo of Clio's reference photo process: how she works with a subject, thinks about a project and composition, selects and edits an image in Photoshop, and considers scale before beginning a piece.

Students choose their reference material from a selection of high-res prints.

Afternoon

Demo for beginning the drawing

Discussion of the block-in: why a strong foundation matters and how to make corrections early. Introduction to sight-size drawing — the method students will use throughout the week, with the reference image printed one-to-one with the drawing.

Students begin sketching their portraits, concentrating on large shapes and overall proportions.

Individual feedback as students begin their pieces.



Day 2 — Developing the Block-In

Morning

— Demo and group discussion of 'glazing'

— how different charcoal types are introduced as a drawing develops: vine charcoal for early stages, followed by hard, medium, and soft compressed pencils, then Pitt or compressed for the deepest values.

— Students continue working on their block-ins, focusing on shape accuracy and corrections.

Afternoon

— Students continue working; Clio gives individual feedback.

— Introduction to 'keying' the drawing — how to establish a value structure before committing to detail.



Day 3 — Refining Shapes & Lost Edges

Morning

—
Demo and group discussion on refining a drawing: getting more specific with shapes, maintaining corrections, and holding an overview of the whole.

—
Students continue developing their pieces with ongoing personalised instruction.

—
The concept of 'losing information'
— how intentional soft edges and simplified areas direct the viewer's eye and clarify shapes while working.

Afternoon

—
Students focus on refining shapes across their piece.

—
Demonstration: refining a charcoal gradation and creating skin texture using the stump and eraser.

Day 4 — Values & Rendering

Morning

—
Demo of rendering in charcoal: creating an illusion of light and the distinction between rendering everything versus strategically suggesting detail.

—
Students push into the value stage of their drawing.

—
Discussion of value compression — how condensing the tonal range creates a sense of realism and coherence rather than a mechanical transcription of the photograph.

Afternoon

—
Individual feedback continues as drawings move into finer detail.

Day 5 — Finishing & Reflection

Morning

—
Students work toward completing their drawings with individual guidance.

—
Group discussion on transcending photo reference — how to use the photograph as a tool rather than a template, and how to make informed decisions about edges, lost information, and departure from the source.

Afternoon

—
Final session for completing drawings, with continued individual feedback.

—
Open conversation for students who wish to discuss their broader practice with Clío.

—
The week closes with a practical overview of how to pack, store, and ship works on paper, followed by open Q&A.

CHARCOAL PORTRAIT WORKSHOP

What you'll need

Below is a list of materials that Clio requires students bring to the workshop. In order to ensure you have the right gear, we have a partnered with Art to Art on a discounted student supply pack. You are of course welcome to bring the materials yourself, or purchase individual items from Art to Art. Please note, that the specific brands listed are important and substituting for others is not recommended.

BUY IT FROM ART TO ART:

If you would like to purchase a discounted supply pack from Art to Art please email us at info@artacademy.com.au and we will send you think link!

- **Charcoal sticks**

Faber-Castell Pitt charcoal

- **Paper**

Fabriano, 50 × 65 cm bring a few sheets in a flat drawing carrier or tube

- **Compressed charcoal pencils**

Faber-Castell soft, medium, and hard

- **Vine charcoal**

- **Erasers**

Gum eraser and hard white plastic eraser

- **Blending tools**

Drawing stumps in various sizes

Please note: we will provide easels, drawing boards and chairs for each student.

TICKETS

Oil Painting Workshop with Clio Newton, Jan 6-10, 2026 – **\$1430** (inc GST)

Ticket can be purchased online at www.artacademy.com.au or through bank transfer.

To request a bank transfer please contact us at info@artacademy.com.au and we will forward you an invoice with payment information.

Deposit

Students can secure their place in the workshop with a non-refundable \$330 (inc GST) deposit payable by bank transfer. Please contact us at info@artacademy.com.au and we will forward you an invoice with payment information.

Terms and conditions

Full payment is due December 15th, 2026

No refunds will be given for absence or withdrawal on or after December 22nd, 2026. Fees will be refunded for withdrawal prior to December 22nd, 2026.

Students will be permitted to choose their easel position in order of receipt of full payment.

THE ART ACADEMY

About us

The Art Academy was established in 2012 in Adelaide, South Australia to offer world-class art education at a local level. Specialising in boutique, instructional short courses taught by internationally acclaimed artists in a state of the art multimedia facility, the Art Academy offers an unprecedented opportunity to learn from the very best artists in an engaging and interactive environment.

Founded on the belief that the artist must go through the craft to the art, the Art Academy's workshops are an intensive and information packed experience, combining lectures, demonstrations and interactive class exercises. By pairing traditional art education with modern audio visual technology, each student will have a front row seat to proceedings and the ability to work step by step alongside the instructing artist.

The information packed seminars are conducted to present a range of expert opinions centred around a chosen theme. Drawing on our vast industry connections, the Art Academy presents speakers at the vanguard of the contemporary art scene in an engaging format of presentations, Q & A's and panel discussions.

The Art Academy seeks to provide the most qualified and expert answers to all of your art related questions and equip you with the knowledge and skills to pursue your passion.

CONTACT

If you have any questions, email us at info@artacademy.com.au

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Facebook - facebook.com/artacademyaustralia

Instagram - [@theartacademy_au](https://instagram.com/theartacademy_au)

FACILITIES

110 Sheoak Road

Crafrers West, South Australia

Our new facility in the stunning Adelaide Hills, equipped with the latest in high tech audio visual to deliver a premium learning experience.

DINING

The Art Academy will have coffee and tea available on site, a fridge and small kitchen for refrigerating and heating meals. A daily lunch run into neighbouring Stirling will give students the opportunity to sample some of the Hills finest food.

ACCOMMODATION

For interstate and overseas students we can provide a list of nearby Airbnb's and hotels. Transport to and from the workshop can be arranged for those without a car.