

Summer Inspiration: Half Day Poetry Workshops Book all 10, or pic'n'mix!

The Poetry School
81 Lambeth Walk
London, SE11 6DX

Tel: 0207 582 1679

Email: administration@poetryschool.com

Price: £35, £33, £28 each

Book online at:

www.poetryschool.com

Monday July 24

The Minimum Viable Poem

Tutor: **Rishi Dastidar**

Time: 10:30 – 13:00

With us all living online and scurrying between social media platforms, it's no surprise that shorter poems are being shared at an ever-increasing rate. But just how short can a poem really be? What does it need to qualify as a poem? We'll explore the big world of smaller, shorter and micro verse, so even your smallest poems can be perfectly formed.

Tuesday July 25

'If You Don't Have Any Shadows You're Not in the Light'

Tutor: **Penelope Shuttle**

Time: 10:30 – 13:00

The above quote from Lady Gaga is the theme of our workshop. We will explore the relationships between shadows and light in poetry. There'll be close reading of poems, with writing prompts and visual materials supplied. There will also be optional read-back sessions of our own writing.

Making a Mess

Tutor: **Kayo Chingonyi**

Time: 14:00 – 16:30

Drawing on the work of poet and performer Douglas Kearney, as well as various theories of creativity, this session will look at ways of encouraging spontaneity in the creative process by seeking out methods that allow for failure, mess, and the happy accidents that occur in the moment.

Bird in the Hand: Proverbial

Tutor: **Penelope Shuttle**

Time: 14:00 – 16:30

Proverbs are found in every language and are as old as time. In this workshop we'll look into what these condensed and memorable phrases have to say to us, and how they open doors into new writing. There'll be close reading of poems on the theme and writing prompts supplied. There will also be optional read-back sessions of our own writing.

Wednesday July 26

Image & Narrative

Tutor: **Raymond Antrobus**

Time: 10:30 – 13:00

Using poems from the US and UK as a base, we'll discuss and deconstruct the technique of scene transitioning using image, and how these moments in narrative poetry can make our poems so much more than a single story.

Thursday July 27

Radiant Form

Tutor: **Maurice Riordan**

Time: 10:30 – 13:00

A poem can jump at you from the page – sometimes even before you've read it. How does that come about? Because it has *claritas*, a radiance that is produced by its perfect form. We will look at this 'effect' in poems that do not use traditional form, but nonetheless contain some hidden force. The class will include exercises on how their example might be emulated.

Friday July 28

Writing a Flat-Pack Poem

Tutor: **Jane Yeh**

Time: 10:30 – 13:00

What if writing a poem were like assembling flat-pack furniture? Through discussion of sample poems and a series of exercises, we'll look at ways of fabricating, assembling, and constructing poems by combining elements like imagery, metaphor and simile, sentence structure, and borrowed speech. Just follow the assembly instructions and you'll have built a poem in a morning.

The Berlin Lens

Tutor: **Rachel Long**

Time: 14:00 – 16:30

Using Lucia Berlin's collection of short stories, *A Manual for Cleaning Women*, as a lens to view poets Morgan Parker and Arda Collins, we will write in response to a selection of their poems. We'll experiment with economy, pace and collage to overlay loneliness with shopping lists, alcoholism and picking up the kids. We'll learn to use self as character, to let poems laugh at themselves and work towards a new honesty in our writing.

Disclosure & Autobiography

Tutor: **Kathryn Gray**

Time: 14:00 – 16:30

Setting aside the loaded term 'confessional', in this workshop we'll look at examples to consider contrasting approaches to writing the turbulence of lived autobiographical experience. We'll also investigate the thorny matters of responsibilities, risks and rights in disclosure – and how we can harness individual experience to probe themes of injustice, suffering, loss and survival.

Poetry Vs. Shame

Tutor: **Richard Scott**

Time: 14:00 – 16:30

What exactly is shame and can we make poetry from it? Might poetry challenge and defeat shame itself? And might confronting shame turn us into better artists? These are just some of the questions we will be asking, whilst looking at how various poets grapple with shame in their work. We will also explore what shame might mean to your poetry via close readings and writing exercises.