



**G.A.T.E.WAYS and Montsalvat**

**invite Year 5 and 6 gifted children**

**with a love of art to**

**'DRAWING INSPIRATION'**

**G.A.T.E.WAYS** is an independent organization offering challenging and enriching activities and experiences to develop and extend highly able children. Established in 1994, G.A.T.E.WAYS runs a range of stimulating school programs as well as the Saturday *Brainwaves Club*.

G.A.T.E.WAYS is proud to offer creative grade 5 and 6 students the opportunity to participate in a very unique workshop to be held within an historic, working artist colony, right here in Melbourne! Hidden away on a beautiful quiet hillside in Eltham is Montsalvat, an enchanting haven of studios and galleries for artists and art lovers of all ages! Less than a century ago in the 1930's, Justus Jørgensen, founder/artist of Montsalvat built and fostered a creative haven for artists to live and work. Today, this unique original site still prides itself as a place where art is still made, taught and exhibited.

Over two full days students will experience a unique immersion into the magical environment of Montsalvat. Working within one of the original 'studios', students will learn about the original artists and discover first-hand its inspiring surroundings, buildings and gardens which will become the platform of our artistic enquiry and experimentation.

#### **Day One: Putting things into perspective**

After settling in to our purpose-built artist studio, students will be given an overview of the surroundings at Montsalvat, its significant history and some of the key buildings and features. We will experiment with different drawing mediums and techniques to record and document our new surroundings. In the studio we will have a masterclass in perspective prior to working plein air (outside) - carefully observing and detailing the fascinating buildings, sculptures and picturesque vignettes. Throughout Montsalvat there are many textures to be found. In the afternoon we will again explore the gardens and use a rubbing technique to capture these unique details in our visual diaries.

#### **Day Two: Who's looking at you?!**

Within our studio you will see an impressive collection of artists portraits hung in gold-gilded frames. In fact, there are many other faces around Montsalvat! We'll find some of the of artists who once lived or worked there carved within the Bluestone chapel on site! Today's focus will be on portraiture, accurately mastering proportions, shape, form and applying our new skills and drawing techniques to create our own framed self-portrait using Goache medium. Inspired by the wonderful collection of sculptures throughout Montsalvat, students will be challenged to carve their own small sculpture or 'cameo' into soap. Parents will be invited into our studio for a pop-up exhibition of our artworks at the end of this session.

**Requirements:** Please bring a good quality A4 size Visual Diary (no lines), a 6B Pencil, a waterproof black fine liner pen. A well-equipped pencil case including scissors and a glue stick. An A4 size photograph of yourself for portraiture reference. Also, a hat, lunch and snack. Please wear casual clothes suitable for working outdoors in the weather, including a raincoat if required.

#### **About the Presenter:**

**Jackie Moss** has been involved in the visual arts for over 30 years. With experience in graphic design, illustration, textile design and mosaic, she holds a Diploma of Visual Art and is an active exhibiting artist in oil painting. Jackie loves to see young minds inspired creatively, acquiring new skills - away from their screens!