

# 'Spirit of Wilderness'

"What wilderness does is present us with a blueprint of what creation was about in the beginning when all the plants and trees and animals were magnetic, fresh from the hands of whatever created them. This blueprint is still there, and those of us who see it find an incredible nostalgia rising in us, an impulse to return and discover it again".

Laurens Van Der Post – author *The Lost World of the Kalahari*

As we awaken sensory awareness without expectation or the filtering of experiences, we become able to go beyond the known and regain a sense of wonder. Here is a place to creatively stretch into the unknown and unconditionally look for ways to express what we find. There is no better medium for discovering and growing a language than drawing, so we will draw in various media including oil paints, watercolour, pastel and found earth.

**The course** is planned for different environments in the UK and abroad. It is a journey of discovery using the senses. How we engage with the landscape through our senses has the potential to bring us to that place of knowing that Laurens Van Der Post describes. It is expected that there will be five two hour workshops; journals and daily exercises will be part of the course. Longer holiday courses are planned for Lapland.

"Right out in the wilds and I'd never drawn before! It amazed me how well I could express myself!" David Charles

Course leaders:

**Jonathan Middlemiss with others**

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