

Lynda Kettle – Provence patio

On the 9th September we were lucky enough to have Lynda Kettle come to do a watercolour demonstration for us. Lynda started her career in theatre design, progressing to the BBC as an Art Director and Production Designer. It was only after she retired from this work that she began teaching art and working as a watercolour and pastel artist. Lynda now lives in Sidmouth, Devon where she has a studio.

The subject of tonight's demonstration was a scene from Provence in France; of a window with shutters, surrounded by foliage and flowers. Lynda had already sketched out the scene before she arrived and applied some masking fluid to the shutters. She started to work very carefully on the windows and shutters, emphasising the use of transparent colours and introducing us to a paint colour called "Neutral Tint" which is a transparent black which can be added to any colour to make it darker.

After removing the masking fluid from the shutters, she started work on the foliage. She used a variety of greens including Perylene Green and the beautiful Manganese Blue. She used the shape of the brush to represent the shape of the leaves. One thing that struck us as different was that she didn't use any background wash. Lynda said this kept the painting fresh due to the white of the paper showing through. After the tea break, Lynda continued to fill in the foliage and shadows and then loosely painted an impression of the stone wall. The final painting in its mount was beautiful.

She also brought along an amazing selection of cards which illustrated her talent as a very successful artist..









