Bellamy's Bivouac



2020 David Bellamy Jenny Keal

Baalbec lies near the Syrian border, and has one of the most impressive sites of Roman ruins in the Middle East, so I was rather keen to explore the place



when I visited Lebanon in the spring. The approach is along a wide road which has witnessed many kidnappings of Westerners in the past, and is in the heart of Hezbollah country. In mile after mile it was decorated with the photographs of ayatollahs and many Hezbollah martyrs, a powerful reflection on Lebanon's tragic recent past.

Sure enough, as I got out of the car the Hezbollah reception committee was waiting. A guy came up to me and asked what size Hezbollah tee-shirt would I like? Eagerly I asked him what colours he had on offer. "Only yellow," he replied. "Agh!" I said, "much as I'd love to wander through British security at Heathrow airport wearing a Hezbollah tee-shirt, I'm afraid yellow really doesn't suit me!" I found few Westerners amongst the ruins as I sat around sketching the fascinating stonework. Many sketches later I retired to a nearby cafe where I had lunch with around a hundred or so Iraqi ladies out on a day trip, all dressed in their black abayat.

Because of so many demonstrations and workshops I've not been able to get around as much as usual, so next year I shall do very little of those events, and spend more time in the wild places. Still, meeting the students, many of whom have been friends for years, is always a great pleasure.

Enjoy your painting!

Painting Course 2020

There will be one painting course in the UK plus a painting holiday in Spain. Beginners are encouraged on the UK courses and emphasis is placed on working out of doors as we feel this is the best way to improve your painting. Non-painting partners are welcome on all of our courses/holidays. **Please contact the venue direct** and they will send you complete details of the course and a booking form. The prices all include accommodation and tuition. We strongly recommend that you purchase holiday insurance after booking.

Pembrokeshire — May 2020

The St Davids area abounds with an amazing variety of scenes to paint, from harbours, boats, cliffs, waves, cottages, hills, crags, and so much more. There is something for everyone. There will be lots of demonstrations and if you like walking and sketching this is an unbeatable location, if you don't like walking it's not a problem. David and Jenny will both be available for tuition in any medium you prefer.

We have never found a sketching and painting location to beat Pembrokeshire. Soaring cliffs, the sea in all it's moods, craggy hills, cottages and farms full of Pembrokeshire's unique charm, tortured trees bent by the wind. All this will provide us with enough delightful subjects to fill many sketchbooks. The Warpool Court has been a favourite venue for many years. Luxurious accommodation with splendid sea views and an exciting menu, what more could you ask for? This is a popular venue so book early.

Details from:
Warpool Court Hotel

St Davids Pembrokeshire SA62 6BN

Phone: 01437 720300

2 to 7 May 2020 from £1050.00 (full board) sharing Single supplement £100 5 days

email: info@warpoolcourthotel.com

Watercolour Painting Holiday to Spain—October 2020

David and Jenny will be venturing to Valencia to run a painting holiday at Dalvaro Art Studio. Recommended to us by students and tutors alike, we are excited to be trying a new location.

Relaxed atmosphere, beautiful setting and great food are all comments that we've heard about Dalvaro. So if this sounds interesting to you, contact Loli below for more information.

David's method includes a lot of spontaneity in picking subjects for painting. The first part of the course is therefore spent outside on location, gathering subjects.

Every subject should be inspiring both for the artist and the students. David will guide you in choosing a theme as well as in proceeding the painting. The subjects will be varied so that there should be something to excite you.



October 21 to 27, 2020

For details Contact: Lolialvaro@telefonica.net 0034 9622 172226 0034 61085 7136

Partida Ciperet 2946830 Beniganim Valencia (Spain)

Patchings Festival - July 2020

David hopes to be once again demonstrating for St Cuthberts Mill at Patching's Art Festival near Nottingham https://www.patchingsartcentre.co.uk/patchings-festival/ More details will be on our website in due course.

FORTHCOMING NEW BOOK

The book I am currently working on is about my adventures in the Middle East, in the same style as my earlier Arctic Light book. While it is not a practical guide to painting it will bulge with paintings and sketches, many

of which will give you a good idea of how I work and the techniques involved. Additionally there will be a chapter on my working methods on location. The variety of subject matter will be extremely wide, from palm trees to snow-clad peaks, camels, ancient ruins, deserts, desert



mountains, Bedouin, dhows, and so much more.

Naturally it will be studded with a great many anecdotes, some going back many years, in lands that have always fascinated me for their mystique, colourful ways, intriguing cultures, history, and not least a wealth of humour in a troubled world. However, one of the greatest joys for me is meeting endless characters who stumble across my path, sometimes several at a time! The book is scheduled to be published in 2021.



We have a collection of original paintings in stock. If you are interested in purchasing one please contact us to arrange a viewing

Jenny trades under the name:

Clockwork Penguin,
Maesmawr,
Aberedw,
Builth Wells,
Powys, LD2 3UW Tel; 01982 560237
email jennykeal@gmail.com
You can order books, dvds & art materials
online at www.davidbellamy.co.uk/shop

For regular free painting tips follow **David's blog on the website** and follow David and Jenny on Facebook

You can subscribe to our email newsletter, go to **davidbellamy.co.uk** and click on subscribe, or you can download a copy of this newsletter to print out yourself.