

Workshop Leader – Adam Boulter
10-14 June 2019
Les Jardins des Arts, 7 Rue des Anciennes
Ecoles, Hanc, 79110 Valde-laume, France
£260 (£190 for those who are unwaged)



Creative Contemplation

The essence of contemplation is a formless experience; contemplative prayer takes us out of our chattering minds and into an imageless place where our joys and sorrows, our longing and fulfillments recede in the light of the divine. This workshop will combine a variety of meditation methods with a range of creative art techniques, both working together to show a path to that place of inner silence. NB You do not have to be an artist to come along. If you have never drawn a picture in your life, or if you are an accomplished painter, you are equally welcome.

Adam's work, with its focuses on landscape and religious themes, is concerned with the sacred in places as diverse as the inner-city and deserts, and in ancient stories and sacred texts. His work has been an interplay between his dual callings of being a painter and a priest. Adam trained in painting and drawing to MA level before exhibiting widely around London; during this time he also ran art retreats for christian retreat centres, set up and managed interfaith youth projects, and worked as an expedition artist. He then went to Cambridge University to study Theology and train as a priest, since then he has been a parish priest in an inner-city parish in south London, the Port Chaplain with the Mission to Seafarers in Aqaba in Jordan, and is currently the Anglican chaplain to Poitou-Charentes in France.

Bob and Sue Whorton have moved to France in order to bring their vocations as Methodist Minister and classical singer together and to offer reflective space to those who wish to join them.

Accommodation will be at Les Jardins des Arts or at a gite nearby. We have a swimming-pool (which may or may not be warm enough to use!) and all towels are provided. Bring along clothes you don't mind getting charcoal on.

The cost includes all meals and transfers, but not the cost of travel to France. A bursary may be available – please ask us in advance of your stay.

Time table (draft)

Day One, Monday June 10:

Travel by train from St Pancras 10.24

Arrive Poitiers 16.45

Or fly from Stansted with Ryanair 14.05

Arrive Poitiers 16.35

You will be collected from the airport or rail station by minibus.

Settling in.

Day Two, Tuesday June 11:

First session: Drawing the light (candle lit charcoal drawing meditation)

Second session: Wise words (charcoal drawing meditation using the ancient 'lectio divina' methods to reflect on world wisdom traditions)

Third session: Letting art speak to us (a meditation using paintings as a starting point)

Day Three, Wednesday June 12:

Fourth Session: Walking meditation (using the grounds)

Fifth session: Noticing the world (observational drawing as a meditation form)

Sixth Session: silent Eucharist

Day Four, Thursday June 13:

Seventh Session: Making Prayer Kites (Kites to offer our prayers to God and tails to notice his Grace to us.)

Eighth session: Flying the kites

Ninth session: Noticing what we have made in Silent Prayer.

Day Five, Friday June 14

Return to U.K.

Minibus to Poitiers

By train 16.15

Arrive St Pancras 20.39

Or fly from Poitiers airport 17.00

Arrive Stansted 17.35



Please contact us with any questions on bobwhorton@icloud.com.

Workshop Booking Form – Creative Contemplation

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Anciennes Écoles, Hanc, 79110 Valdelaume, France.**

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER

Name and number of a contact person in case of emergency

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

MOBILITY ISSUES

PLEASE SELECT: Waged - £260
 Unwaged - £190
 I would like to talk to you about a
 bursary

To secure a place on the retreat, please send a deposit of £50. The remainder of the payment will be requested during your stay with us.

Either (i) complete this form electronically, and email it to bobwhorton@icloud.com. Please ask us for bank details so that funds can be transferred.

or (ii) send a completed, printed form and a cheque for £50 payable to R and SE Whorton at the above address.

Please return your booking form by the end of May 2019.