

# **NEO-CLASSICAL MOSAICS: classically inspired contemporary mosaics** *Course in Greece*

**24 June - 01 July 2023** *Course Tutor Dr. Helen Bodycomb*  
*Optional Post-course mosaic study tour 03 – 09 July 2023*



SHROUD (detail) Helen Bodycomb



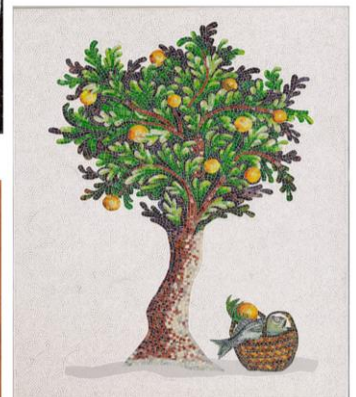
UNSWEPT FLOOR  
BANANA PEEL  
Christine Baines  
(Helen's student) 2020



MANGA MEDUSA  
Helen Bodycomb and Rene Schaefer



MONSANTO BEE Christine Baines  
(Helen's student) 2018



THE HARVEST Helen Bodycomb 2009

**Who should participate?** This course will be suited to both experienced mosaicists and novice mosaic enthusiasts. Helen will take a different teaching approach with each person, based on their experience, capability and creative goals. It is the first time she has taught in Greece.

- More experienced mosaicists will be encouraged to make a work based on their own design, that is achievable using marble. Helen will be in touch with them via email before the course to preview their proposed design and ascertain the materials needed.
- Beginner mosaicists will be encouraged to make a work inspired by a local Greco-Roman mosaic. This is an age old a practice which accelerates learning by walking in the footsteps of the ancient master mosaicist, learning about pattern and the directional flow of mosaic tesserae (that we call *andamento*). Helen will contact registered workshop participants by email before the course, to offer them a range designs from which to choose.
- Helen's emphasis will lie in the interpretation of classical design and concept development, in order to make works that are distinctly contemporary. Students will use glass smalti and/or marble, hand-worked using both hammer & hardie, side nippers and wheeled nippers.

**Optional Post-course mosaic study tour - more information available on request**

*Departing on Monday 3rd July course participants, accompanying persons and others are invited to join 6-day tour which will include: Dion, Meteora, Delphi, Osios Loukas Monastery, Corinth and Isthmia in the Athens as well as the Acropolis and Byzantine Museum workshop where mosaics are restored. All transfers, hotel accommodation and meals/expert guides are included.*

## PROGRAMME

**All Sessions at Lagou Raxi Country Hotel unless stated and include six hours tuition per day. There is a possibility to continue using the studio, tools and materials unsupervised for a small extra charge. Please ask if you would like to stay for extra nights and/or make sure of the studio space.**

Day/Date	Morning 09:30 - 12:30	Afternoon 15.00 - 18.00
Arrival / Saturday 24 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tutor set up course teaching spaces</li> <li>Students arrive throughout the day and check-in - free to wander around the gardens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief introductory lecture by Helen on the origins of mosaic, with a focus on the Greco-Roman.</li> <li>Introduction to the week ahead.</li> <li>Welcome dinner</li> </ul>
Day 1 / Sunday 25 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of design options, instruction in cutting and laying methods</li> <li>Discussion about concept development and design adaptation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit to one of Pelion's remote and beautiful beaches and Byzantine mosaic relics</li> <li>Picnic lunch included</li> </ul>
Day 2 / Monday 26 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fabrication begins!</li> <li>Full day, hands on mosaic workshop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full day, hands on mosaic workshop</li> <li>Dinner in hotel</li> </ul>
Day 3 / Tuesday 27 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fabrication continues</li> <li>Full day, hands on mosaic workshop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fabrication continues</li> <li>Full day, hands on mosaic workshop</li> <li>Dinner in hotel</li> </ul>
Day 4 / Wednesday 28 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hands on mosaic workshop</li> <li>Lunch in traditional taverna</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optional excursion to visit some Pelion monasteries and other sites of interest or finishing of work</li> </ul>
Day 5 / Thursday 29 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hands on mosaic workshop</li> <li>Opportunity to work on second project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuation of project(s)</li> <li>Dinner in hotel</li> </ul>
Day 6 / Friday 30 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion of mosaics ready for exhibition</li> </ul>	Exhibition and Farewell Dinner
Day 7 / Saturday 01 July	<b>Departure of participants / Start of Optional Post-Course tour.</b>	

### Course Tutor



**Dr. Helen Bodycomb** is well known as one of Australia's few contemporary artists working primarily in mosaic. She is widely professionally active; exhibiting, fulfilling commissions, guest teaching and presenting her work in conference presentations, nationally and internationally. Helen has been pivotal to re-defining mosaic as an art form in Australia, having initially trained as painter (Victoria College, 1988-1990 and Monash University, 1993-94), also working under Maestro Giulio Candussio in Spilimbergo, Italy in 2001. She has practiced full-time as a mosaic artist working predominantly in stone and glass for more than 25 years.

Helen also applies mosaic methodologies to more experimental artworks exploring ephemera and biodegradability, and conceptual modes she calls 'thinking in mosaic'. In August 2019 Helen completed her practice-led PhD in Visual Art with La Trobe University, Australia, her research project investigating *Mosaic: classical principles and the act of making in contemporary works*. This research sought to clarify and defend traditional mosaic conventions and assert how thinking in mosaic can augment wider contemporary art practice. Helen's practice spans three predominant streams: experimental fine art, community art/commissions and education – through annual art retreats / mosaic study tours.

## Courses in Pelion, Greece - Practical Information



- \* Courses are held either in a large (100 sq. m. and well ventilated) room or a second smaller, more personal space. The hotel follows all safety protocols.
- \* Lessons are with one or more fully experienced teacher(s), passionate about his/her subject and the students.
- \* All courses are suitable for beginners, intermediate and experienced participants.
- \* We can arrange delivery of the work home if required but most students take them safely in their luggage.
- \* Excursions are planned to suit the particular course

### WHAT IS INCLUDED

- \* Six days of tuition and transport for related excursions. Coffee and Tea breaks included and exclusive use of the studio and/or workroom space.
- \* Time for rest and relaxation on the beach, by the pool or in the village square.
- \* A full cooked breakfast, five three-course dinners and six lunches (including excursion days).
- \* Our library which includes the complete set of Mediterranean Garden Society journals.
- \* Flights are NOT included, however there are direct flights to VOLOS Airport during the summer on certain days from London Gatwick, Munich, Duesseldorf, Stuttgart, Vienna, Tel Aviv and Chania, Crete. ([www.volosairport.gr/en](http://www.volosairport.gr/en)). Alternatively there are regular flights to Athens, Skiathos or Thessaloniki.
- \* Lagou Raxi will advise on the easiest/most economical transfers from your chosen airport and will help participants to share if convenient.

**PRICES PER PERSON INCLUDING TUITION + ACCOMMODATION (HALF-BOARD) , EXCURSIONS AND EXTRA MATERIALS. A list will be sent in advance of the course of what you should bring.**

Single room	Twin or Double Room	Triple double occupancy
1396€	1284€	1384€

**If you would like to bring family member(s) or friend(s), NOT participating in the courses, please contact us for the prices of different combinations including Double rooms and Suites.**



## The Village of Lafkos - South Pelion

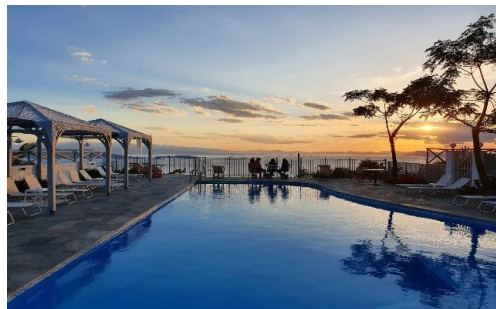
Lafkos is one of the 24 officially 'listed' villages in the region of Pelion, about 45 km from the city of Volos. Medieval paths (Kalderimia) stretch around this car-free village and further afield to neighbouring villages and the sea. Three museums and five tavernas are open all year. The smell of freshly baked bread in a wood-fired oven draws you to the bakery shop. The village has three small 'mini-markets', a craftsman jeweller, homemade soaps and a gift shop. In under 10 minutes you can walk from the hotel through the village lanes to the square with its imposing church and plane trees. Visit [www.lagouraxi.com](http://www.lagouraxi.com) for more info about the area.



### Lagou Raxi Country Hotel

**Lagou Raxi Country Hotel** (330m) opened in 2014 and was built according to the local traditional architecture. It has a breath-taking view of the Pagasitic Gulf and it's also close to the Aegean sea. There is an easy footpath from the hotel down to Milina. Although British owned the hotel cuisine is traditional Greek, sometimes with a twist. All the dishes are home-made, and delicious! The hotel has a good-sized swimming pool and an all-weather tennis court as well as the Library, Terrace, Azure Restaurant, yoga mats and two 'Ateliers'.

**The 20 spacious and comfortable bedrooms are all named after local beaches. Free WiFi throughout.**



**Other Courses Include / see our website for any changes or additions**

- **LAST DAYS OF SUMMER – FIN D'ETE EN GRECE – Botanical Painting 11 – 18 September 2022 (FULL)**
- **Garden Design in Greece & The Mediterranean 17 – 24 October 2022**
- **Keeping an Illustrated Nature Journal in Greece 17 – 24 June 2023**
- **Classically Inspired Contemporary Mosaics 24 June – 01 July 2023 with Post-course tour**
- **Botanical Painting – Concertina Sketchbooks - Watercolours in Pelion : A sense of Place, and other courses. Full list of 2023 dates to be announced.**

**CONTACT US** *For more information and to reserve a place on one of the courses*

**visit our website** [www.lagouraxi.com](http://www.lagouraxi.com)  
**+(30) 2423065144** mail@lagouraxi.com

**MEDITERRANEAN CENTRE for Art, Gardens, Plants and Design**

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