

COURSE DETAILS – 4 DAYS 4D0309

TITLE: SIMPLE AUTOMATA

TUTOR: ROBERT RACE

LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

GENERAL CONTENT OF COURSE:

In the first session participants look at a few very simple ways of producing movement. This is illustrated by the tutor's small collection of moving toys from around the world that exploit the properties of a variety of materials and use a range of simple mechanisms to produce movement. There will also be a chance to see some simple automata, principally in wood, and including the tutor's own work in driftwood and a range of books on automata and moving toys.

Over the four days, students first make a balancing toy, as an introduction to the materials and tools available. They are then encouraged to develop their own design for a simple automaton. The tutor's collection of automata is all available again on the following evenings when students have an opportunity to discuss their progress and plans, if required. The aim is to complete this project around lunchtime on the last day, leaving time for a group review and discussion of possible developments and improvements.

Students work with wood, plus a range of additional materials such as wire, string, plastic, etc. There is an emphasis on reclaimed and recycled materials, including driftwood, although this will be provided, students are welcome to bring their own contributions of interesting materials. The woodworking skills needed are pretty basic, but include the use of a fretsaw/scroll saw and a bench/pillar drill.

Health and Safety: The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Students may work unsupervised on agreed projects once they have satisfied the tutor as to their competence. There may be restrictions on the equipment available to students in the tutor's absence. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.

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MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE:

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ON PRACTICAL COURSES YOU MAY WELL NEED TO PURCHASE MATERIALS THROUGHOUT THE COURSE TO COMPLETE PROJECTS

Included in the non-residential fee for this course: materials supplied by the tutor and used by the group as a whole.

Please bring these items:

Notebook/sketchbook and pencil

Any small bits of driftwood or other interesting scraps of material you wish to incorporate

The tutor will supply the following materials:

Plywood

Dowel

Soft and hardwood scraps

Metal rod

Driftwood

Wire

A wide range of fixings, fastenings, findings, adhesives, acrylic paint etc.

Continued ...

COURSE TIMETABLE (unless otherwise stated above or agreed with the tutor during the course)

Course timetable for 2–9 day courses – each course starts with a welcome session on the first evening of the start date of the course and is followed by 2–9 days depending on the length of the course.

Arrival Day	From 4.00pm 7.00 8.15–9.15	Arrival for residential students. Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner. Dinner. First teaching session.
Daily Timetable	9.15am 10.30 12.45pm 2.00pm 3.30 5.00 7.00 8.15	Morning classes. Coffee. Lunch. Afternoon classes. Tea. Classes finish. Dinner. Evening working – students may have evening access to certain workshops in the absence of their tutor, but only with their tutor's permission and provided it is safe to do so.
Departure – last day	10.00am 3.00pm 3.30	Residential students are asked to vacate rooms. Classes finish. Tea then departure.

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