

THE COLORFUL WORLD OF NEON
WITH DAVID SVENSON
June 15-19, 2020

SYLLABUS

This is a five-day intensive art class that will overlap three disciplines' beginning on day one.

Three disciplines' are:

1. The craft. Manipulating the glass
2. The science. Processing the glass tubes.
3. The art. Design and presentation of finished work.

Day 1

Morning: Introduction and safety of the tools used. Discussion of ideas in the context of a one week class. How a neon tube works; glass, noble gas and electricity. Distribution of glass bending tools.

Dive in over the fires making a neon "gesture" using the ribbon fire

Afternoon: Continue the "gesture". Demonstration of cutting glass and basic bends Demonstrate processing a tube. Students discuss their art projects.

Day 2

Morning: Discuss methods of achieving color, phosphor coatings, colored glass. Review the basic bends. Introduction to controlling larger curves.

Afternoon: Practice over the fires. Drawing out a pattern. Discuss neon as "mixed media" (Neon and compatible materials)

Day 3

Morning: Demonstration manipulating phosphor coatings, side tubulation and mold blowing. Critical annealing.

Afternoon: Electrodes, transformers and alternative power sources. Practice over the fires. Time permitting, students make a group installation.

Day 4

Morning: Begin bombarding (processing) finished work. Mounting and wiring the tubes.

Afternoon: Continue finishing work, last chance over the fires. Single electrode demonstration.

Day 5

Morning: Finalize student projects. Setting up your own neon studio, sources for materials.

Afternoon: Class critique, display of finished pieces. Party farewell!

STUDENT MATERIAL LIST:

Safety glasses, head bandana, cotton shop apron, sketch pad and colored pencils,
Mixed media materials for mounting the neon (keep simple!), ideas to share.

We can, and I recommend communicating ahead of time on individual needs and ideas and preparations for this class at Marc's school!

David Svenson

svenarts666@gmail.com