



'En Plein Air in Mayfair'

The Connaught launches outdoor Mayfair Painting Masterclasses this summer in collaboration with London's distinguished art store Green & Stone

This summer The Connaught on Carlos Place, long known for its relationships with some of the world's finest artists is offering art enthusiasts, 'En Plein Air in Mayfair', a series of outdoor painting masterclasses set amid the magical world of Mayfair's hidden gardens and historical architecture. Launched in collaboration with Chelsea art store Green & Stone and distinguished British artist Alex Fowler, the three hour masterclass will offer not just expert art tutelage but also a memorable experience with a completed canvas as an enduring keepsake.

During the intimate three hour painting exploration, art lovers, fueled by a hearty breakfast at The Connaught will be equipped with a carefully curated set of Green & Stone art supplies and an easel to channel their inner Monet. Accompanied by artist Alex Fowler, students will receive essential art tips and study site selection, receive composition advice, learn the tricks of underpainting and color application techniques to create their very own masterpiece.

Commenting on the collaboration, artist Alex Fowler said: "Plein air painting is an incredibly rewarding experience. With inspirational sites including hidden gem Mount Street Gardens, The Connaught's Tadao Ando water feature on Carlos Place and the unique architectural character this neighborhood has to offer I can think of no better place than Mayfair to provide the perfect backdrop to get creative."

The Connaught, has long had historical artistic associations, from British artist Graham Sutherland who lived and painted there, to Damien Hirst who created two butterfly pieces for Helene Darroze's restaurant, to last year's Antony Gormley designed Christmas Tree. The Connaught's expertly curated private art collection is some 3,000 pieces strong and growing.

The Connaught's <u>'Plein Air in Mayfair'</u> masterclasses can accommodate up to 6 people, from 9am-1pm and take place weekly on selected dates over the summer months. Each class is priced at £250 per person and includes coffee, tea and pastries on arrival, art materials supplied by Green & Stone, and an artist apron.

For further information or reservations please email <u>guestservices@the-connaught.co.uk</u> or call our Guest Services team on +44 (0)20 7499 7070. <u>www.the-connaught.co.uk</u>

For high resolution images please download here

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ABOUT THE CONNAUGHT

In the heart of London's Mayfair, The Connaught, part of Maybourne Hotel Group, blends comtemporary style, classic English character and impeccable service to create the ultimate in sophistication. Rooms and suites to suit every mood, exquisite cuisine from Helene Darroze, the charm of The Connaught and Coburg Bars, and Europe's first Aman Spa make this the perfect place to rest, relax and dine in style.

ABOUT ALEX FOWLER

Alex Fowler is a London based Painter and Art Teacher and paints mainly in oils. He has been sharing his passion through his teaching over a number of years, running classes in Landscape, Figure and Still Life Painting. After 4 years studying History of Art at Edinburgh, Fowler returned to London to study Portraiture at Heatherley's School of Fine Art where he won the Heatherley's Prize. In 2002 he won a Drawing Scholarship from the New English Art Club, one of the country's most prestigious exhibiting societies and elected a member in 2004. Recent landscape projects include series of paintings of San Francisco, Jerusalem and Italy.

ABOUT GREEN & STONE

Green & Stone, supplier of specialist Art Materials and Picture Framing was first established in Chelsea in 1927, and is now the longest running shop on the popular Kings Road. The shop was originally based within the Chenil Gallery, whose directors were Augustus John and Bernard Shaw.

Green & Stone moved to its current site at 259 Kings Road in 1934, where Mr Alfred Green and his sons Alfie & Peter continued to run the shop primarily as a picture framing business, with what was then, only a small Art Materials section. 259 Kings Road was previously run as a shop for the Women's Suffragette Movement. It was bought by Mr Baldwin in 1972 and since that time, he has overseen the growth of the framing department, (concentrating primarily on hand made frames) which has now become one of the foremost in London. The biggest change however, has been the growth of the Artists Materials section, which has increased in size ten fold, making Green and Stone one of the biggest retailer of Fine Art Materials in Europe. The shop now stocks an incredible range of artist's materials, ranging from massive wind up Oak Studio Easels, Balanced Palettes to Gold Leaf and Vellum.