

Shuswap School of Carving and Arts, September 18-24, 2011

Sorrento Retreat And Conference Centre, PO Box 99, 1159 Passchendaele Road, Sorrento, BC V0E 2W0
Phone 250-675-2421 or 1-800-694-2409 - Fax 250-675-3032 -- info@sorrento-centre.bc.ca and <http://sorrento-centre.bc.ca>

SMALL DOLPHIN AND PORPOISE: \$393 for 5 days of instruction, 7.5 hours per day.

About the Instructor – DENNIS DRECHSLER: Dennis Drechsler has won numerous awards for his realistic portrayals of Cetaceans, including six Best of Show awards as well as a first in Aquatic Vertebrates at the 2000 Ward World Championship Carving Competition in Ocean City, Maryland. He is a qualified PNC carving judge. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Victoria, BC on the southern tip of Vancouver Island. His work can be viewed on the Internet at www.whalecarver.com.

About the Course: Last year the students wanted me to design a course with two small-sized carvings - but I also wanted to do some animals that I have never taught in past courses that would give each student some new challenges. So the 2011 course will be a Pacific White-Sided Dolphin painted entirely with an airbrush and a Dalls Porpoise painted with a stippling brush and a small amount of airbrush work. These two animals occur in large numbers off the coast of BC so both will be mounted on a rock with bull kelp. The photographs on the next page show the two animals; the rock mount and the kelp will be designed to incorporate both. The animals will be mounted on the kelp, not on the rock. This will involve soldering small pins to hold the brass mounts.

Both carvings can be painted with a brush or with an airbrush. I will show you how to do it both ways - but the course will focus on the airbrush so everyone will need an airbrush and compressor. The School has some airbrushes, and let me know if you don't have or can't borrow an airbrush compressor so I can arrange for one.

I can be contacted at whalecarvings@shaw.ca or 250-479-9165. The paint jobs are not difficult and I will show everyone how to use the airbrush and try to make it less scary for you. The airbrush scares beginners so this may take the mystery out of it - plus I discovered a new brand of paint for the airbrush that makes airbrushing easy. The Dalls Porpoise can have some minor airbrushing but is primarily painted with a stippling technique and a deer foot paint brush (supplied). It has lots of colour in it which does not show in the photo. The Dalls Porpoise has perhaps a bit more to it because of the stippling technique used to get the different colours in the black.

Skill Level:

Tools and Supplies: I will supply stippling brushes and paint (Shop fee?). Please bring: Foredom machine and a hanger and a selection of bits - large 3/4" bit for shaping the body, 3/4" sanding drum c/w 80 grit, 220 grit paper. A microcarver will prove useful for the finer details along with a selection of bits. Table top dust collector and extension cord. All the usual tools and accessories. A jar of Gesso for priming the body. Two or three different-size paint brushes - a fine one for lines, a medium round for filling in the colours, and a large one to apply the Gesso. Some fine sandpaper to smooth the gesso between coats. A hairdryer and an old towel, small is good. An old steam kettle if you have one (steaming and bending the kelp). Two-part, 5-minute epoxy glue if you have it and a mixing surface and mixer. Soft lead pencil and eraser. An airbrush and compressor if you have one (I have two airbrushes – one compressor). A small container of Windex for cleaning the airbrush. Two extra airbrush bottles for cleaning. Reference books or photos. Dust mask. -margarine containers with lids or similar for water and mixing paint. Paper towels. A page or two from an old newspaper (used to make templates for airbrushing)



See more photos on next page ...

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SMALL DOLPHIN AND PORPOISE with Dennis Drechsler (Page 2 of 2)

Pacific White Sided Dolphin



Dalls Porpoise

