

## The Invisible - Painting workshop with guest teacher Gosia Machon from 09.09. till 15.09.2024 in Erlau (Odenwald)

### The course

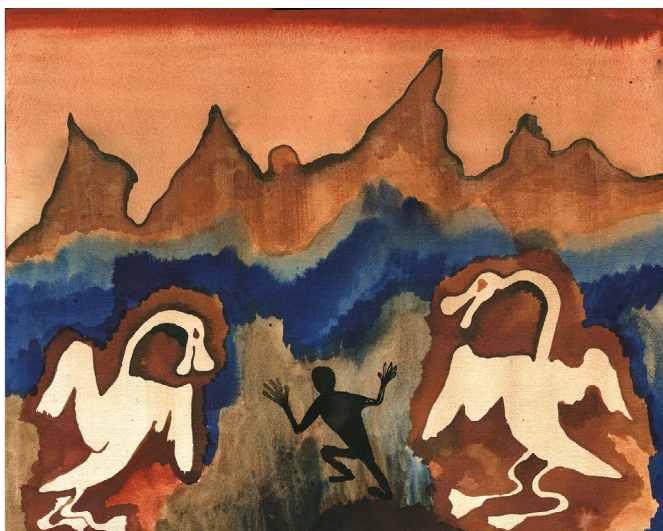
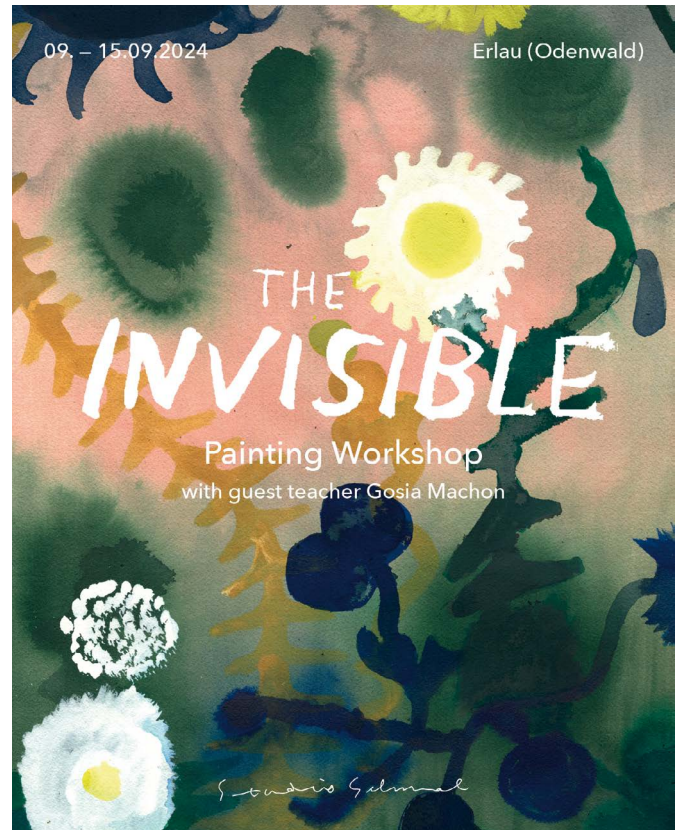
How does a general motif (such as a particular plant) give rise to a personal, idiosyncratic artistic interpretation?

We could use our individual perception, which is shaped by our sensations, our character and our biography. Or we could follow associations, distractions and detours to be surprised by images that we did not know before, but suspected somewhere inside ourselves.

In this workshop we will explore such artistic strategies through painting and drawing. My methodical exercises are personality-oriented and support the process of subjective image finding in a non-judgemental and playful atmosphere.

We will take our motifs from nature - far from botanical studies, close to the introspective. Nature can be a landscape, a forest, the sky, the animals and plants... But also our human body, our psyche, our body, our unconscious - our own piece of wilderness.

When we paint and draw, we make invisible aspects of our world visible. I love to get insight into these worlds! Every result is interesting and can be seen as a phenomenon of a creative experiment that has something to tell us - about ourselves and about the environment and society in which we move.



### Guest teacher

Gosia Machon (\*1979) is a polish born German painter. She graduated from HAW Hamburg (Illustration) in 2008 and has since exhibited her work and projects internationally, including galleries and art institutions in Berlin, Paris, Bologna, Antwerp, Warsaw, Istanbul, Vienna, Tel Aviv and Kyoto.

Her figurative abstract paintings and drawings are created in intuitive processes and are driven by an inner archive. Her work draws from unconscious, autobiographical and collective experiences and memories. It repeatedly revolves around the longing for untouched nature. This nature can be a biotope or a plant, and refers equally to the unfathomable meanders of our human psyche and body - the piece of wilderness within ourselves.

She received several awards including „Hamburger Arbeitsstipendium für Bildende KünstlerInnen“ 2023. Since 2013 she has been working as a lecturer and teacher for drawing and painting at several German art schools. Gosia lives and works with her partner and her two children in Hamburg, Germany.

You can see more of Gosias work here:  
[www.gosiamachon.de](http://www.gosiamachon.de) / [@gosiamachon\\_](https://www.instagram.com/gosiamachon_)

### Our vision

During our workshops we want to give place to celebrate and promote creativity, awake this creative energy that is our essence as humans and that can lead us towards new paths with ourselves, each other and our planet. We believe in the power of community and cultural, social and creative exchange which is why we hold and host this workshop as an integrally artistic, mindful and familial experience with our kids being around.

Little by little we want to grow a creative community and are incredibly thankful for all the joy, inspiration, new people and ideas this project has brought to our lives over the last years. We are very much looking forward to inspiring collaborations, new guestteachers and transdisciplinary contents in 2024 and we hope you will enjoy! To stay tuned to all upcoming events subscribe to the newsletter at studio schmal's website and follow us on Instagram @studioschmal.

Thank you for sharing with all your friends, family and colleagues that might be interested!

### The experience

Our aim is to offer a holistic experience with the workshop as its heart and the possibility to connect with nature, the group and yourself in this special location far away from the day to day routines as its body. We want you to nourish with creativity, with fresh air and natural surroundings, with good conversations and new networks, with fondly prepared food and plenty of space for movement or hanging out. You can expand your creative horizon and community while gifting yourself with self-care and most important of all having a good and unforgettable time.



### The venue

The seven days lasting workshop will take place at a former farm Erlenhof-Erlau, a scenic location in the middle of UNESCO Geopark Bergstraße-Odenwald around 1h south of Frankfurt am Main. The stream valley near Fränkisch-Crumbach is surrounded by sunny hills and broad-leaved forests, offering nature at its fullest with plenty of possibilities for hiking, strolling around, sun baths and shadowy rests by the brook. Thanks to the beautifully equipped apartments we can not only work at these grounds but also stay over, benefitting from the possibilities of exchange as well as ease in the meantime.

### Schedule

MON 09.09. (afternoon) - SUN 15.09.2024 (noon)

The first day is for arrival during the afternoon (16-18h), calm down, getting to know each other, setting up and have a common dinner at night. The course will start on Tuesday after breakfast and we will work the whole week until Saturday afternoon.

We will have the possibility to integrate walks as a daily routine and savor the surrounding nature. In the mornings we would like to offer extra yoga classes alternating with breath walks, if a minimum of 8 participants is reached.

On Sunday we are going to have a goodbye brunch with the presentation of the results and the course will end around noon (13h).



### Accommodation and meals

The group will be accommodated for 6 nights in the comfortable apartments of Erlenhof with rooms for usually 2 persons. There are limited single bedrooms. Enjoying meals together is a great opportunity for chatting, exchange, getting to know each other and even make friends during the week and we therefore consider it to play an important role in the whole experience. We will take care of healthy vegetarian lunch, dinner and provide everything for self-served breakfast.



### Participants and language

The course is open for anybody, it is not necessary to have previous knowledge in painting. Please note that a minimum of 15 participants is needed to realize the course.

The course language will be English (or German) depending on the common ground. There will also be Spanish speakers around, but please note that we cannot provide various complete translations.

### Transport

There are several possibilities to get to Erlau. The first option is coming by car, you could organize as a group with other participants and we can help connecting you with each other. Fränkisch-Crumbach can also be reached by public transport. There are trains running between Frankfurt / Darmstadt and Reinheim, from there you can take the bus to Fränkisch-Crumbach and walk the last 2km to Erlau valley. In this case we will organize a shuttle for your luggage.



### Price

Course fee: 650 EUR  
Accommodation: 290 EUR (single bedroom + 10 EUR per night, please note that there is a very limited number)  
Full board catering: 310 EUR  
Total 1.250 EUR (Student 1.150 EUR)  
(Price includes 19% taxes and can be paid in 2 rates, material is not included)

### Registration and booking

Via email at [hello@johannaschmal.com](mailto:hello@johannaschmal.com)