



# Professor Mike Esson

## ...the ART of RECONSTRUCTION Tour...

MOROCCO: 9 – 20 March 2017



Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney

This tour will focus on an intensive workshop with Professor Mike Esson, designed for Medical Practitioners, in particular those working in the area of Plastic Surgery.

A unique opportunity to work with Professor Esson, combined with an opportunity to explore the culture and landscape of Morocco. You will embark on a working holiday that will develop your professional skills while we take you from the ancient city of Marrakech over the High Atlas Mountains to the Sahara!

### ABOUT Michael Esson:

Mike is an Honorary Professor of Art and Surgery at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Institute of Academic Surgery and at the University of New South Wales Art and Design. Since 1989 when Michael Esson was an artist-in-residence at the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, he has been running courses designed to develop the visual awareness in plastic reconstructive and cosmetic surgery.

### ABOUT the WORKSHOP:

**The Art of Reconstruction** is a workshop for plastic surgeons/surgeons, designed to assist their professional activities. Through drawing and modelling disciplines, participants are introduced to formal aesthetic principles and strategies for dealing with interpretation of structure and space. Although the course offers skill development, it is in the arena of conceptual and perceptual strategies that the strength of the course really lays.

The aim of the course is to be of direct value to pre and post-operative assessment, whilst developing a greater awareness of spatial relationships. It provides an accessible, tactile and visual experience, the focus of which deals with proportion, negative space, contour, methods of graphic representation, and in three dimensions; notions of deconstruction and reconstruction.

### More on Professor Michael Esson:

[The Art of Surgery](#)

[Art and clay modelling class for plastic surgeons](#)

Follow this link for more information about: [the ART of RECONSTRUCTION Tour](#)

**Contact email: [enquiries@culturaltoursmorocco.com](mailto:enquiries@culturaltoursmorocco.com)**



Images from workshops held in UK, Turkey and Australia with Professor Mike Esson



Images: Skoura oasis village; Erg Chebbi dunes; Atlas Mountains adobe village

### General information:

Combining this innovative program with a cultural holiday, we will welcome partners, husbands or wives who will all be well catered for. The tour will begin in Marrakech and finish with a visit to the Sahara proper at the Erg Chebbi Dunes and then return to Marrakech for a last night via the Jebel Sahro (Anti Atlas) Mountains and spectacular Draa Valley.

**TOUR PRICE: 3,500 Euro per person twin share (single room supplement available)**

### PRICE to INCLUDE:

Professional Tutor – Professor Mike Esson  
 Experienced Tour Leader – Rita Lazauskas  
 English-speaking Amazigh (Berber) Guide – Abdenabi (Abdou) Imelouane  
 Private air-conditioned vehicle with driver and fuel – 11 days  
 11 nights accommodation on Full Board, Half Board or B&B as per detailed itinerary (includes most meals:)  
 Guided tour of Marrakech with official city guide  
 Entrance fees to cultural sites  
 Workshop Materials including modelling clay, paper, drawing materials, etc  
 Workshop equipment provided: sculpture armature, drawing boards, etc  
 Extra optional activities for companions including: Cooking class, craft activities, excursions

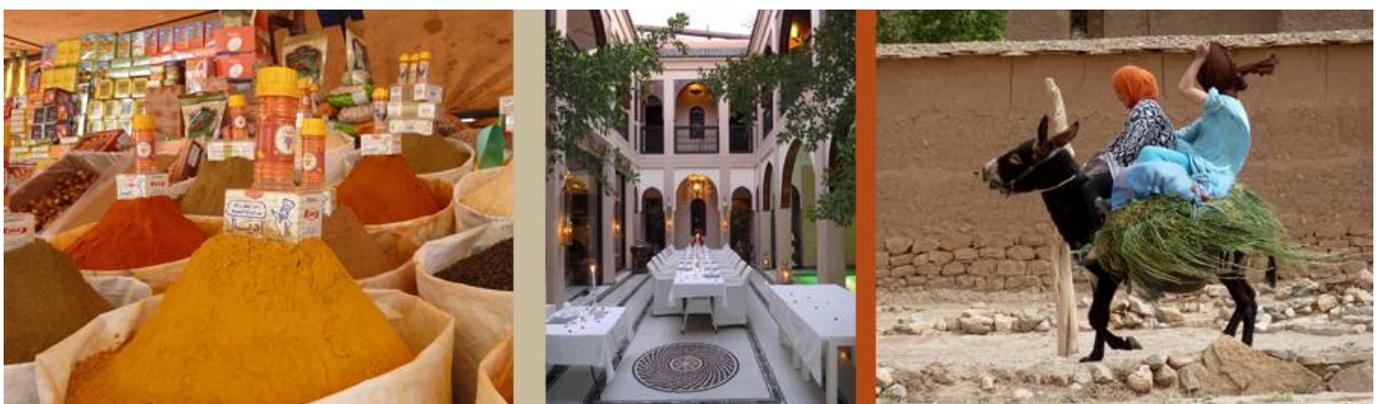
### PRICE to EXCLUDE:

Flights, travel and health insurance (compulsory), lunches when on HB (half board), dinner and lunch when on B&B, beverages including alcohol and soft drinks, Hammam and massage and other extras not listing in the itinerary, tips for porters, guesthouses, driver and guide. (We will advise on the tipping culture and our group Tips Kitty in our extended trip notes)

Note: Itinerary occasionally subject to slight variations due to availability of accommodation and activities or unpredictable weather.

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**Follow the link to our website for more information: [www.culturaltoursmorocco.com](http://www.culturaltoursmorocco.com)**



Images: Spice souk; traditional Riad accommodation; local mode of transport!

## DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Marrakech	<p>Arrive Marrakech airport where your guide will meet you with car and driver to transfer to our traditional Riad in the old Medina. The tour will officially begin at 5pm for introductions, a first short walk in the Medina before dinner at the guesthouse where we will have an opportunity to talk informally about the aims of the tour.</p> <p>Accommodation on Half Board to include dinner and breakfast. <a href="#">Riad Ksar Anika</a></p>
Day 2: Marrakech	<p>8.30am breakfast</p> <p>9 - 9.30am General briefing and update on tour itinerary. This first day will give everyone a chance to learn about the history and culture Morocco and get into the right time zone.</p> <p>9.30am morning walking tour of the medina with a City Guide visiting major cultural sites, the famous Jemma El Fna square and the artisanal souks (markets). Lunch in the Medina at restaurant Dar Cherifa followed by an afternoon visit to the exquisite Les Jardins Majorelle to see the private collection of Yves St Laurent at the new Musée Berbère including regional Amazigh (Berber) costumes, textiles and jewellery.</p> <p><b>6.30-7.30pm</b>  <b>ART of RECONSTRUCTION:</b>          Introduction to the schedule and themes of the workshop. A presentation of the historical and theoretical context of the relationship of art and medicine.</p> <p>B&amp;B accommodation with dinner at Nomad restaurant in the Medina</p>
Day 3: Skoura	<p>8am breakfast.</p> <p>8.30am Transfer over the High Atlas Mountains for a spectacular drive via the Tizi'n'tichka Pass. Visit the UNESCO world Heritage site of Ait Ben Haddou, an ancient walled city and backdrop to many movies including; 'Gladiator', 'Lawrence of Arabia' and most recently the 'Game of Thrones' series before continuing to our destination for 5 nights at Skoura Oasis.</p> <p>Full board accommodation at Dar Panorama, a traditional guesthouse where all meals will be provide for the next 5 nights during the intensive ART of RECONSTRUCTION workshop. Our host Aziz and his family are well known for their wonderful food and hospitality!</p>
Day 4: Skoura	<p>We will take a morning walk through the oasis gardens with our guide where you will see how the locals live before we visit the local pottery. Here a family continues to produce clay ovens and tagine cooking dishes in the traditional way. Drink tea with the family and see a demonstration of their craftsmanship.</p> <p>This is where we will source our modelling clay for the afternoon sculpture workshop.</p> <p>Return to the guesthouse for lunch</p> <p><b>ART of RECONSTRUCTION:</b> afternoon workshop activity.          Sculpture using clay sourced that morning at the local pottery. Basic modelling techniques exploring various approaches to understanding 3D values. Studies will be based upon Michelangelo's David details – nose, eye, mouth and ear.</p>
NOTE	Accommodation on Full Board includes all meals for the next 5 nights
Day 5: Skoura	<p><b>ART of RECONSTRUCTION:</b> morning workshop activity          Spend the morning drawing from your clay forms made the previous day, and developing drawing strategies dealing with form and structure.</p> <p>Lunch</p> <p><b>ART of RECONSTRUCTION: afternoon workshop activity</b>          Contour Studies – reinforcing drawing methods through a linear graphic language. Describing irregular masses and translating three dimensional wrapped objects onto the drawing surface. Drawings as 'evidence of inquiry'.</p>
Day 6: Skoura	<p><b>ART of RECONSTRUCTION: morning workshop activity</b>          The paradox of positive and negative Space – identifying shape and form, looking for visual relationships and identifying spaces between objects. Perceiving space as shape and by delineating shape construct the illusion of space.</p>

	lunch
	<b>ART of RECONSTRUCTION: afternoon workshop activity</b> Figure Study – 1. proportion and measurement. Practical means of measuring and evaluating angles, with a brief introduction to the Golden Mean. 2. Observation and sensitivity. The visual v tactile. Drawing is as much about touch as sight. Intuition and gesture - 'blind drawing.'
Day 7: Skoura	ART of RECONSTRUCTION: morning workshop activity working again in clay and modelling from the skull, students will sculpt soft tissue and construct convincing portrait study heads of their colleagues.
	Lunch
	<b>ART of RECONSTRUCTION: afternoon workshop activity</b> Continue working in clay and modelling from the skull, students will sculpt soft tissue and construct convincing portrait study heads of their colleagues.
	We celebrate our creative work with a real treat for dinner this evening - a whole goat cooked in a traditional 'mechoui' outdoor adobe oven. (vegetarians will also be well catered for) Evening traditional music performance where the potters by day reappear as musicians at night!
Day 8: Sahara – Merzouga Erg Chebbi Dunes	With the main workshop over we now take time to holiday and first drive south to the Erg Chebbi dunes at Merzouga staying at the Tombouktou Guesthouse on the dune line on HB to include dinner and breakfast. <a href="http://www.xaluca.com/en/habitaciones/tombouctou/8/">http://www.xaluca.com/en/habitaciones/tombouctou/8/</a>
Day 9: Merzouga Erg Chebbi Dunes	Take a scenic drive around the Erg Chebbi dunes, sit beneath the traditional hand woven camel and goat hair tent and share some tea with the Nomads while you experience the sublime landscape, relax by the pool or walk in the dunes. (Optional extra sunset camel ride) Accommodation on Full Board includes dinner and breakfast.
Day 10: Merzouga to Nkob	This route takes us on the southern side of the Jebel Sahro Mountains, a half day drive giving time in the afternoon to relax in the peaceful courtyard of the Guesthouse or spend time walking in the palm groves and exploring the village of Nkob with its multitude of adobe kasbahs. Lunch in a restaurant in the village. Accommodation on HB to include dinner
DAY 11: Marrakech	A spectacular drive back to Marrakech via the Draa Valley and the Atlas Mountains. Arrive in Marrakech with time to take a walk in the Medina, catch up on some site seeing, shopping or a Hammam and massage. Accommodation at a traditional guesthouse in the old Medina on B&B
Day 12: Your tour ends after breakfast.	Transfers to Marrakech airport provided. Or if time permits, extend your stay and continue on a tailor-made tour...'as you wish'*

**\*Following your Specialist Art Tour with Professor Mike Esson you may like to extend your stay in Morocco and we are happy to offer you a loyalty discount on another tour with ACTM. As Mike's Tour has a focus on Marrakech and the SOUTH of Morocco we can recommend a number of great options to take you into new territory...go NORTH to the ancient Imperial City of Fes - or go WEST to the Atlantic coast and Essaouira...  
...or make up your own itinerary...as you wish! ...[CONTACT US](#) for more information...**



IMAGE CREDIT: Arthur Wicks, Alchemist Dreaming Sand = Earth, 2011