

NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL

OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE

Fall 2020

Sacred Geometry Drawing Marathon with Clintel Steed

Instructor: Clintel Steed
Class Hours: 9am-1pm, 2pm-6pm
Dates: Tuesday, September 8 – Saturday, September 12;
Monday, September 14 – Friday, September 18
Contact Info: see Program Office

Course Description

In this Marathon, we will focus on Sacred Geometry. We will focus on the rectangle and how geometry is used to create tension inside of the rectangle. Each drawing will start with a grid. We will hold ourselves to this grid and really start to think about the geometry of the space that we are sitting in. We will create transcriptions of masterworks to internalize the strong geometry held within them. We will look at works from different centuries that deal with the beginning of geometry, what it has turned into today and ways to work with it today.

Course Outline

This Marathon will build momentum towards a large-scale drawing in which each participant builds a personal narrative into the drawing using very strong geometric elements. Our goal will be to make apparent the geometry, reinforcing it, to create dynamism within the rectangle. We will also place a great emphasis on the materials we are using, why and how these tools either make it harder to talk about geometry. We will ask ourselves: does geometry make you use the tool differently? Does it lead you use a different type of mark? How does the interplay of geometric composition and haptic materials work to create the image's overall impact?

Learning Outcomes

The first week will focus on drawing from the model and the space, really using geometry to build your images. We will work through a series of different grids to begin our drawings. It will be essential that we follow these grids and let them affect the way that we are experiencing the space. The first 2 days will explore the use of charcoal. The second week will focus on transcriptions in the mornings and working on poses from the space thinking about what we learned from the transcriptions in the afternoons. We will start 2 major pieces that we will spend 2 days on each. The first one will be a large-scale drawing that we work on of the space where we really use the idea of social distancing and how that can really affect geometry. The second large scale drawing will be a narrative that each student will make up on their own, including a narrative that has an idea of distance and the tension between two objects.

Assessable Tasks

Each day participants will create a number of drawings, ranging in scale and duration and focusing on different materials. The first two days will focus on charcoal; leading into pencil; leading into ink; leading into black and white acrylic; leading into the artist's choice. Transcriptions and perceptual work from the model will inform images, as will the use of various grids.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading is on a High Pass/Pass/Low Performance/Fail basis. To achieve a Pass grade, students must be committed to attendance (including being 'on time'), work to their maximum potential and concentration, participate actively during class discussions, and participate in the final critique session of all the drawings done during our time together.

Reading List

- Sacred Geometry: Deciphering the code, book by Stephen Skinner
- The Golden Ratio: The Divine Beauty of mathematics, Book By Gary B. Meisner
- The Geometry Of An Art; The History Of the Mathematical Theory of Perspective from Alberti to Monge

Materials and supplies

- Big roll of paper, 60" in height, 10 yards in length
- 10 single sheets of paper, at least 48x48 (you can put pieces of paper together to do this)
- Acrylic paint: Colors needed: black, white, red, blue
- Ink and ink Brushes, (Blick has Yasutomo traditional Chinese ink and Sumi ink)
- Charcoal, a range of soft and hard
- A bottle of polymer Gloss
- A staple Gun T45 Is recommended
- Graphite pencils a range of 2B-9B
- 60" roll (10 yards in length) of paper

School, Department & Class Policies

Please refer to the Student Handbook for information regarding the School's policies on academic integrity and plagiarism. All students must abide by the general health and safety regulations laid out in the Student Handbook, as well as any specific instructions given by the Instructor. All students will follow the School's current COVID-19 guidelines and procedures to maintain a healthy and safe working environment for the NYSS community.