

NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL

OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE

Summer 2021

Painting Marathon - In-Person: Harlem & the Studio

Instructor: Clintel Steed
Class Hours: 9am - 1pm ; 2pm - 6pm
Dates: Wednesday, June 2 - Tuesday, June 15 (class meets daily, excluding weekends)
Contact Info: see Program Office

Course Description

This Marathon will explore how we can use drawing to create a painting. We investigate in depth how Edward Hopper used drawing to inform his painting through his process of taking visual notes to build paintings. The course will be divided into two sections and combine three elements: drawing, collaging and painting. We will explore what can be learned through drawing from nature: structure and form; as well as challenge the way we see color and how we will then mix it. This course will take place on-site in Harlem and in the studios of the School on 8th Street.

Course Outline

During the first week, we will work onsite in Harlem and draw directly from nature. These drawings will be crucial for the second week as we learn to create paintings from them. We will primarily use silver point to develop dense, descriptive drawings or "visual notes" and focus on the color and space around us. Harlem is full of activity from the landscape to the people and we will consider all of this as we work. Later we will collage the elements that we experience on site to develop drawings in the studio. After the morning session in Harlem from 9am-1pm, we will travel back to the School to develop the larger drawings and focus on composition and the sense of space in Harlem.

In the second week, we will work on two paintings each day. During the morning sessions, we will create small paintings that focus on color and shape relationships. In the afternoon sessions, we will use the small paintings to create large paintings considering how we think differently according to scale. We will focus on line, composition, color, mass and density; and how these elements are creating space and geometry in the larger paintings. Throughout the class, we will refer to Hopper's process and how drawings, like photographs, can inform a painting.

Learning Outcomes

After taking this class, the student will have a better understanding of what it means to turn a drawing into a painting. They will develop the skills to take what inspires them from nature and use these elements to collage and make a painting. They will also have a better knowledge of color. From this class, they will understand what it means to make color notes and then mix these colors on the pallet in the studio. This class will also give a better understanding of how we can use the same composition to see how that composition changes when we work with different scales. We will see firsthand what it means to go from big to small but using the same motifs.

Assessable Tasks

This class will show what it means to make a drawing from life and other elements you find inspiring and use these drawings as a building block to make paintings. It will make you focus and make a drawing that has enough information that you then can go and work from. It will challenge students to think and use the mind to deal with composition and color. It will show students that drawings can be visual note takers to make a more finished and developed painting. The next tool this class will give students is how you can take a drawing and immediately turn that drawing into a painting. This will give the students first hand knowledge on how to mix color but also how to collage a composition from the drawings

we have made on site. It will give the students the tool and the process of how a drawing can always be used as an idea for a painting.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading applies to NYSS MFA participants and is on a high pass, pass, low performance, fail basis. For NYSS MFA candidates to achieve a pass grade, students must be present in every class. But more importantly, it's important to see that the students be giving a 100 percent in class. Student work is evaluated with regards to how it changes and evolves in relationship to the task presented. More than anything, the work and the consistency of dedication to push each drawing and painting is the thing the students will be graded on.

Materials and Supplies

- Travel chair for Harlem. It's important to be comfortable so that we can really focus on the drawings. Amazon has a folding travel chair/slacker chair for \$28.
- 8x10" Sketchbook
- 18x24" Sketchbook
- Drawing Board
- Travel Easel
- Roll of paper 48x10 yard – Canson Foundation Canvas - Paper Rolls
- Variety of silver point pencils from 2b-9b (Graphite Stick is also really good)
- I recommend Pink Pearl Erasers
- 5 canvas 30x30" and/or 18x24"
- 5 canvas 48x48" and/or 48x60"
- Recommended Palette: (I recommend Williamsburg Paint)
 - Cadmium Yellow
 - Cadmium Yellow Deep
 - Cadmium Red
 - Cadmium Red Deep
 - Cadmium Orange
 - Yellow Ochre
 - Burnt Siena
 - Raw Siena
 - Burnt Umber
 - Raw Umber
 - Prussian Blue
 - Cobalt Blue
 - Cerulean Blue
 - Alizarin Crimson
 - Viridian Green
 - Sap Green
 - Olive Green
 - Lamp Black
 - Titanium White
 - Zinc White
- Brushes and Cleaner
 - I would have a variety of brushes, round tip and sizes 1-4
- Odorless Turpenoid
- Gloves
- Paper Towels

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 and on the School's homepage nyss.org with regards to Covid protocols and entry procedures. Students are expected to be on time and to attend all classes. Classes missed due to Covid related precautions will be excused.