

# NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL

## OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE

### Fall 2021: Thursday Evening Figure Sculpture – IN-PERSON

<b>Instructor:</b>	<b>Leonid Lerman</b>
<b>Class Hours:</b>	<b>Thursdays, 6:30pm-9:30pm</b>
<b>First Class:</b>	<b>Thursday, September 23, 2021</b>
<b>Last Class:</b>	<b>Thursday, December 16, 2021</b>
<b>No Class:</b>	<b>November 11 – Veterans Day &amp; November 26 - Thanksgiving</b>

#### **Course Description**

What is sculpture? Why figure? Is the human body a sculpture? Does sculpture have structure? Is structure sculptural? Can we see structure? Does geometry help? Do we need anatomy? These and other questions are addressed in this intensive 11-week course, focused on furthering the understanding of "sculptural idea" by using human forms, with its sense of unity and connections of various parts, their spatial arrangement, balance, proportions, weight relations and tensions.

#### **Course Outline**

Based on traditional methods this course will address issues of: Composition and Movement; Proportion and Scale; Weight and Balance; Structure and Symmetry; Rhythms and Connections. Elements of drawing, such as line, tone, perspective will be discussed. Using conceptual geometric models, students will study structure, or, in other words – the architecture of the human body in search of unity and connections of all parts of the body, their interrelations, tensions and rhythms.

During the course of a semester several projects will be offered:

- Sketches in clay with focus on movement, balance, proportion, 6-12”;
- Portrait from the life model, on armature, life size (optional\*, depending on mask Covid policies);
- Figure sculpture from life model, on armature, 18 – 24”:
  - 3-D composition: interpretation of one of the classical sculptures or paintings of the old masters, (optional)\*;
  - Introduction in to relief sculpture (optional)\*;
- Preparation of clay sculpture for firing, (optional\*).

Students will receive individual attention and assistance. This course is beneficial for all levels – from the beginners to the advanced.

#### **Materials and supplies**

Please see attached drawing for tool description.

- Head armature, heavy duty, life size;
- Figure armature, 18 – 24” high;
- Armature wire;
- Clay modeling tools;
- Basic Tools: Pliers, screwdriver, assorted nails and screws, 1 – 3”;
- Drawing pad 9" x 12" med. weight;
- Graphite pencils - HB, 2B;
- Gum eraser;
- Plumb line -self-made is OK;
- 10 – 12 bamboo skewers
- (optional)\* - to be finalized at the end of a first class.

### **Evaluation and Grading** (for NYSS MFA students only)

Grading is on a High Pass/Pass/Low Performance/Fail basis. To receive a passing grade each MFA student should demonstrate the commitment to learning process; be familiar with the vocabulary of 3 –dimensional form-building; understand basic elements of human anatomy; show their motivation by having a good amount of finished and fired works. Student also must demonstrate a level of comfort using basic sculpting tools, such as a plumb line for balance, caliper – for proportions, making them a necessary prerequisite for a successful sculpting.

These five categories will be considered and evaluated:

- 25% attendance;
- 25% commitment to the class requirements;
- 25% participation and motivation in class work;
- 10% independent Project:
- 15% amount of finished and fired works;

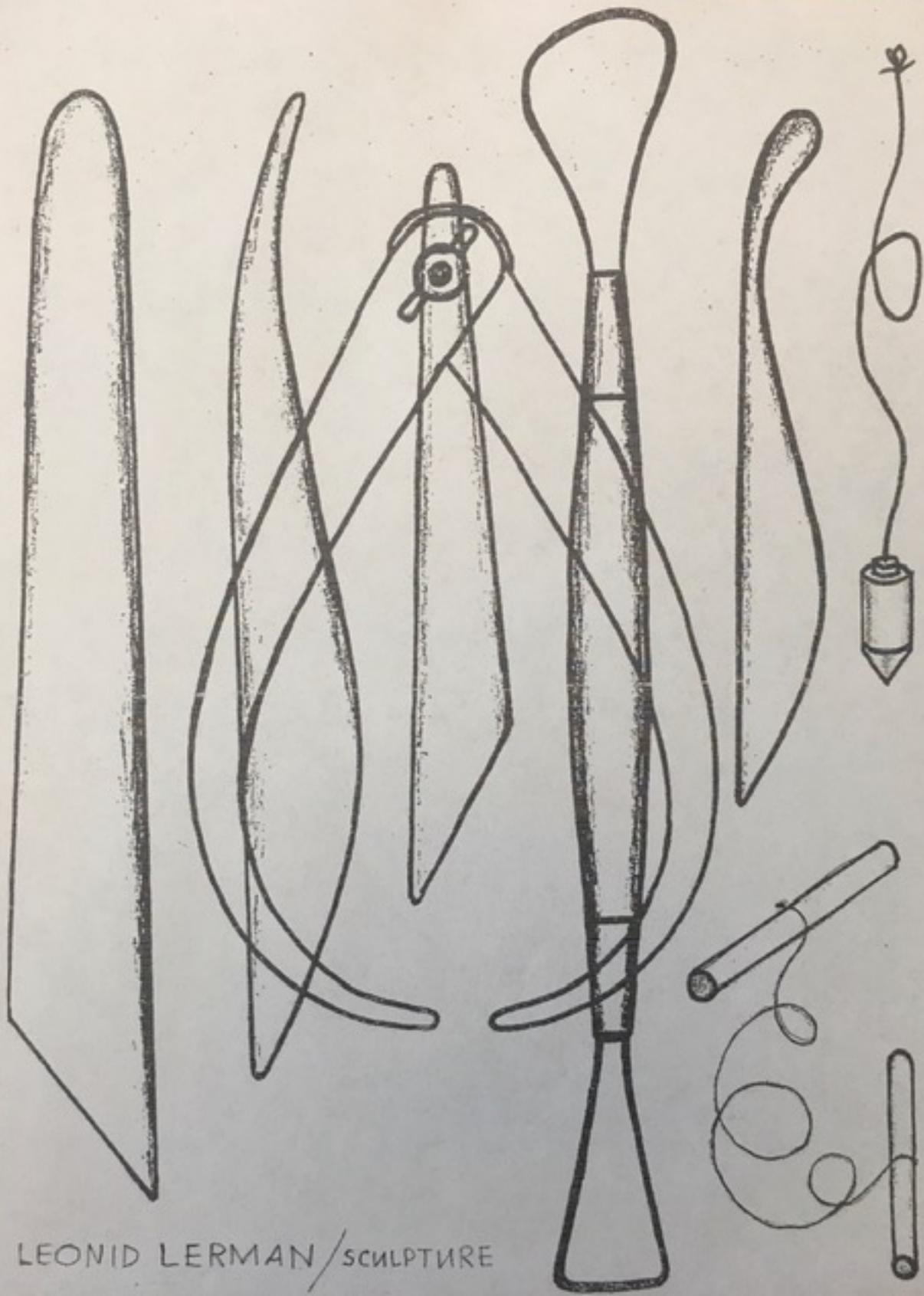
### **Suggest Readings and Resources**

Bammes, G, - “Anatomy for Artists”,  
Peck, Stephen Roger, - “Atlas of Human Anatomy for Artists”,  
Lanteri, Eduard – “Modeling and Sculpting Human Figure”,  
Thomas McEvilley – “Sculpture in the Age of Doubt”,  
William Tucker – “The language of Sculpture”,  
Brandon Taylor – “Avant-Garde and After”,  
Adolph Hildebrand – “The Problem of Form”,  
Wilhelm Worringer – “Abstraction and Empathy”,  
Joseph Heller – “Artist’s Journey Into the Self”,  
Moshe Barasch – “Theories of Art”,

Additional reading list will be available upon a request.

### **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.



LEONID LERMAN / SCULPTURE