

NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL

OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE

Spring 2023

Monday Evening Drawing – IN-PERSON

Instructor: CHARITY BAKER
Class Hours: Mondays, 6:30pm - 9:30pm, ET
First Class: January 30, 2023
Last Class: April 17, 2023
No Class: February 20, 2023

Course Description

“What you want is the experience of making something that you haven’t seen before.” – Philip Guston

The purpose of this Drawing course is to draw from nature, study it, recreate it, and then regard it in a new light. Each week the students will create two- and three-dimensional space ‘simultaneously’ within their drawings by practicing a range of formal techniques. We will learn how to use the experience of drawing to grow as artists. We will look at relevant artwork as a guide through each lesson, with a focus on Renaissance inspired figuration and the impact of scale and composition. One major project will be to complete a life-size ‘mural’ drawing based off inspirations from class; in preparation we will look at mural art throughout history. Art History, intuition, architecture (organization), and psychology will be considered essential elements of this class.

Course Outline

The ongoing push through this 11-week course is to study from nature with intense concentration and experimentation to forge a new path. We will have short term and long-term projects of assorted sizes. The focus each week stems from basic formal considerations, through sustained investigations of nature (direct observation): design, composition, scale, proportion, gesture, light on form, value, tonal construction, practical application of anatomy, and perspective. We will work from the model, objects, and drawings from master artists of the past, and our own drawings. We will have discussions and critiques and look at art history together.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to ask themselves the “right” questions about art in pursuit of their own path as artists. They will have covered the basic concepts of formalism and figure drawing in western art, and considered their own personal narratives allowing them to embark on an independent journey in art making. They will discover working large and very small, from memory, imagination, life, and in a group allowing them to conceive of everything from the study of light on a fold of drapery to multi figure composition of their own design. They will create work that they have never seen before.

Assessable Tasks

Each class will contain exercises which lead to fully realized drawings, in some cases sustained drawings, all of which can be used later in the semester for larger, even more involved drawings. There is a chance we could work together as a group on the rare occasion.

Evaluation and Grading

NYSS MFA students participating in this course will receive grades. Grading is on a High Pass/Pass/Low Performance/Fail basis. To achieve a Pass grade, students must show up each week and on time, put forward a consistent effort, remain open and willing to work among others on the assignments at hand, and as such make progress in their drawings.

Readings and Resources

- “The Art of Drawing”, Bernard Chaet
- “The Red Tenda of Bologna”, John Berger.
- “The Teachings of Nicolas Carone”, Master Artist, NoreenNaughton
- “Letters to a Young Painter”, Rainer Maria Rilke
- “Philip Guston; A Life Lived”, [Michael Blackwood Productions](#) (documentary)
- MOMA: “Matisse The Red Studio” - up through Sept.11 (museum show)
- Sculpture Forum (<https://sculptureforum.net>) (online lectures)
- NYSS YouTube (filmed lectures)

Materials and supplies

Pencils 6B-H (standard set).

Charcoal: (choose one mentioned below)

- Bob's Fine Vine Charcoal (bag of medium and large)
-or-
- Vine charcoal, willow:
Thin-10 box, Medium-10 boxes, Extra-large-3 box

Chamois Cloth

Handheld Pencil sharpener

Erasers - Staedtler Mars Plastic Erasers, large and small. (There is a cheaper/generic version too)

Staple gun - heavy duty (with staples)

Staple remover handheld - Arrow (or similar)

Blick Premier Snap Off Knife and Blades (or similar)

Yard stick/straight edge ruler for cutting

Cheap spool of string

Masking tape /and or/ Drafting tape, both medium size

Paper: (recommended brands are Arches, Fabriano, Montval, Saunders):

Newsprint, large pad

Heavier paper: can be purchased at BLICK or JERRY'S ARTARAMA online

- 25 sheets of 22 x 30", 90lb, cold press

-or-

- One 10 yards x 60" roll of paper, 90-140 lb, cold press

OPTIONAL:

Large sketchbook 22x 30"

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, and as posted on nyss.org.