

NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL

OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE

Spring 2023

Thursday Evening Figure Sculpture – IN-PERSON

Instructor: Leonid Lerman
Class Hours: Thursdays, 6:30pm-9:30pm
First Class: February 2, 2023
Last Class: April 13, 2023

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 semester several projects will be offered:

- Seated figure, sketch from the plaster cast;
- Standing figure from observation and from memory. 6-12";
 - Sketches in clay from the life model, with focus on gesture, movement, balance, proportion. 6-12";
- Assembling a multi-figured composition, using your own sketches;
 - Portrait from the life model, on armature, life size or smaller. (optional*, depending on mask Covid policies);
 - Figure sculpture from life model, standing, on armature, 18 – 24"(not less);
 - 3-D composition: interpretation of one of the classical sculptures or paintings of the old masters,(optional)*;
- Self-portrait (optional)
- Introduction in to relief sculpture (optional)*;
 - Preparation of clay sculpture for firing, (optional*).

Projects, marked with (*) will be discussed at the first class.

Students will receive individual attention and assistance.

This course is beneficial for all levels – from the beginners to the advanced.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading for NYSS MFA candidates is on a High Pass/Pass/Low Performance/Fail basis. To achieve a Pass grade, students must maintain attendance, participate in discussions, and demonstrate an overall engagement with material in sculpture.

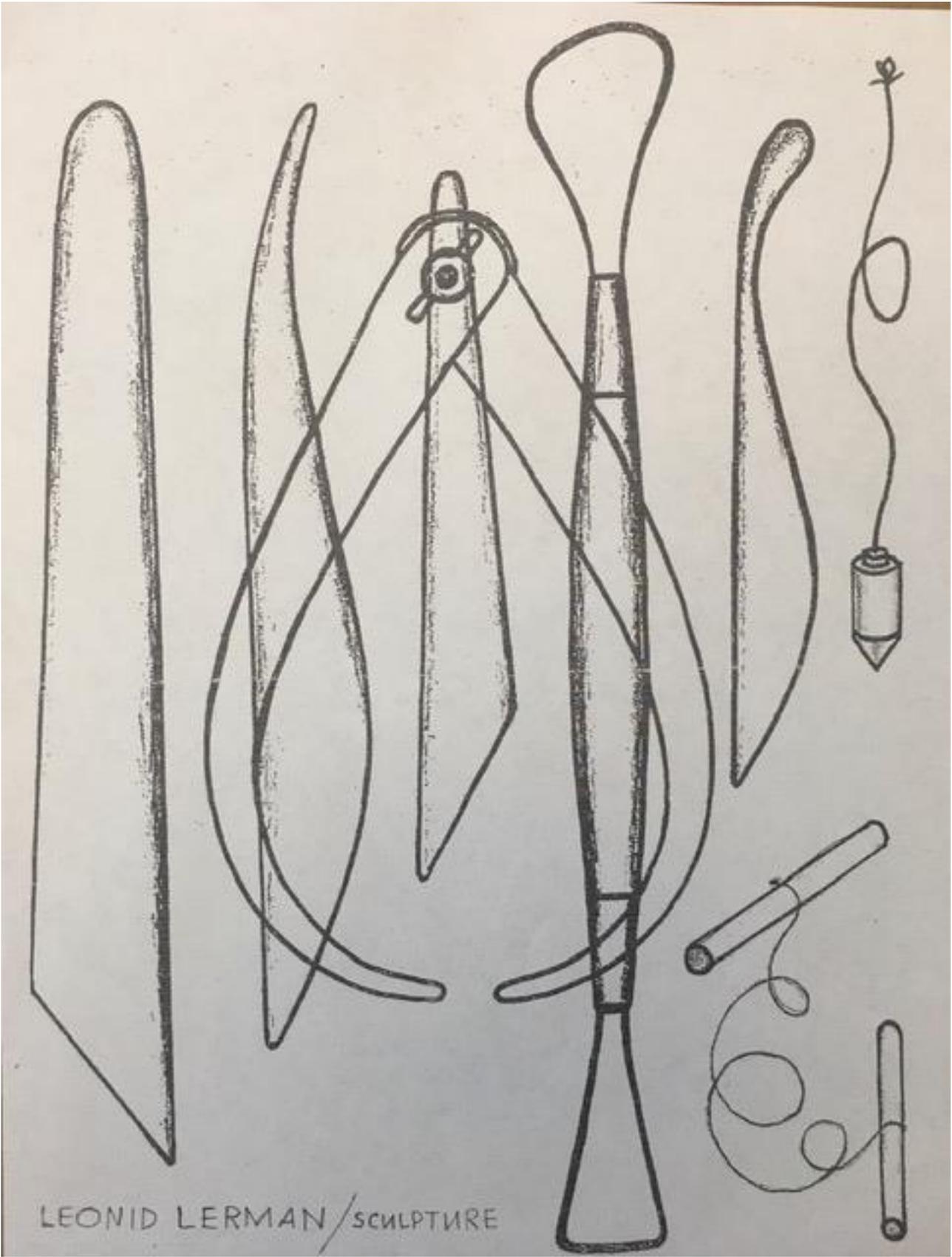
Materials and supplies

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.

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