

Ryman ARTS

Spring 2010 – Syllabus for Intermediate Drawing/Intro to Watercolor

Master Teacher: Malaika Zweig

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(Week 1) Jan 30: Color still life drawing in chalk pastels with strong composition. Review material list and syllabus. We will look at Vincent Van Gogh's relationship to Jean Francois Millet and discuss what it is to "study" art. We also look at Degas' pastels and their relationship to painting. Start with four compositions in vine charcoal from observation. Divide 18"x24" sheets into four quarters, then sketch four value/composition studies. Choose most successful composition for complete larger color drawing, emphasizing range of value. (Review value scale and the power of contrast next to subtly).

*** Due Next class:** Bring an example of an artist/painter who interests you. For homework do a drawing from a painting by this artist in pastel. Think about Van Gogh's drawings of Millet's paintings.

(Week 2) Feb 6: Finish chalk pastel still life emphasizing contrast in color and value. Critique homework drawings.

***Due Next class:** Draw a pastel still life with personal significance emphasizing value range and contrast. Incorporate the eraser as a drawing tool. Search for an interesting composition.

(Week 3) Feb 13: Natural History Museum

We will use pastels, grey canson paper and drawing pad. We will draw from student's choice of multiple subjects from the museum for a 2-day color drawing incorporating the space around the subjects. Invent your composition from two or more sites.

***Due Next Class:** Finish pastel still life emphasizing light and contrast.

(Week 4) Feb 20: Natural History Museum continued.

Drawing from observation focusing on creating a rhythm and strong composition.

***Due Mar 13:** Draw a full-length self-portrait in charcoal and pastel. You can use larger paper or attach several sheets together. This will be a three-week assignment.

(Week 5) Feb 27: Figure Drawing with female model using dry materials. Look at Jim Dine's drawings from ancient sculptures.

***Due Next class:** Make a stamp and replicate your favorite figure drawing by eye with your stamp and black ink. (You can try using an eraser to cut out a stamp or invent one out of any material.)

Malaika Zweig Intermediate Syllabus cont.

(Week 6) Mar 6: Figure Drawing with female model including color with soft pastels and watercolor. Review in-progress full-length self-portraits.

***Critique:** the stamp drawings. Demo in watercolor showing color mixing, wet into wet, dry brush, washes and glazes. Painting from observation starting with lightest colors, using the white of paper. The rhythm of watercolor sometimes demands for two paintings at a time. We look at and discuss Paul Cezanne's watercolors and trapped light.

(Week 7) Mar 13: Portrait drawing with costumed model.

Begin portrait drawing from the model in pastel on grey canson paper. We will study the anatomy of the face. We look at shapes of light and dark to simplify the head study.

Critique of homework: full-length self-portraits. Look at the portraits by Julie Heffernan, Rembrandt and Velasquez. What are the artists telling us about the people they paint?

***Due Next Class:** Paint a simple and subtly colored self-portrait with mixed media (soft pastels, watercolor, and charcoal pencils) on watercolor paper.

(Week 8) Mar 20: Portrait drawing with costumed model, continued.

***Critique:** mixed-media self-portrait.

***Due next class:** Self-portrait without a figure, your choice of material. This should be a good companion piece to your other self-portraits. (For example: draw your room, favorite place, show your presence in a space)

(Week 9) Mar 27: Figure Drawing with male model introducing ink washes and mixed media. (wet + dry) Fast drawings.

***Critique:** self-portrait with no figure (identity space)

(Week 10) Apr 10: Field trip

***Due Next Class:** Create a watercolor or drawing in color from a museum sketch and your notes.

(Week 11) Apr 17: Watercolor: Figure Long pose. Set up a figure in a situation to make the interior space and scale clear.

***Critique:** museum homework drawing.

***Due Next Class:** Finish all projects and be ready for portfolio reviews.

(Week 12) Apr 24: Watercolor: Figure Long pose continued.

Sharing ideas and seeing the process of beginning sketching transform into a realized final product. Students will present to me for informal critiques and one on one final review. All students finish up projects and finish long pose figure thinking about texture and finding the approach and tool to translate touch into a visual experience.

***Final one on one review.**

The emphasis for this class is on attendance, effort, participation, and willingness to experiment.