

# R Y M A N A R T S *Fall semester 2018*

Instructor: ROBIN PALANKER

*Foundation Level*

Saturday at Cal State Fullerton

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☞ *This is a college level class in observational drawing. Respectful behavior is expected and required. Arrive on time and be prepared to work, always bring all supplied materials unless otherwise specified. These art materials are for Ryman use only. Students are expected to be self-motivated and disciplined. There will be mandatory weekly homework assignments and classroom critique of these assignments. Each homework assignment will be preceded and explained by classroom lesson. Along with a study of the elements of art (composition, value, line, texture, color, form) and the use of various media, students will employ planning, critical thinking, risk-taking and problem solving to create quality artwork, all in a uniquely supportive environment.*

☞ **NOTE:** Put your name tags on your art bin, portfolio and on the *back* of your drawing board

WEEK 1 August 25<sup>th</sup>

*Composition: structure of all elements*

- Introduction to course and materials with handout
- Composing objects, defining shapes, balance
- Thumbnail sketches and using view finders
- Working from observation, introduction to value

**Homework assignment:**

Using three or more objects, make thumbnail sketches of different compositions on half a sheet of paper. Create depth: don't put objects in a line. Avoid a linear horizon line. Make a finished drawing on the other half of the same piece of paper in graphite (HB - 6B) from the strongest thumbnail composition. Know why you made your compositional choice! Define the composition by creating a border. (If you decide to use an entire sheet of paper for your finished drawing, please bring thumbnails to class on a separate sheet.) Utilize the relative value of the objects in the drawing. Avoid outlining. Don't let objects float in space: shadows and negative space are an equally important part of the composition. Control value by shading, not by smearing.

☞ **NOTE:** September 1<sup>st</sup>

**NO CLASS, LABOR DAY**

WEEK 2 September 8<sup>th</sup>

*Value: the relative degree of light and dark*

- Critique of composition homework
- Talk about drawing from a still life with handout
- Observational drawing

**Homework assignment:**

Continue in the same manner as the previous week by planning your drawing before you start: make thumbnail sketches to create a composition for a larger drawing which will use an entire sheet of paper. DO NOT include the thumbnails on the final drawing. Plan the composition and the relative value of the objects. Use graphite (HB - 6B) and a single strong light source. Observe light and shadow carefully to give objects mass and weight. Avoid smearing and outlining! Use a complete range of values, from black to the white of the paper.

WEEK 3 September 15<sup>th</sup>

*Texture: surface quality*

- Critique of value homework
- Discussion on texture with handout
- Drawing from objects with contrasting textures

**Homework assignment:**

Plan a drawing composed of objects with very different textures. Work lightly in graphite at first but the final drawing will be in charcoal. Be sure to vary the weight of the lines to indicate light and texture. As always, take time to plan your drawing, including composition and value. Let the viewer know what the objects feel like.

WEEK 4      September 22<sup>nd</sup>

*Chiaroscuro: dramatic light and dark*

- Critique of texture homework
- Lecture on chiaroscuro with handout
- Canson paper will be supplied

**Homework assignment:**

Don't procrastinate! Spend time making sure you have a strong idea and composition before you start. Choose rough or smooth side of the paper carefully. Drawing will be on toned paper to create dramatic lights and darks. Work with a single light source. Use charcoal, black and white Conté crayon. Combine texture, value and composition.

WEEK 5      September 29<sup>th</sup>

*Color and color theory*

- Critique of chiaroscuro assignment
- Lecture and handout on color theory and atmospheric perspective
- Extended drawing with color

**Homework assignment:**

Make a drawing using colored pencils. Colored pencil is so beautiful! All colors must be mixed; no black or brown pencils may be used. Choose objects with strong primary and secondary colors. One object must be transparent, such as glass or plastic. Utilize light, shadow, atmospheric perspective and depth with color. Work lightly so that you can layer. This is a very time-consuming assignment, be sure to plan your picture first. Take advantage of the extra week.

☞ **NOTE: Next week class will be at Grand Park on Sunday, no class on Saturday**

WEEK 6      Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup>

**Field Trip to the Big Draw LA at Grand Park, Make Your Mark in the Park**

*Drawing on site*

We will be participating in the international celebration of drawing called The Big Draw. Ryman Arts is the organizing agency for Los Angeles and our event is called **Make Your Mark in the Park**. Class will plan and collaborate on drawing projects. Students will work with the public who will be invited to participate.

☞ **NOTE:** Bring lunch and leave your color drawing assignment and art supplies at home. We will be outdoors in a park setting, please dress appropriately. Art supplies will be provided.

**Homework assignment:** Write a paragraph on what you observed working on a collaborative art project: as a class, with the public or both. Be prepared to share your heart-warming stories. Continue to work on extended color assignment.

☞ **OPTIONAL: Next week, October 13, wear something with horizontal stripes**

WEEK 7      October 13<sup>th</sup>

*Line and introduction to Figure Drawing*

- Critique of color assignment and read short statements about The Big Draw
- Discussion and handout about line, line in different weights and media
- Gesture and contour drawing from life model
- Extended drawing from life model

**Homework assignment:**

Draw a family member or friend in an interior space. Include elements of the room in the drawing. Always plan your drawing first. This time you will be drawing with line only. No shading. Draw from life. Do not use photos. Be sure to vary line weight and to work in fluid lines: don't sketch. Figure out a way to have your model hold still! It is okay to draw lightly in pencil first, then finalize with a different medium.

WEEK 8      October 20<sup>th</sup>                      **GUEST ARTIST *to be* ANNOUNCED**

*Perspective: creating the illusion of 3 dimensions*

- Critique of line assignment
- Lecture on perspective with handout
- Warm up with simple perspective exercises
- Extended perspective drawing

**Homework assignment:**

Make a two-point perspective drawing of the exterior of a building. Chart it out lightly. Work horizontally so the vanishing points will be far apart. Remember: perspective is a tool to create an illusion of space. The media of the finished drawing is artist's choice: graphite, colored pencil, charcoal etc., as long as it fits in portfolio.

WEEK 9      October 27<sup>th</sup>

*Figure Drawing*

- Critique of perspective assignment
- Lecture with handout on anatomy and proportion with special attention to portraiture
- Warm up gesture drawings from life model
- Extended drawing of life model

**Homework assignment:**

Make a self-portrait using any medium as long as it can fit in your portfolio. Artist Choice!

☞ **OPTIONAL but highly recommended: College Day at Otis, Sunday, October 28**

WEEK 10      November 3<sup>rd</sup>                      **GUEST DANCER**

*Figure Drawing, working with motion*

- Critique of self-portrait assignment
- Discussion with handouts on creating motion in a static format
- Warm up gesture drawings with dancer model
- Drawings of motion, in sequences and implied movement with dancer model

**Homework assignment:**

Create an image that implies motion, using any medium that can fit in your portfolio. Use an observational source, but creativity is encouraged. Due to the ephemeral nature of movement, photography is allowed as a reference.

☞ **NOTE:** All homework MUST be completed and turned in by next week

WEEK 11      November 10<sup>th</sup>

*Combining everything we've learned so far with Interior Perspective and Ellipses*

- Critique of motion assignment
- Lecture w/ handout on interior perspective and ellipses
- Warm up drawing exercises
- Extended drawing of interior perspective including circles and ellipses
- ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE, NO EXCEPTIONS!

**Final homework assignment:**

Make a drawing in one-point, two-point or observational perspective of an interior, including a round object. Artist's Choice! Medium is also Artist's Choice! This is a creative assignment: you may be inventive. As always, plan a strong composition first. Apply any and all things that you've learned with color, texture, chiaroscuro, value and perspective. You may work in any medium that can fit in your portfolio. Start early on this assignment. This is your last assignment. Make it memorable! You do NOT have to work from observation on this assignment. Creativity is encouraged. Hooray!

WEEK 12      November 17<sup>th</sup>

- Critique of creative interior perspective homework
- All homework MUST be finished and returned to Ryman, absolutely no exceptions
- Student DJs encouraged
- One-on-one discussion of class work with instructor
- Drawing from surprise subjects