

NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL

OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE

MARATHON: SCULPTURE & DRAWING: RELATION AND INTEGRATION

Garth Evans
Fall 2010

Instructor: Garth Evans
Class Hours: 9:00AM – 6:00PM
Week 1: Tuesday, September 7 – Saturday, September 11
Week 2: Monday, September, 13 – Friday, September 17
New York Studio School closed for Labor Day: Monday September 6

Contact Info: garthevans1934@yahoo.com
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

This Marathon offers physically demanding exercises that provoke exciting dialogues between two and three-dimensional interpretation. In the past, experiencing the full two weeks of this course has resulted in important breakthroughs for painters and sculptors of all levels of development.

The class meets everyday for two consecutive weeks from 9:00AM – 6:00PM, Monday through Friday. Critiques will be held during both weeks. Times of the critiques will be announced during the session. Attendance to each session is mandatory.

The course is an introduction to working in three dimensions for those students who have no experience of doing so. For the student who has some experience, the course will provide additional experience which will be integrated with important aspects of the language of sculpture. For the more advanced sculpture students, it will facilitate a reconsideration of their practice.

The instructor will be present for all, or part, of each scheduled day-time session. Students will be expected to continue doing some work on their own in the evenings or in the early morning. Except in the event of a particularly pertinent exhibition being available, students will be too busy in the studio for field trips or museum visits during this course.

Course Outline

During the first week, students will work in both two and three dimensions, exploring the relationship between drawing and sculpture, making drawings and objects both with and without a model. Students will make drawings from the objects that are made, and objects from the drawings that are made.

In the second week, the aim is to construct life-size figures from the model using the kinds of materials experimented with in the first sessions, which will have given some preparation for the undertaking. Successful completion of this construction will require energy, resourcefulness and determination.

There will be fresh assignments each working session during the first week. Students will work with line, plane and mass. There will be an assignment requiring careful analysis of a complex form, and there will be related drawing assignments. The work produced for each assignment will be discussed in a group critique. No reading is assigned.

Learning Outcomes

Students will acquire or extend practical skills in the manipulation of various materials. They will develop or improve their understanding of structure. They will develop or improve an ability to make constructions from a variety of materials. They will deal with issues of sources, both in terms of subject matter and in terms of their choice of the physical material used. They will experience working from a model with materials that explicitly defeat any attempt at "copying" and require them to abstract and analyze what they see. During the first week students will complete not less than six small works and make at least as many drawings. In the second week, they will concentrate on a life-size single work.

Assessable Tasks

While there will be a fresh assignment given at the beginning of each work period, morning and afternoon, each day during the first week and students are required to work on that assignment during the particular work period in which it has been assigned, students are not required to have finalized their efforts on any particular assignment until the end of the two-week course. The students will be expected to participate in group discussions of the works, and works in progress during the two weeks. There will, in addition, be individual critiques, consultations and instructions given as the instructor deems appropriate. A final discussion and critique of the life-size works will take place in the late afternoon on the last day of the course.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading is on a High Pass/Pass/Low Performance/Fail basis. In order to obtain a Pass for this Marathon, a student must complete all the assignments and have a satisfactory record of attendance and participation in group discussions. In assessing the quality of a student's work, the extent of their previous experience will be taken into account. However, in determining grades, more emphasis will be placed on the level of the student's effort and the seriousness of their involvement than on the quality of the results. Imagination, enterprise, inventiveness and ambition will be rewarded but great value will also be placed on persistence and determination. A student's capacity to try, to try again, to try something, to work with both energy and rigor will be given great weight.

Materials and supplies

A full materials list is included with this description. Some tools will be available from the Sculpture Department. Clay, plaster and some wood and wire will be supplied by the School.

A variety of materials will be used including, but not limited to: wood, plaster, cardboard, wire and clay, as well as paper, pencil, ink and paint. Clay and plaster and some wood and wire can be supplied by the school. Clean cardboard can be found in the trash locally, along with other useful materials.

Students will provide their own drawing materials. They are also expected to have some basic tools, such as good pair of pliers, a hot-melt glue gun, a plumb line, a hammer and a screw driver. More tools, such as an electric drill, will be useful - especially in the second week. The Sculpture Department has a limited quantity of serviceable tools.

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 Atelier Head.

Students participating in this Marathon must observe all instructions given for the safe use of any equipment and may not use any power tools unless they are experienced in their use or until they have been instructed in their safe use by the Sculpture Technician or the Instructor. Students must, at all times, conduct themselves with care and with due consideration for their own and their fellow students' safety. To this end, the studios must be kept clean, tidy and in good order throughout the duration of the course.