

STILL LIFE PAINTING

Course Description:

Still Life Painting is an important genre of art and a proven tool for teaching artists of every skill level the disciplines needed to create successful, beautiful paintings.

The class will concentrate on many of the fundamentals of good picture making, from the technical to the conceptual with still life as the subject matter. The class will have lectures and demonstrations focusing on different topics as well as individual critiques while the student paints his or her own still life set up. For those who wish to focus on the simple fundamentals of drawing and painting, there will be a set up consisting of geometric shapes & colors. Some of the principles discussed will be composition, accuracy in drawing, color and color theory, understanding form and modeling, edge control, glazing/scumbling techniques, lighting, materials and good studio practice.

Material List:

Paper and Board:

14" x 24" or 18" x 24" Drawing Pad
14" x 24" or 18" x 24" Tracing Paper Pad
Drawing Board large enough to fit drawing pad
White Artist Tape
Clips
Push pins

Drawing Pencils, wood or mechanical (2B, HB, 2H-2each)

Pencil Sharpener or Sharpening Block
Large Kneaded Eraser
Ruler (I like the clear "C-Thru" rulers with red grid)

Suggested Paint List:

Please bring professional quality paints.

Flake White (Cremnitz White) or Flake white replacement, or Titanium White
Cadmium Yellow Light
Cadmium Yellow Deep or Cadmium Orange
Yellow Ochre
Red Ochre or English Red
Raw Umber
Cadmium Red Light
Cadmium Red Deep
Alizarin Permanent or Alizarin Crimson
Burnt Sienna

Burnt Umber
Cadmium Green or Permanent Green
Viridian
Cerulean Blue
Ultramarine Blue
Manganese Violet or Cobalt Violet
Ivory Black

Suggested Medium and Solvents:

Stand Oil or Linseed Oil (or a certain medium you enjoy)
Odorless Mineral Spirits (Gamsol or Turpenoid)
Medium cup
Brush Washer
Retouch Varnish

Palette:

I prefer a balanced, sealed hand held wooden palettes.
No disposable palettes or palette sheets please.

Brushes:

I use mostly rounds and filberts of varies sizes (from small to medium/large)
For details, fine sable or kolinsky rounds.
Paint Knife (no plastic knives please)
Mahl Stick

Paper Towels (“Viva” recommended) or Cotton Rags (old t-shirts)

Matte Workable Spray Fixative or **Black India ink** with **Fine Dip Pen** for Transferred Drawing

Painting Surfaces:

Either Gessoed Panels or Canvas.
Please bring a variety of surface sizes (Sizes will depend on each person’s still life setup) for the main paintings and small studies.
Gessoed panels should be primed with at least 4 coats of gesso.
For Canvas, I recommend fine or medium weave canvases that is double primed.
For sketches/small studies on canvas, a small roll of canvas can be cut to size and taped to a board.

Still Life Objects:

The subject matter is up to you. I recommend bringing objects that are interesting/important to you and work well with each other. Individual set up stations are limited size (inquire) So you want to be able to fit your still-life set up within the

boundaries. Remember that it is a two-session a week class, so perishable objects are not recommended except for short exercises.

Bottles, Fruits, Bowls, Fabrics/colored papers for background and foreground, Toys, Books, Wooden objects, Metal Objects, Matte or Shiny Objects, etc. The choices are unlimited so be creative, be personal, have fun with it. But, I advise NOT bringing objects that are very very intricate (ex. Very complicated fabrics/patterns) or are too large. Remember we have limited time.

I suggest having a few ideas in mind just in case of a completed painting or compositional/idea changes.