

NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL **OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE**

MARATHON: SCULPTURE **RELATION AND INTEGRATION**

Garth Evans
Fall 2017

Instructor: Garth Evans
Class Hours: 9:00AM – 6:00PM
Week 1: Tuesday, September 5 – Saturday, September 9
Week 2: Monday, September 11 – Friday, September 15
New York Studio School closed for Labor Day: Monday, September 4
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

This Marathon offers physically demanding exercises that provoke exciting dialogues between work in two and three dimensions. In the past, students of all levels who have completed the full two weeks of this course have experienced important breakthroughs. The class meets every day for two consecutive weeks from 9am to 6pm. Critiques will be held during the first week and at the conclusion of the second week. Times of critiques will vary and will be announced during the session. Attendance throughout each session is essential. This course is an introduction to working in three dimensions. For experienced students, this course will provide additional experience, which will be integrated with important aspects of the language of sculpture. For more advanced students, this course will facilitate a reconsideration of one's practice. The instructor will be present for all, or part, of each scheduled daytime session. Students will be expected to continue to work independently in the evenings and/or early mornings.

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 with and without a model. Students will make drawings from the objects that are made, and objects from the drawings that are made.

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 most assignments will be discussed in a group critique. No reading is assigned.

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

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 and resources in terms of subject matter and in terms of choices of material. They will experience working from a model with materials that explicitly defeat any attempt at “copying”, requiring them to abstract and analyze what they see. During the first week students will complete at least six small works and make as many drawings. In the second week, they will concentrate on a single life-size work.

Assessable Tasks

While there will be a fresh assignment given at the beginning of each work period, morning and afternoon during the first week and students are expected 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. There will 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

NYSS MFA Students will be evaluated on the basis of their studio practice, their participation in and contributions to the class. Grading is on a High Pass/Pass/Low Performance/Fail basis. Visiting participants will not receive grades or written evaluations for this course. 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 willingness to try, try and try again, to work with energy and rigor, will be given great weight.

Materials and supplies

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. Clean cardboard can be found in the trash locally, along with other useful materials.

Students will provide their own drawing materials:- about two dozen sheets of good quality drawing paper 30 x 20 inches (approx.) (not news print), charcoal, erasers, black and white acrylic paint, black ink, brushes and soft lead pencils. They are also need to have some basic tools, including a good pair of pliers, a hot-melt glue gun and glue, a plumb line, a hammer, a screw driver, and a box cutter and blades. Additional tools, such as an electric drill, will be useful - especially in the second week. The Sculpture Department has a very limited number of serviceable tools, therefore, students are encouraged to bring their own tools whenever possible.

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.