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Study Unit 1

Introduction

Welcome to the London Art College course of drawing with pens.

The course is on the use of different types of modern pens such as felt tips, brush pens, fine liners, graphic pens and markers.

This medium is often used in illustration but also in many drawing styles in art and it can be mixed with other techniques. Basically you can create amazing effects and works of art using textures and free style as well in any topic.

Using the proper techniques and having the patience to learn and experiment you will be able to advance to produce accomplished work.

This is a complete course in drawing with pens with some guidance on basic drawing techniques.

We open the course with a chapter on materials, types of pens and brands and some advice on paper to use. Then we move onto some basic observational skills and working on various techniques and how to create specific textures to use on different subjects such as nature, animal, plants and landscape and even abstract.

The course is suitable for beginners as well as intermediates giving the fundamental knowledge required to work with this medium. The exercises are at various levels, some easier and some more challenging for people who are not novice.

We wish you an amazing journey. Enjoy the course!

Study Unit 3

Observation

Once you progress into the course you will be able to look in a different way. Observational skills are very important and they open your mind and therefore your vision.

It is the starting point in drawing, whatever medium you are using such as pencils, pastels or pens.

You will learn how to look and pay attention to all things around you constantly. This way you will gain visual skills and feel your surroundings therefore gaining more confidence about what you will transfer on paper.

Observation is not only an external view of things but a way to see and perceive them in a way you have never thought. It will open the door to creativity and imagination.

COMPOSITION

To create a good composition is important to have balance in your picture between the elements in which is composed. For instance, by positioning and arranging them in a way that won't be uneasy to look at (unless the unbalanced effect is a purpose for that particular drawing).

If you are drawing a landscape and want to give an interesting look to the picture try to position the horizon on the bottom instead of on the centre. And if you have various objects on a composition, arrange them creating a contrast and balance between large and small, short and tall objects or elements.

PERSPECTIVE

ONE POINT

To draw the one point perspective you need first to draw an eye level which is a long horizontal line inscribed into a rectangle and then one vanishing point. it can be in the centre or on a side depending of the angle you want to give to the picture.

You then connect the lines from the edge of your rectangle with the vanishing point both sides and from the bottom line. (see p16)

From the Landscape Study Unit

One of the best pens to create interesting effects for landscapes are the Pitt Brush Artist's pens which come in various colours and tones. These pens give you the opportunity to create various strokes and lines together with vibrant colours.

If you want to try them I would advise you to create the landscape by drawing lines next to each other the same way you create texture and not by drawing and then filling in with the pens.

You can do that but these examples are to show some specific effects you can only get this way. It is a type of technique for use with these brush pens.

When drawing this way you can easily overlap different colours in graduation to have a better and more realistic effect.

