



Essentials of Drawing with Brighton Demerest-Smith

Lesson 1: Philosophy of Teaching Drawing

Outline:

The Renaissance

- Raphael is the central figure in Renaissance painting. His commitment to the human form was intense.
- Poussin is the birthplace of the academic tradition of drawing and painting. He is the father of neoclassicism in art history.
- From LeBrun we get David, from who we get an idea of what do we mean to paint now?
- David's greatest student was Ingres. Ingres was one of the most celebrated draftsmen of all time.
 - Delacroix is a force to be reckoned with. He was about passion and romanticism.
 - Monet is one of the most celebrated painters of all time. Abstraction comes out of Impressionism.
 - Bougereaux was Ingres's greatest student.
 - J.L. Gerome teaches Sargent and Bridgman (who is a Canadian and brought his art to the United States).
 - Rockwell was one of Bridgeman's most famous students.
 - Robert Beverly Hale was the first curator of American paintings for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

What does it mean to train a child in art making?

- Technique is very different from art. We are not talking about polished finished drawings, but the structure, which is drawing.
- How do we get from nothing to accomplished portraiture, figure construction, and figure drawing?
- This is a method that is greatly linked to what it means to be a free person.
- The way to know minds fully is to be able to see something clearly.
- Light is truth when it comes to drawing. We are only ever drawing shadow, but the shadow lets us know that the light exists and that the thing is there.

Drawing Lessons from the Great Masters by Hale

- Technique is like grammar in writing.
- What materials do we need to have to educate artists?
- Mark making, learning to draw is about creating an illusion of depth.
- Measuring and Perspective
 - How are you seeing the thing?



- Where am I located?
- Geometric forms: These are the ground on which we build drawing knowledge.
- Lighting and Shadows
- Still life is where all of the theory begins to become practical.
- Drapery
- Cast Drawing: Sculpture is the way to humble ourselves to something greater than us.
- Artistic Anatomy
- Hands are a microcosm for figure drawing.
- Portraiture
- Figure Construction: What does the human form do? How is the human form created? We're looking at the form as a scientist.
- Master Study: This is one of the most important things that we can do. The Masters are our link to the past.