



New England School of Fine Art

Atelier Program

Bargue Drawing is a term used to describe the 18th Century art curriculum designed by French artists Jean Gerome and Charles Bargue. Students learn the basic elements of drawing at first by copying master drawings known as Bargue Drawings. Methods for obtaining realistic drawings are taught though the program is mostly guided self-education. The program progresses to cast drawings and then to drawing and painting from life. Even for the professional artist, Bargue drawings can be an eye opening experience. There are many lessons to be learned which include application of medium, shadow shapes, edges, and more. These valuable lessons will later carry through to other art forms such as portrait, figure, and still life.

BARGUE DRAWINGS: Using the sight-size method of measuring, students copy a 2D master copy to a 2D drawing to perfection. Value is limited to a small range making it easier to focus on the form. Shadow shapes are already figured out for the artist. Bargue drawing trains the eye to observe shapes and proportions within other 3 dimensional forms. A series of four drawings, 3 graphite and 1 charcoal, must be completed and approved before moving onto cast drawing.

CAST DRAWING is drawn from life. Using the sight-size method of measuring, students render a 3D cast. Vine charcoal is used which offers a broader range of values. Cast drawing prepares students for portrait, figure, and still life painting. Four cast drawings must be completed and approved before moving onto still life and figure drawing and painting.

CHOOSE YOUR FOCUS

STILL LIFE painting presents composition. Not only is the range of value great, but color and color mixing are introduced. Students learn how to prepare their ground. Begin an under-painting before fully rendering their piece. Six paintings must be completed and approved.

FIGURE DRAWING and PAINTING* uses the sight-size method of measuring to obtain accurate proportions. Beginning drawings are rendered in graphite with emphasis on understanding the form and shadow shapes. Larger works are created in charcoal which offers a much larger range of values. Several graphite studies must be completed along with 5 charcoal drawings and 3 paintings.

PORTRAIT DRAWING and PAINTING* uses several methods of measuring to obtain a realistic portrait. Students begin with graphite with an emphasis on understanding the form and shadow shapes. Students progress to charcoal on toned paper, then finally painting. Several graphite studies along with 4 charcoal and 4 paintings must be completed and approved.

(*Note: There must be a minimum of three students enrolled in Figure or Portrait, unless otherwise specified.)

In order to obtain a certificate in the Atelier Program students must fulfill the above requirements, plus have an exhibition of their work.

Cost: \$300 per month which includes access to NESFA during school hours. Free Tuesday evening non-instructional figure drawing.

Hours: ***Mondays*** 9:30 am – 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm–9:30 pm, ***Tuesdays*** 9:30 am – 5:30 pm, 6:30pm–9:30 pm (figure drawing), ***Wednesdays*** 1-4pm & 6:30–9:30 pm, ***Thursdays*** 9:30 am–2:30 pm, 6:30–9:30 pm, ***Fridays*** 9:30 am–2:30 pm.

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