This is the foundation of all realistic drawing & painting. A must for the serious artist.

Bargue and Cast Studies

Beginning to Draw - Beginning to See

Dates: September 12 – November 14, 2018 (10 weeks)

Time: Wednesday Evenings, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Instructor: Jo Ellen Reinhardt

Cost: \$250

Bargue Drawing is a term used to describe the 18th Century art curriculum designed by artists Jean Gerome and Charles Bargue. Students learn the basic elements of drawing at first by copying master drawings known as Bargue Drawings. The program progresses to cast drawings and then to drawing and painting from life. Even for the professional artists, 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 Drawing begins with the use of graphite. Using the sight-size method of measuring students copy a 2D school study 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.

Cast Drawing is drawn from life. Using the sight-size method of measure, students render a 3D cast. Vine charcoal is use which offers a broader range of values. Cast drawing prepares students for painting portrait, figure, and still life.

In order for a student to begin cast drawing, they must under supervision complete four Bargue drawings plus 1 large charcoal drawing. Therefore it may take a student a few sessions before advancing to cast drawing.

This class is a journey in an in-depth study of form. It takes dedication and patience to train your eye to see and make the necessary connections to a live subject or still life.

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Cancellation Policy: There is no refund for a missed class. However students may make up a class in another class day or time. Cancellations due to bad weather will be emailed or if in doubt call the school at 508-963-7777.