PAINTING THE HUMAN FORM IN SPACE

Instructor: Hollis Dunlap

Course Description:
This class focuses on the integration of the figure with its surroundings in order to achieve a sense of light, atmosphere and mood in the painting. While the primary focus will be on accurate depiction of the figure, using proportions, positions, and anatomical landmarks, emphasis will also be given to negative space, controlled use of color, and dynamic application of thick and thin paint. Each night we will paint a different 3-hour study, emphasizing broad, spontaneous brushwork over details.

Course Outline:
Each night we will attempt to complete a different 3-hour painting. Special emphasis will be given to creating a sense of light and color harmony by paying attention to how the environment affects the figure.

Projects / Homework:
There will be no required assignments but it is recommended that the student do at least one copy of a master drawing or painting. Additionally, if a student has work that they wish to discuss, they are always welcome to bring it to class to talk about it.

Instructional Methodology:
The instructor will attempt to give clear and detailed instruction on the process of painting a spontaneous work from life. On occasion the instructor will demonstrate certain painting styles and techniques, such as the mixing of color and how to control the sense of light with subtle value relationships. We will discuss master paintings and drawings to see how they relate to what we are doing now, ideally drawing inspiration from those works.

Course Objectives:
a. Examine how the environment affects color and value relationships.
b. Study various ways of applying paint to make the paint surface more compelling.
c. Emphasize accuracy in proportions and positions of forms.
d. Learn techniques to complete a painting in one sitting.

Materials:
Oil paints--titanium white, ivory black, ultramarine blue, cadmium yellow light, burnt sienna, venetian (Indian) red
12x16 canvases or panels
Odorless turpentine or turpenoid brushes--5-6 square or filbert natural bristle brushes of various size, and 1-2 softer large brushes
paper towels
palette
brush cleaner (silicoil or metal brush cleaner, or coffee can with screen)

Classroom Rules:
a. Absolutely no food or beverages are allowed
b. Students will not use their cell phones during class
c. Students will not mishandle equipment
d. Students will not take equipment from studio