Class Schedule

Classes are held on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5.00 to 7.00 pm. These sessions are devoted to drawing from the figure model and the cast.

On Thursday evenings Charles Cecil gives lectures on the evolution of painting technically and aesthetically from the early Renaissance. ACM students are encouraged to attend.

Curriculum

The teaching methods used at the Studio stem directly from the leading ateliers of 19th-century Paris. Charles Cecil was first trained in these techniques by R. H. Ives Gammell of Boston whose teacher William Paxton studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Your teachers have all been trained at the Charles H. Cecil Studios.

The first weeks of the course will be an introduction to the sight-size technique, whereby the artist stands back at a distance in order to view the drawing and the subject to the same scale.

In addition to the classes at the Studio, you will be expected to keep a sketchbook, which will evaluated regularly. The subject of the sketches may include drawings of buildings, monuments, statues, landscapes, portrait studies, or sketches from the life model.
Figure Drawing
The model will adopt a pose which will be sustained over a number of sessions. Working in pencil, on under life-size projects, students will have ample time for the study of shapes and proportion, values and modelling. Pencil encourages students to develop their use of line and sensitivity to contour.

Cast Drawing
The second project will involve working from plaster casts in charcoal on the scale of life. Drawing from the cast enables students to analyze shape and proportion in relation to the effects of light and shade. Charcoal is ideally suited to larger scale drawings and the rendering of mass through values.

Sketch Class
The Studio runs life-drawing sessions on Tuesday evenings from 6.45pm to 8.45pm. The short poses offer an opportunity to transcribe the essentials of proportion and gesture. It is recommended that you take advantage of this class for your sketchbook assignment.

Grading
Grading will be primarily based upon the figure and cast drawings completed in class and will take into account the sketchbook assignments. Your progress, attitude, and attendance will also affect your grade.

Required Readings
Materials

HB, 2B, 3B and 4B Pencils, kneaded erasers and paper (Fabriano Ingres for pencil drawing, Fabriano Roma for charcoal drawing) can be purchased nearby at the Cartoleria San Frediano.

Nitram charcoal is available in three grades H, HB and B (hard, medium and soft). It can be purchased from Cartoleria Lory (Piazza Frescobaldi 8/r) and Zecchi.

Art Shops in Florence

Opening hours:
Monday to Friday: 8.30 – 12.30, and 15.30 – 17.30
Saturdays: 8.30 - 12.30

Rigacci
Via dei Servi 71/r

Zecchi
Via dello Studio

Lory
Piazza Frescobaldi 8/r
Tel. 055-21-32-46
www.fornitureufficio.org