Another Summer of Drawing

class # 14
on the theme of ‘Home’

Coffee at Home
Concept: Home

Interpretation:
Comfort of home, cocooning

What symbolizes this?

Fireplace, campfire, cooking, the breakfast dishes, slippers
OBSERVATION

How to interpret this scene?

What are we drawing here?

Hands
Mug
Sweater

The sense of enclosing, cradling, warmth, relaxed (no feeling of tension)
Raffaello Sanzio da Urbino, (Raphael) (1483 – 1520)
Raffaello Sanzio da Urbino, (Raphael) (1483 – 1520)
Federico Barocci

Studies of a Man's Head and of His Hands
11 x 16"
1592–99
SQUINT

To see the contrast

Remove the color information
Look only at shapes of lights and darks
Look for:
- The big shapes
- Where to use directional line to describe the form
- Perspective
When things get complicated and your fact-filled mind is giving you information about ‘fingers’, rather than the shapes you are seeing, take a moment to analyze shapes, and the direction of forms.
Look for the small indicators, roadmaps, of where planes change, where some directional hatching or shading might help create convincing form.
Step 1:
Using a medium pencil (such as HB), carefully sketch the main angles of the scene. Keep your lines light, refine as you go. You can always erase!
Step 2:
Jump to the lights – add in some white charcoal to help you get a sense of the form.

It will help you see where changes need to be made in other shapes.
Step 3:
Continue to explore and refine.
CONCEPT:

- If you have a feeling you'd like to convey (comfort, warmth, solidity, safety), think of the objects or activities that may indirectly transmit that idea.
- In this case, a non-food service mug, a comfy sweater, relaxed hands, convey that this person is in a home-like setting of some sort.
- Hands themselves can create a sense of relaxation and tension. You are drawing for a human audience and we are all very aware of nuance and messages telegraphed by muscle movements and action (fist, hands drooping, finger pointing, palm up-held, palm face-forward, etc.)

TECHNIQUE:

- Toned paper is perfect for figurative approaches – it get you away from overdoing skin.
- Let the textures of the scene suggest which tools to use.
- Think about what you are drawing while you are drawing it – in this case, relaxing, comfort.
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