

THE ART OF DRAWING: SURFACE AND DEPTH

Taught by Marcia Rackow



Claes Oldenburg: *Clothespin*

“THE YIELDINGNESS THAT MAKES FOR STRENGTH”

This semester as we work in pencil, ink, charcoal, pastel, or watercolor, we'll be looking at the opposites of firmness and flexibility—how they are in the ordinary objects around us, *and* in the idea and technique of every drawing or painting. We'll be studying Eli Siegel's great essay “Art As Flexibility” in which he says:

Art shows reality as resisting, bending; asserting, fading—which is how it is. Reality is as it changes, and flexibility in art is a visual likelihood of a thing's changing in space, while remaining what it is....Yieldingness as sight is much in pictures; the yieldingness that makes for strength is what we look for in art

We'll be discussing what it means to achieve in our work “the yieldingness that makes for strength”, and as we do, we will also learn about ourselves. “All beauty,” Aesthetic Realism states, “is a making one of opposites, and the making one of opposites is what we are going after in ourselves.”

MATERIALS: pencils, charcoal or conté crayon, pastels, watercolors. Pads should be a minimum of 9" x 12" (larger if possible).

DATES: Sept 15, 29, Oct 13, (Oct 27: no class, due to Gala Benefit), Nov 3, 10, 24, Dec 8